

Library Association of Ireland

Genealogy and Local Studies Section

Rules

1. Name

The Section shall be known as the Genealogy and Local Studies Section of the Library Association of Ireland (hereafter the Association), and is established in accordance with Articles 83-87 of the Association.

2. Purpose of the Section

- Provide a forum for library staff working in the areas of genealogy and local studies;
- Promote the continuing professional development of genealogy and local studies staff;
- Promote best practice in the delivery of traditional and electronic genealogy and local studies reference services;
- Foster the use of genealogy and local studies collections within the broader community;
- Facilitate networking among those working with genealogy and local studies collections in libraries, archives and museums serving genealogists and local studies researchers;
- Promote international cooperation in the preservation, conservation, and dissemination of Irish genealogical and local studies sources.
- Provide a focus Section/forum for comment and advice on issues relating to genealogy and local studies for the Association and all other bodies responsible for implementing policy and innovation in the fields of genealogy and local studies

3. Membership

Full membership of the Section is open to any member of the Association.

4. Committee

The affairs of the Section shall be governed by a Committee consisting of four Honorary Officers (Chair, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer) together with four other members to be elected by the Section as a whole. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt additional members to ensure among other considerations, comprehensive geographical representation. The quorum at a meeting of the Committee shall be four, of whom one must be an Honorary Officer. In the event of an equality of votes on any question, the person chairing the meeting shall have an additional casting vote. The Committee shall hold office for one year from the 1st of January. A casual vacancy may be filled by a decision of the Committee.

5. Sub-Committees

The Committee may appoint sub-committees for specified purposes and may appoint to serve on such committees members of the Section who are not members of the Committee. The Honorary Officers shall be ex-officio members of all sub-committees.

6. Annual General Meeting

An Annual General Meeting, of which four weeks' notice shall be given, shall be held each year, on a date determined by the Committee and during the first two weeks December. The A.G.M. shall receive reports of the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer, conduct the election of Committee members, and conduct any other business of which due notice has been given. The A.G.M. shall appoint an honorary Auditor, who shall not be a member of the Committee.

7. Special General Meeting

The Committee may convene a general meeting of the Section on giving four weeks' notice. Any 20 members of the Section may require the Honorary Secretary to convene a Special General Meeting of the Section on serving a written notice stating the purpose of the meeting. Four weeks' notice of such a meeting shall be given to members, and the meeting shall be held within six weeks of the notice being served on the Honorary Secretary. The quorum for a Special General Meeting shall be 25 members.

8. Open Conferences and Meetings

The Committee may arrange conferences or meetings for purposes of information and discussion.

9. Reports and Accounts

The Honorary Treasurer shall forward to the Honorary Treasurer of the Association, not later than January 31, an audited statement of accounts for the previous year. The Honorary Secretary shall forward to the Honorary Secretary of the Association each year for the information of the Executive Board a report on the work of the Section during the previous year.

10. Amendments to the Rules

These rules may be amended by an Annual or Special General Meeting of members of the Section, provided that notice of any amendments to be proposed is given to members not less than four weeks before the meeting. Any such amendment shall not take effect unless it has been approved by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting and until it has the approval of the Executive Board of the Association.