



CONSTITUTION OF THE NEW ZEALAND LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

As amended at the Annual General Meeting of 24th August 2017.

1. Name

- 1.1 The name of the Association is the “New Zealand Law Students’ Association Incorporated” (**NZLSA**).
- 1.2 The Māori name of the NZLSA is “Te Roopu Tauira Ture o Aotearoa Incorporated”.

2. Interpretation

- 2.1 The NZLSA Council has the sole power to interpret this Constitution.
- 2.2 The Constitution will be interpreted in accordance with the Incorporated Societies Act 1908.
- 2.3 These rules will be interpreted in such a way as to confer validity rather than invalidity on actions.
- 2.4 In any matter not provided for by this Constitution or the Incorporated Societies Act 1908, the Council has a discretion to adopt appropriate procedures, bearing in mind the purposes of the NZLSA.
- 2.5 The decision of the Council on:
 - 2.5.1 the interpretation of this Constitution; or
 - 2.5.2 any matter not contained in this Constitution pertaining to:
 - 2.5.2.1 the NZLSA; or
 - 2.5.2.2 the NZLSA’s property and interests;is conclusively binding on the NZLSA until revoked or amended by the Council in a General Meeting.

3. Purposes

3.1 Primary Purpose

- 3.1.1 The primary purpose of the NZLSA is to promote educational and intellectual activities that contribute to the educational development of all New Zealand law students.

3.2 Secondary purposes

- 3.2.1 The secondary purposes of the NZLSA shall be:
 - 3.2.1.1 To provide a national forum for law students;
 - 3.2.1.2 To represent and promote the interests and concerns of law students in New Zealand;
 - 3.2.1.3 To promote and facilitate communication and the exchange of information between law students, particularly within New Zealand;
 - 3.2.1.4 To promote and organise such intellectual, educational and cultural activities as the Council of the NZLSA deems fit;
 - 3.2.1.5 To organise and conduct competitions;
 - 3.2.1.6 To promote an understanding of the Treaty of Waitangi;
 - 3.2.1.7 To promote an environment favourable to law students with special needs;
 - 3.2.1.8 To function as an informed discussion forum for matters of interest to law students in New Zealand as the Council deems fit;
 - 3.2.1.9 To comment publicly on issues affecting law students as the

- Council deems fit;
- 3.2.1.10 To maintain close liaison with the Australian Law Students' Association;
 - 3.2.1.11 To raise, borrow or lend money, or enter into any business relationship for the purpose of furthering these objectives;
 - 3.2.1.12 To administer the NZLSA Conference; and
 - 3.2.1.13 To co-ordinate the NZLSA National Law Students' Competitions Championships.

4. Non-profit Status

- 4.1 The NZLSA is a non-profit organisation.
- 4.2 No amendment of the purposes of the NZLSA shall be deemed to affect its charitable status.

5. Powers of the NZLSA

The NZLSA Council has the power to do all things necessary to carry out the purposes of the NZLSA, including but not limited to:

- 5.1 The power to borrow or lend money for the purpose of carrying out the purposes of the NZLSA, subject to clause 23.4.
- 5.2 The power to raise funds for any purpose associated with the purposes of the NZLSA.
- 5.3 The power to apply the income, assets and property of the NZLSA towards the promotion of the NZLSA and the furtherance of its purposes.
- 5.4 The power to acquire and dispose of any real or personal property.
- 5.5 The power to employ any person for any purpose associated with the purposes of the NZLSA and to pay reasonable remuneration to such persons.
- 5.6 The power to impose an annual subscription on members to achieve the purposes of the NZLSA.
- 5.7 The Council may determine the schedules to these rules and the Council will determine any mechanism for determining those schedules.
- 5.8 The power to regulate all proceedings at its meetings in the manner it sees fit.
- 5.9 The power to raise, borrow, or lend money, or enter into any business relationship for the purpose or furthering these purposes.

6. Membership of the NZLSA

Membership of the NZLSA shall be divided into five classes: Council Membership, Student Membership, Associate Membership, Life Membership, and Executive Membership.

6.1 Council Membership

6.1.1 Council Membership consists of one law student organisation representing law students at each New Zealand tertiary institution upon payment of the appropriate annual affiliation fee.

