

**THE RULES OF THE ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION**  
**(REVISION 1 - 30 MARCH 2017)**

CLAUSE	RULE
1.	<p><u>Objects</u></p> <p>The objects of the Charity are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. To promote and maintain efficiency and morale by fostering comradeship amongst Signallers;</li> <li>b. To relieve conditions of need, hardship and distress of Signallers and their families and dependants and the families and dependants of deceased Signallers;</li> <li>c. To promote the charitable work of the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund (RSBF);</li> </ol> <p>in such ways as the Trustee shall think fit.</p> <p>"Signallers" means past and present members of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The Royal Signals.</li> <li>b. The Indian Signal Corps before the partition of India in 1947.</li> <li>c. The Queen's Gurkha Signals.</li> <li>d. The Signal Service Royal Engineers.</li> <li>e. The ATS, WAC(I) and WRAC who served in communications appointments with the Royal Signals.</li> </ol> <p>whether they are Regular, Reserve, Supplementary Reserve, Army Emergency Reserve, Territorial and Volunteer Reserve, National Service or otherwise.</p> <p>"Royal Signals" means the "Royal Corps of Signals".</p>
2.	<p><u>Trustee</u></p> <p>2.1 Royal Signals Trustee Limited (RSTL) is the trustee of the Royal Signals Association ("the Charity"). The affairs of the Charity shall be under the control of RSTL. RSTL shall have all the powers of a beneficial owner in relation to the management of the Charity and its property including the power to pool its investments with the investments of the RSBF and to merge the Charity with RSBF. RSTL may adopt subsidiary rules governing the conduct of the Charity, meetings of the members and any other matter relating to the Charity. RSTL will be responsible for preparing an annual report and accounts for the Charity.</p> <p>2.2 The directors of RSTL shall not have any personal interest in the Charity's property unless it is an interest which would, if a director was a trustee of the Charity, be authorised in accordance with Chapter 5 of the Charities Act 2011.</p>

3.	<p><u>President</u></p> <p>3.1 The Master of Signals shall, if willing, be the President of the Royal Signals Association. Failing this, the Master of Signals will be invited to appoint another person as President.</p>
4.	<p><u>Membership</u></p> <p>4.1 The Charity has "Trustee" Members and "Veteran" Members. Trustee members are the persons who are for the time being the directors of the RSTL. Veteran members are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Life Members;</li> <li>b. Associate Members;</li> <li>c. Honour Members; and</li> <li>d. Associate Life Members.</li> </ul> <p>4.2 Life Members are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Personnel and former personnel of the Regular Army;</li> <li>b. Personnel and former personnel of the Reserve;</li> <li>c. Personnel and former personnel of the Supplementary Reserve;</li> <li>d. Personnel and former personnel of the Army Emergency Reserve, Territorial Army, Territorial Army Volunteer Reserves, National Service and Home Service</li> </ul> <p>who satisfy rule 4.3 and who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Present and past officers who have been Gazetted to the Royal Signals or</li> <li>b. Present and past Warrant Officers, non-commissioned officers or men and women of the Royal Signals; or</li> <li>c. Former members of the ATS, WAC(I) and WRAC who served in communications appointments with the Royal Signals.</li> <li>d. Past members of the Indian Signal Corps before the partition of India in 1947.</li> <li>e. Present and past Gazetted officers and soldiers of Queen's Gurkha Signals.</li> </ul> <p>An officer is "Gazetted" if his or her appointment (or promotion) is listed in the London Gazette.</p> <p>4.3 Life Members must either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Contribute or have contributed to the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund under the Day's Pay Scheme; or</li> <li>b. Pay a Life Membership fee of £10; or</li> <li>c. Be granted Life Membership by the Central Committee without payment of a</li> </ul>

