

**THE BLUES AND ROYALS
(Royal Horse Guards and 1st Dragoons)
ASSOCIATION**

CHARTER

NAME

1. The name of the Association shall be "The Blues and Royals Association".

AIMS AND OBJECTS

2. The aims and objects of the Association shall be the promotion of the efficiency of the Regiment (hereinafter called "The Regiment") known as The Blues and Royals (Royal Horse Guards and 1st Dragoons) by all or any of the following means: -
 - a) By maintaining contact and connections between past members of the Regiment and the two previous Regiments (now amalgamated to form the Regiment) known as the Royal Horse Guards (The Blues) and the Royal Dragoons (1st Dragoons) (hereinafter call "the previous Regiments") and serving members of the Regiment.
 - b) By circulation information concerning the Regiment and the advantages of service therein and encouraging desirable candidates to enlist in the Regiment.
 - c) By assisting members, when requested, in obtaining employment.
 - d) By granting financial assistance (subject to these Rules) for the relief of members or their dependants, in necessitous circumstances.
 - e) By arranging social meetings including an Annual Dinner at which past and present members of the Regiment and previous Regiments may meet.
 - f) By care of the graves of members of the Regiment and previous Regiments, who have fallen on active service.
 - g) By providing financial support for the production and distribution of the Regimental Magazine.
 - h) By undertaking or entering into any activities for the furtherance of the above aims and objects.

MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

3. All Officers, Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men presently or formerly serving with the Regiment or previous Regiments, and all those attached or formerly attached to the Regiment or previous Regiments are entitled (subject to these Rules) to become members of the Association. The Committee shall have the right to refuse any applicant for membership.
4. Subject as herein provided members shall pay subscriptions as follows: -
 - a) *Serving Members of the Regiment.* On subscribing to the One Day's Pay Scheme (the Scheme) a serving member of the Regiment's shall become a Member of the Association and shall so remain unless and

until he ceased to subscribe to the Scheme whereupon he shall cease to be a Member. On termination of his service a serving member of the Regiment shall (subject to sub-para. (iii) below) become a life member of the Association without further subscription: -

- i. If he has subscribed annually to the Scheme throughout his period of service, and if not
- ii. On payment to the Association of a sum equal to the difference between the amount he would have paid had he subscribed annually to the Scheme during his period of service and the amount (if any) he has in fact paid by subscription to the Scheme provided always that the Committee shall have power, in exceptional circumstances, to reduce the amount payable under this subclause.
- iii. A former serving member of the Regiment who has transferred to a different branch of the service or who for any reason has ceased to be a serving member of the Regiment at a premature date and who has subscribed (either annually or for at least one year) to the Scheme throughout his period of service may at the discretion of the Committee (whose decision shall be final and binding) become a life member of the Association on such terms as to payment as the Committee may decide.

b) *Non-Serving Members.* Those not qualifying for membership under sub-paragraph (a)

Above shall pay to the Association an annual subscription or a sum for life membership as below: -

- i. Annual Subscription: £1 per annum payable in accordance with para. 5 of these Rules.
 - ii. For Life Membership in lieu of annual subscriptions: The sum of £20. PROVIDED ALWAYS that the above amounts may be varied from time to time by the Association in General Meeting and the Committee shall have the power, in exceptional circumstances, to reduce or forego the annual subscription or the sum payable for life Membership.
5. Annual subscriptions shall be payable on the 1st January in each year provided that any member joining after the 1st October shall pay an annual subscription forthwith. Such payment shall cover his subscription to the end of the then current year and for the ensuing year. All Officers and ex-Officers subscriptions shall be paid on the 1st January annually by banker's order. All other subscription shall be paid direct to the Hon. Secretary of by banker's order.
6. If any member should fail to pay his annual subscription on or before the 31st March next after it has become due, notice shall be sent to him calling his attention thereto. If any subscription be not paid on or before 1st July following, he shall cease to be a member of the Association. If at any time he shall give to the Committee a satisfactory explanation he may in the discretion of the Committee be re-admitted to membership.