6.1.2 Such a body shall be called a Council Member.

6.2 Student Membership

- 6.2.1 Student Membership consists of any student enrolled in at least one course of law at any of the bodies included in clause 6.1.1.
- 6.2.2 Such a student shall be called a Student Member.
- 6.3 **Associate Membership**
 - 6.3.1 Associate Membership shall be open to any individual, corporation, or any other body upon approval by the Council of the NZLSA and payment of the appropriate annual affiliation fee.
 - 6.3.2 Such an individual, corporation, or body shall be called an Associate Member.
- 6.4 **Life Membership**
 - 6.4.1 The Council of the NZLSA shall have the power by a 75% majority to appoint Life Members of the NZLSA in recognition of extraordinary service to the NZLSA.
- 6.5 **Executive Membership**
 - 6.5.1 All members of the Executive as described in clause 8.1 shall be deemed Executive Members of the NZLSA.
- 6.6 Membership in the Association may cease where any of the following conditions apply:
 - 6.6.1 A Council Member may cease to be a member by giving 13 calendar months notice in writing to the Administrative Vice-President.
 - 6.6.2 A Student Member may cease to be a member by withdrawing from all law courses, or if their law student body ceases to be a Council Member in terms of clause 6.1, or by giving notice in writing to the Administrative Vice-President.
 - 6.6.3 An Associate Member may cease to be a member by formally withdrawing, not paying affiliation fees, or at the discretion of the Council.
 - 6.6.4 A Life Member may cease to be a member by formally withdrawing.

7. NZLSA Officers

- 7.1 The NZLSA Officers are:
 - 7.1.1 The **Patron** who shall be chosen by the Council at a Council Meeting and invited to fill the office for the duration of three years.
 - 7.1.2 The **Vice-Patrons** who are the Deans for the time being of the Council Members under clause 6.1.
 - 7.1.3 The **Council of Legal Education Representatives**.
 - 7.1.3.1 There are to be two Council of Legal Education Representatives who are elected by the NZLSA Council when necessary, and who hold office for a term of three years.
 - 7.1.3.2 The Council of Legal Education Representatives shall attend each NZLSA Council Meeting, Annual General Meeting and Special General Meeting. The Council of Legal Education Representatives' nomination by NZLSA is on the understanding that each person who is nominated shall attend these meetings.
 - 7.1.3.3 The persons who are elected by the NZLSA shall be nominated to the Council of Legal Education as required.
 - 7.1.3.4 The election procedure described in clause 16 shall apply except

that:

- 7.1.3.4.1 Candidates must be a Student Member or an Executive Member of the NZLSA.
 - 7.1.3.4.2 If no candidates express their interest, or if all the candidates receive votes of no confidence, the decision as to who is nominated is to be decided by the NZLSA Council.
- 7.1.4 The **Conference Convenor** as governed by the terms set out in clause 18.
- 7.2 NZLSA Officers do not hold voting rights for any Meetings by virtue of their position as NZLSA Officers, but do hold speaking rights.
 - 7.3 NZLSA Officers are not members of the NZLSA Executive and shall not be deemed to be trustees or members of the governing body of NZLSA.
 - 7.4 The provisions governing cessation of office in clause 8.6 apply to NZLSA Officers.

8. The Executive

- 8.1 The Executive of the NZLSA shall be NZLSA's governing body and is responsible for its management and administration. The Executive shall consist of the President, Administrative Vice-President, Treasurer, Competitions Vice-President, Education Vice-President and Marketing Vice-President.
- 8.2 The Executive shall conduct the day-to-day affairs of the NZLSA.
- 8.3 The Executive may conduct Executive meetings and may determine its own meeting procedures for these meetings.
- 8.4 The Executive shall have full voting powers on the Council during their time in office.
- 8.5 The responsibilities of each Executive Member are stated in clause 9.
- 8.6 An Executive Member will cease to be such only:
 - 8.6.1 after formal resignation from office in accordance with clause 17.1; or
 - 8.6.2 upon death; or
 - 8.6.3 upon the expiration of their term of office; or
 - 8.6.4 upon a resolution passed by a three-quarters majority at any Council Meeting.