	<p>registration fee.</p>
4.4	<p><u>Associate Membership</u>. Any person who has an interest in the Royal Signals, but is not eligible to become a Life Member, may be eligible to apply for Associate Membership of a branch and thereby participate in the activities of the Royal Signals Association.</p>
4.5	<p><u>Honour Membership</u>. The Central Committee may award Honour Membership to Life Members who give outstanding service to the Association or a branch of the Association. Honour Members shall be awarded a special Royal Signals Association lapel badge and a certificate to commemorate their achievement.</p>
4.6	<p><u>Associate Life Membership</u>. The Central Committee may award Associate Life Membership to Associate Members of a branch for outstanding service. Associate Life Members shall be awarded a special Royal Signals Association lapel badge, a certificate to commemorate their achievement and an Associate Life Membership Card.</p>
5.	<p><u>50 and 75 Year Badges</u></p> <p>The Central Committee may award 50 and 75 Year Badges in formal recognition of the contribution by Signallers over a period of 50 or 75 years respectively, during which they have served in a combination of Regular Service, Reserve Service together with membership of the Association and/or a branch. Periods of inactivity between periods of service will not count towards the 50 or 75-year period. The Central Committee will consider and, if thought fit, approve applications signed by the branch president. Signallers who qualify shall be entitled to wear a special Association lapel badge and will be awarded a certificate to commemorate their achievement.</p>
6.	<p><u>Benefits Provided</u></p>
6.1	<p>For so long as it has the resources to do so and with assistance from the Central Committee where relevant, RSTL may:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Maintain records of members of the Royal Signals Association;</li> <li>b. Organise an Annual Meeting of the members to which Life Members will be invited to attend and vote, in accordance with Rule 10;</li> <li>c. Organise certain ceremonial occasions, remembrance parades and reunions;</li> <li>d. Assist members to trace former comrades from their service with the Royal Signals;</li> <li>e. Maintain a website;</li> <li>f. Deal with enquiries from members and the general public concerning Association business;</li> <li>g. Provide financial assistance in cases of hardship and distress for the benefit of Signallers and their dependants through appropriate charities such as SSAFA or the Royal British Legion;</li> <li>h. If requested, provide financial support for the funerals of Signallers.</li> </ol>

6.2	Wherever possible, RSTL (and its Welfare Committee) intend to consult with, and seek guidance from, the Central Committee about the way in which their functions are exercised in relation to the funds belonging to the Charity and also the funds of the Royal Corps of Signals Benevolent Fund of which it is also the trustee.
7.	<p><u>Central Committee of the Royal Signals Association</u></p> <p>7.1 The Central Committee will be Life Members.</p> <p>7.2 Ex-officio members of the Central Committee will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The Corps Colonel.</li> <li>b. The Corps Regimental Sergeant Major.</li> </ul> <p>7.3 There will be eight Area Representatives nominated as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. One by each of the five branch areas in England;</li> <li>b. One from each of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.</li> </ul> <p>Candidates who have been nominated to be Area Representatives may be appointed by the Central Committee with the approval of the Veteran members at the next Annual Meeting.</p> <p>7.4 Area Representatives proposed for election will serve for a term of three years which may be extended with the agreement of the Chairman and that Area Representative if there is difficulty in finding a replacement for nomination in the relevant branch area.</p> <p>7.5 When a vacancy arises:</p> <p>7.5.1 The Master of Signals will nominate the Chairman of the Central Committee and subject to the approval of the Veteran members the appointment will take effect at the end of the next Annual Meeting. The Chairman will serve for an indefinite term.</p> <p>7.5.2 The Trustee will appoint a Treasurer, a General Secretary and an Assistant General Secretary who will all be members of the Central Committee.</p> <p>7.6 The Central Committee may co-opt additional members including a Reserve Officer. Co-opted members shall cease to hold office at the next Annual Meeting but shall be eligible for appointment or election as the case may be in accordance with the rules.</p> <p>7.7 The Central Committee will meet twice a year in the Spring and Autumn and may meet on other occasions as they see fit. Four members of the Central Committee will form a quorum. When votes are equal, the Chairman of the Central Committee will have a casting vote.</p> <p>7.8 The Chairman, the Corps Colonel and one other member of the Central Committee may take decisions on behalf of the Central Committee in between meetings if required to do so in an emergency and shall report to the Central Committee at the earliest opportunity.</p> <p>7.9 If the President considers that a member of the Central Committee, including its officers, is not fulfilling his duties, the President may, after consultation with the board of the RSTL and (where relevant) the Chairman, remove that individual as a member of the Central Committee.</p>