7. The Committee may with the authority of a resolution of the Association in general meeting invite as honorary members (either for life or such shorter period as may be decided) any persons who have given outstanding service to the Regiment the previous Regiments, or either of them, or the Association. Members may send to the Honorary Secretary names suggested for invitation, Honorary members shall not be required to pay any subscription and shall be entitled to all the benefits and privileges of membership.
8. Any member may resign his membership by giving the Honorary Secretary notice in writing to that effect. Every such notice shall, unless otherwise expressed, be deemed to take effect as from 1st January next following the receipt thereof.
9. Any serving soldier who shall have been discharged from the Regiment for disciplinary reasons shall cease forthwith to be a member of the Association. In addition the Committee shall have the power to expel any member who shall offend against these Rules or whose conduct shall in the opinion of the Committee render him unfit for membership of the Association. Before any such member is expelled the Honorary Secretary shall give him not less than seven days' written notice to attend a meeting of the Committee and shall inform him of the complaint made against him. No member shall be expelled without first having the opportunity of appearing before the Committee and answering complaints made against him, nor unless at least two-thirds of those present vote in favour of the expulsion. An expelled member shall have no right to refund of any subscription or payment made under these Rules nor any claim upon the Association, its property or funds.

OFFICE BEARERS AND MANAGEMENT

10. The President of the Association shall be the officer holding the office of Colonel of the Regiment and Gold Stick. The Vice-President shall be appointed by the President and shall hold office until his appointment is determined by the President. When the Regiment is overseas the Vice-President shall normally be the Squadron Leader to The Blues and Royals Mounted Squadron.
11. (a) The Management of the Association (except as otherwise provided by these Rules) shall be deputed to a Committee of not more than eighteen members, excluding ex-officio members. The President, Vice-President, Deputy President (when one has been appointed), Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary (or joint Honorary Secretaries) shall be ex-officio members of the Committee. The Deputy President, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary (or joint Honorary Secretaries) shall be appointed by the Committee subject to approval by the President and they shall respectively hold office for a period of three years unless previously removed by a resolution of the Committee.

(b) The RCM of the Regiment, no matter where the Regiment is serving, and all Warrant Officers, provided that they are members of the Association serving at home with the Regiment or the Household Cavalry Regiment, shall be ex-officio members of the Committee.

12. At the First Annual General Meeting of the Association eighteen members shall be elected to serve on the Committee. At each subsequent Annual General Meeting two members of the Committee (not ex-officio members or members appointed under Rule 13) shall retire and shall not be eligible for re-election for a period of one year. The members of the Committee shall retire in seniority and in case of equal seniority the order of retirement shall be determined by lot. The Committee may nominate a sufficient number of members of the Association to fill vacancies on the Committee and any two members of the Association may propose a candidate or candidates in writing to the Honorary Secretary not later than six weeks before the Annual General Meeting. The notice convening the Annual General Meeting shall specify the numbers of vacancies on the Committee and shall set the names of the retiring members including (if there shall be more than two retiring members) any additional members nominated to fill the vacancies. Election to the Committee shall be by show of hands at the Annual General Meeting.
13. The Committee shall have power to appoint a member to fill any casual vacancy on the Committee until the next Annual General Meeting. Any member so appointed shall retire at the next Annual General Meeting, but shall be eligible for re-election as a member of the Committee at such Meeting.
14. The Committee shall meet as often as it may consider necessary to manage and arrange the affairs of the Association. Eight members of the Committee (inclusive of ex-officio members) shall form a quorum. The Honorary Secretary will circulate an agenda, setting out the business to be dealt with, to all members of the Committee not less than seven days before each meeting of the Committee. Minutes shall be taken of all proceedings of the Committee and copies shall be despatched to the members of the Committee after each meeting. The minutes shall be open to inspection of any member of the Association applying to the Honorary Secretary thereof.
15. The Committee shall be entrusted to carry out the aims and objects stated in paragraph 2 of these Rules and shall have control of the funds of the Association and the investment and expenditure thereof. Funds of the Association may be invested in such security or securities of any nature as the Committee or sub-committee appointed by the Committee may, upon the advice of a firm or stockbrokers or a bank, think fit and need not be invested in securities authorised for the investment of trust funds.
16. The Committee shall have power to pay or apply funds of the Association to or for the benefit in necessitous circumstances of any member of the Association or his dependants. Funds may be so paid or applied in cases where the Committee is satisfied after reasonable enquiry that a member or his dependants are in financial need and that the funds of the Association should properly be paid or applied for his or their assistance. The President or his nominee may, without prior approval of the Committee, make immediate awards up to a sum of £500 in urgent cases. All payments, awards or application of funds under this Rule shall be recorded and entered in the Minute Book. Any decision of the Committee or (as the case may be) the President, or his nominee, as to the making or withholding of any