9. Duties of the Executive

- 9.1 **The duties of the President shall be:**
 - 9.1.1 To act as the official representative of the NZLSA.
 - 9.1.2 To chair NZLSA meetings.
 - 9.1.3 To provide a written Annual Report to the Council at the AGM.
 - 9.1.4 To further the purposes of the NZLSA.
 - 9.1.5 To promote the NZLSA.
 - 9.1.6 To co-ordinate and oversee new initiatives undertaken by the NZLSA.
 - 9.1.7 To have a working knowledge of meeting procedure.
- 9.2 **The duties of the Administrative Vice-President shall be:**
 - 9.2.1 To keep and maintain all minutes, records and correspondence as may be reasonably required by the Executive for the proper conduct of the NZLSA's affairs.

- 9.2.2 To maintain an up to date contacts list for the NZLSA.
- 9.2.3 To oversee that all meetings, notices, other acts and things required under this Constitution are duly summoned, given or done.
- 9.2.4 To take accurate minutes of all NZLSA meetings and forward such minutes to all members of the Council within four weeks of the closing day of each NZLSA Meeting.
- 9.2.5 To draft agendas for meetings and distribute them to all members of the Council at least two weeks before the meeting in question.
- 9.2.6 To conduct all correspondence as required by the Council and under this Constitution.
- 9.2.7 To provide a written Annual Report to the Council at the AGM of the fulfilment of duties under this Constitution.
- 9.2.8 To further the purposes of this Constitution.
- 9.2.9 To have a working knowledge of meeting procedure.
- 9.2.10 To oversee such ex officio positions that the Council in its discretion may decide to appoint from time to time to assist with furthering the purposes of this Constitution.
- 9.2.11 To be primarily responsible for maintaining an archive of NZLSA written documents and resources in accordance with clause 21.
- 9.2.12 To be ultimately responsible for the co-ordination and oversight of all official publications produced for the NZLSA, in conjunction with the Marketing Vice-President where appropriate. These would include, but are not limited to: this Constitution, online newsletters, press releases, submissions and any other kind of publication.

9.3 The duties of the Treasurer shall be:

- 9.3.1 To take responsibility for the receipt and deposit of all NZLSA income in accordance with the NZLSA Finance Policy.
- 9.3.2 To make provision for the prompt payment of NZLSA debts.
- 9.3.3 To keep records of receipts, deposits and payments as necessary.
- 9.3.4 To prepare a written Annual Report to be given at the AGM outlining the finances of the NZLSA.
- 9.3.5 To prepare an interim statement of NZLSA accounts for presentation at each meeting of the Council and Executive and at the AGM.
- 9.3.6 To further the purposes of this Constitution.
- 9.3.7 To have a working knowledge of meeting procedure.
- 9.3.8 To ensure compliance with the Charities Act 2005 and the Charitable Trusts Act 1957.

9.4 The duties of the Competitions Vice-President shall be:

- 9.4.1 To promote the competitions amongst law students.
- 9.4.2 To offer guidance and assistance to the competitions representatives of the Law Student Societies in New Zealand.
- 9.4.3 To co-ordinate the financing of regional competitions.
- 9.4.4 To liaise with the sponsors of each competition.
- 9.4.5 To ensure the NZLSA website has current and useful information regarding

competitions.

- 9.4.6 To oversee the NZLSA Conference providing assistance to the host University, and competition sponsors.
- 9.4.7 To attend the NZLSA Conference delegate meetings.
- 9.4.8 To facilitate clarification of rules and procedures at the regional and national competitions.
- 9.4.9 To facilitate and supervise all travel and logistics for New Zealand's delegate and competitions contingent at the ALSA Conference.
- 9.4.10 If attending the ALSA Conference, to attend Council meetings as NZLSA's competitions representative.
- 9.4.11 To further the purposes of this Constitution.
- 9.4.12 To have a working knowledge of meeting procedure.
- 9.4.13 To be an effective and active member on the NZLSA Rules Committee.
- 9.4.14 To oversee the running of the NZLSA National Law Students' Competitions Championships held in accordance with the rules contained in Schedule 1.

9.5 The duties of the Education Vice-President shall be:

- 9.5.1 To assist Council Members' educational officers in the facilitation of Council Members' educational initiatives.
- 9.5.2 To develop and uphold NZLSA's educational policy.
- 9.5.3 To raise educational issues that impact on New Zealand law students at NZLSA Council meetings.
- 9.5.4 To oversee the actions of the NZLSA's Council of Legal Education representatives.
- 9.5.5 To maintain an open and effective relationship with the Council of Legal Education Representatives.
- 9.5.6 To organise and oversee the convening of any NZLSA educational initiatives.
- 9.5.7 To attend NZLSA Council meetings.
- 9.5.8 To maintain an effective relationship with all law schools.
- 9.5.9 To further the objects of this Constitution.
- 9.5.10 To have a working knowledge of meeting procedure.