7.10	Wherever possible the General Secretary or the Assistant General Secretary shall attend meetings of the Central Committee, the Annual Meeting and meetings called under clause 7.8 and record in writing any decisions taken or resolutions passed.
8.	<p><u>Role of the Central Committee</u></p> <p>The role of the Central Committee will be:</p> <p>8.1 To liaise between the members, the branches, RSTL and its Welfare Committee; and</p> <p>8.2 To act as an adviser to RSTL in relation to the views of members on relevant matters; and</p> <p>8.3 To inform RSTL and/or its Welfare Committee about any cases of need or hardship which are brought to its attention by its members; and</p> <p>8.4 To award Honour Membership, Associate Life Membership, Special Badges and other awards;</p> <p>8.5 To make rules for the day-to-day affairs of the Veteran members.</p>
9.	<p><u>Branches</u></p> <p>9.1 Members of branches which are recognised by RSTL may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Nominate a candidate in their branch area for election to the Central Committee</li> <li>b. Carry a Standard at formal events in the form and manner prescribed by RSTL from time to time</li> <li>c. Apply to RSTL for a grant or a loan to purchase a Standard and other purposes which are eligible for support in accordance with the objects of the Charity and/or the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund.</li> </ul> <p>9.2 Branches may be recognised by RSTL if they fulfill the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. They provide RSTL with the name of a branch representative to whom notice of the Annual General Meeting and any other communications can be sent.</li> <li>b. They have a President who is appointed by the members of their branch.</li> <li>c. They comply with rule 9.3.</li> </ul> <p>Branches must:</p> <p>9.3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Submit to RSTL half of any <i>initial</i> subscriptions paid to them by Life Members.</li> <li>b. Submit to RSTL a copy enrolment card or online equivalent for each new Life Member at the time of joining and submit a list of all Life Members in each case by not later than 15 March each year.</li> <li>c. Adhere to these rules.</li> </ul>

10.	<u>Annual General Meeting</u>
10.1	<p>The purpose of the Annual Meeting is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. For Veteran members to approve the appointment of the Chairman and members of the Central Committee under rule 7.3 and 7.5.</li> <li>b. For Veteran members to receive a report on behalf of RSTL by any duly authorized person and the Central Committee on welfare and other matters relevant to the work of the Charity over the previous year</li> <li>c. Where relevant, for Trustee members to attend and vote on the matters in clause 11.</li> </ol>
10.2	The Central Committee may, with the consent of RSTL, call a special meeting of Veteran members.
10.3	RSTL will instruct the General Secretary to give Trustee members, Life Members and each Branch representative not less than 3 months' notice of the date of each Annual Meeting and, where possible, not less than 1 month's notice of any other meeting. Notice may be served by post, in electronic form or by publication in any journal, newspaper, or magazine at the discretion of RSTL.
10.4	For avoidance of doubt, it shall not be necessary for Trustee members to be present at the Annual Meeting unless there is to be a vote on all or any of the matters in clause 11.
11.	<p>The role of Trustee members at an Annual Meeting or any other meeting of the Trustee members is to vote on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The appointment, removal or retirement of RSTL or any other trustee; and</li> <li>b. Amendments to the Rules</li> <li>c. The dissolution of the Charity</li> <li>d. Any other matter put to them by RSTL relating to the Charity</li> </ol> <p>Resolutions shall be passed by a majority vote of the Trustee members present and voting on the matters.</p>
12.	<p><u>Dissolution</u></p> <p>The Association may be dissolved by a resolution of the Trustee members. On dissolution the net assets of the Charity will be held on trust by RSTL for the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund.</p>
13.	<p><u>Amendment of Rules</u></p> <p>Apart from clause 2.2, the Trustee members may, by resolution, amend the Rules but not so as to cause the Royal Signals Association to cease to be a Charity.</p>