payment, award or application of funds under this Rule shall be final and binding on the Association and its members.

17. The Committee may from time to time appoint from among their members such sub-committees as they may deem necessary or expedient, and may depute or refer to them such of the powers and duties of the Committee as the Committee may determine. Such sub-committees shall periodically report their proceedings to the Committee and shall conduct their business in accordance with the directions of the Committee. A sub-committee may be removed or disbanded or the constitution thereof changed by a resolution of the Committee.
18. The Committee may from time to time make, repeal and amend all such by-laws and regulations (not inconsistent with these Rules) as they shall think expedient for the internal management and well-being of the Association. All by-laws and regulations made by the Committee under this Rule shall be binding upon the members until repealed by the Committee, or set aside by a resolution of a General Meeting of the Association.
19. The Association Chairman will preside over all meetings of the Association and of the Committee. In his absence, the next ex-officio member of the committee in order of seniority as set out in Rule 11 (a) shall act as Chairman. When none of the foregoing are present the Committee shall appoint one of their members to preside.

GENERAL MEETINGS

20. The Annual General Meeting will be held on the evening of the Annual Dinner or on such other date as may be decided by the Committee in each year and at a time and place fixed by the Committee for the following purposes: -
 - a) To receive from the Committee a report, balance sheet and Statement of Accounts for the preceding financial year.
 - b) To fill the vacancies on the Committee.
 - c) To decide on any resolutions which may be duly submitted to the Meeting as hereinafter provided.
21. Any member wishing to move any resolution at the Annual General Meeting shall give notice thereof in writing to the Honorary Secretary not later than six weeks before the date of such meeting.
22. The Committee may at any time for any purpose call a Special General Meeting.
23. Fourteen days at least before the Annual General Meeting or any Special General Meeting a notice of such meeting and of the business to be transacted thereat shall be sent to every member and no business other than that of which notice has been given shall be brought forward at such a meeting.

24. Only life members and those members who have paid their subscriptions for the current year will be entitled to vote at a General Meeting. All resolutions shall (save as otherwise provided in these Rules) be decided by a majority of those present and voting. In case of equality of votes upon any resolution, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.
25. The quorum at General meetings shall be 25 members personally present.
26. The accounts of the Association shall be audited as soon as practicable after the end of each financial year by a chartered accountant. The financial year of the Association shall (unless otherwise determined by the Committee) end on the 31st December.
27. These Rules may be altered, repealed or added to by a resolution passed at any Annual or Special General Meeting, provided that no such alteration repeal or addition shall be of such a nature as to render these Rules inconsistent with the charitable status of the Association and provided that no such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless carried also by a majority of at least two-thirds of the numbers present and voting thereon.
28. If at any General Meeting a resolution for the dissolution of the Association shall be passed by a majority of the members present and such resolution shall at a Special Meeting held not less than one month thereafter be confirmed by a resolution passed by a majority of two-thirds of the members then present and voting thereon, the Committee shall thereupon or at such future date as shall be specified in such resolution, proceed to realise the property of the Association and after the discharge of all liabilities shall pay and transfer the same to any other charitable institution or object as may be specified in such resolution and upon the completion of such payment and transfer the Association shall be dissolved.