9.6 The duties of the Marketing Vice-President:

- 9.6.1 To be responsible for the promotion of NZLSA.
- 9.6.2 To maintain and update the NZLSA website and other social media.
- 9.6.3 To be responsible for the co-ordination and oversight of promotional publications produced for the NZLSA, in conjunction with the Administrative Vice-President where appropriate. These would include, but are not limited to: online newsletters, press releases, and any other kind of publication.
- 9.6.4 To oversee the NZLSA Magazine in accordance with clause 19.
- 9.6.5 To further the objects of this Constitution.

9.7 Financial duties of the Executive:

- 9.7.1 The financial year of NZLSA shall close on the 30th day of September each year.
- 9.7.2 The Executive of NZLSA shall cause proper books of account to be kept in

which shall be recorded full, true and complete accounts of the affairs, assets and transactions of NZLSA.

9.7.3 At the end of each financial year (balance date) and at any such other time such as may be agreed by resolution at a Council Meeting, an income and expenditure account and statement of assets and liability of NZLSA shall be prepared, and circulated to members of the NZLSA Council.

9.7.4 The Executive of NZLSA shall cause to be submitted an annual return on behalf of NZLSA to the Charities Commission, such return to be submitted no later than six months after the balance date.

10. The Council

10.1 The NZLSA Council shall consist of:

10.1.1 members of the Executive under clause 8; and

10.1.2 the Presidents of each Council Member under clause 6.1.1 or their nominee.

10.2 Any Student or Associate Member is welcome to attend and speak at any Council Meetings, but only those included in clauses 10.1.1 and 10.1.2 are entitled to vote on any motion or matter before Council.

10.3 The NZLSA Officers as for the time being may be appointed or elected under clause 7 shall be ex officio members of the NZLSA Council.

11. Duties of Council Members

Council Member representatives under clause 10.1.2 shall have the following duties:

11.1 To attend Council Meetings and the AGM of the NZLSA.

11.2 To reply promptly to requests for information or contributions from the Executive.

11.3 To ensure that their NZLSA affiliation fees are paid promptly when invoiced.

11.4 To distribute information provided by the Executive to their Student Members.

12. Meetings of the NZLSA

The NZLSA can hold three types of meetings: Council Meetings, Annual General Meetings (AGM) and Special General Meetings (SGM).

12.1 Council Meetings:

12.1.1 NZLSA Council Meetings may be held from time to time as the Council requires, but in each year there shall be at least four meetings, with one held at the Annual Conference of the NZLSA.

12.1.2 At the direction of the Council, the Administrative Vice-President shall convene a Council Meeting and give at least two weeks notice in writing to all members of the Council to meet at a venue and time set by the Council.

12.1.3 The Council may conduct Council business in a Meeting so long as a quorum of:

12.1.3.1 three of the six NZLSA Executive Members; and

12.1.3.2 at least one delegate from four of the Council Members:
is present.

12.1.4 The Chairperson at each Council Meeting is the President.

12.1.5 If the President is absent, the Chairperson is the Administrative Vice-President.

12.2 Annual General Meetings (AGM):

12.2.1 The Council shall hold an AGM during the annual Conference of the NZLSA each year, at date to be fixed by the Executive in consultation with the Conference Convenor.

12.2.2 Clauses 12.1.3 and 12.1.4 regarding quorums and Chairpersons shall also apply to AGMs.

12.2.3 Except as is otherwise provided below, provisions governing the conduct of Council Meetings apply to the AGM.

12.2.4 The Administrative Vice-President shall provide written notice of the AGM to members of the Council two weeks in advance including an agenda setting out all matters of business to be dealt with in the Meeting.

12.2.5 The business of an AGM shall include:

12.2.5.1 The adoption of the minutes of the last AGM.

12.2.5.2 The adoption and discussion of Annual Reports prepared by each Executive Member and each NZLSA Officer, except for the Patron and Vice-Patrons.

12.2.5.3 The election of the Executive.

12.2.5.4 Any general business.

12.3 Special General Meetings (SGM):

12.3.1 A SGM may be ordered by the Executive, or is to be called by the Administrative Vice-President upon receipt of a request by at least three Council Members.

12.3.2 Any such meeting is to be held within four weeks of receipt of a request.

12.3.3 The Administrative Vice-President shall post to all members of the Council at least two weeks written notice of the time, place and agenda of the SGM.

13. Proxies

Voting by written and signed proxy is permitted provided that:

13.1 the Executive Members shall only be entitled to give or receive proxy votes between themselves; and

13.2 proxies shall only be given or received by Student Members from the same Council Member (ie people from the same University).

14. Voting

14.1 At all Council Meetings, AGMs and SGMs:

14.1.1 Each Council Member has two votes.

14.1.1.1 A Council Member may be represented by two voting delegates from the law student body of the institutions under clause 6.1.

14.1.2 Each Executive Member has one vote.

- 14.2 The voting delegates and the person holding the vote under clause 14.1 must be stipulated at the opening of the meeting.
- 14.3 Under no circumstances shall anyone other than a delegated Council Member or Executive Member cast a vote.
- 14.4 Any Student Member may attend any Council meeting and may address the Meeting on any motion, matter or question before the meeting.
- 14.5 A Student Member is not entitled to vote on any matter, or propose or second any motion, unless that Student Member is a voting delegate of any Member.
- 14.6 Voting on general matters is taken on the voices, but any delegate may ask for a show of hands or a secret ballot.
- 14.7 If the result of any vote is hung, then a second vote may be called. This vote is to be carried out as outlined in clauses 14.1 through 14.6.
- 14.8 If the second vote is also hung, a third vote may be held. This vote is to be determined by one vote from each Council Member, and one vote from each Executive Member. The person exercising the vote of each Council Member shall be stipulated prior to the first ballot in compliance with clause 14.2.

15. Postal Voting

Other than at Council Meetings, AGMs and SGMs, the Council has the power to decide matters of policy and general business by way of postal voting, provided that power is exercised as specified below:

- 15.1 A motion may be proposed by any member of the Council and forwarded to the Administrative Vice-President, who must give notice to all members of the Council within one week of receiving the proposal.
- 15.2 Voting on such a motion is by way of the members of the Council returning to the Administrative Vice-President a slip enclosed with the motion, recording the vote(s) of the member of the Council.
- 15.3 The provisions governing voting in clause 14 apply as appropriate and with all necessary modifications to votes conducted under this clause.
- 15.4 Communication of the proposal of a motion or of voting may be conducted by telephone or fax so long as that communication is confirmed by post or email not more than one week after the telephone conversation or receipt of the fax.
- 15.5 Failure by a member of the Council to vote on such a motion, or to give notice to the Administrative Vice-President of such a vote within two weeks of the Administrative Vice-President giving that member of the Council notice of the motion, is deemed an abstention to the motion.
- 15.6 In the case of a motion by postal vote, for a period of 24 hours after the motion is proposed any vote will not be final. During this period any vote may be changed by the relevant member. At the expiry of this period any vote submitted will become binding.
- 15.7 For the avoidance of doubt, this clause applies to communication by post or by email.

16. Executive Elections

- 16.1 Except as otherwise provided in this clause, provisions governing voting in clause 14 apply to Executive Elections.
- 16.2 The election of the Executive shall be held at the AGM in accordance with this clause.
- 16.3 Only Student Members of the NZLSA who are present at the AGM are eligible for election as President.
- 16.4 The elected President, Administrative Vice-President, Treasurer, Competitions Vice-President, Education Vice-President and Marketing Vice-President of the NZLSA must not hold an office on a Law Students' body at any university during the term of office.
- 16.5 The elected President, Administrative Vice-President, Treasurer, Competitions Vice-President, Education Vice-President and Marketing Vice-President have one calendar month to resign their Law Student body position or vacate the position.
- 16.6 A Returning Officer shall be appointed by a simple majority of the members of the Council present at the AGM to conduct the elections at the AGM.
- 16.7 Notice of the annual elections shall be accompanied by job descriptions and the prescribed nomination forms.
- 16.8 Except as provided in clause 7.1.3.4, nominations will only be accepted for individuals who are currently Student Members of the NZLSA.
- 16.9 Nominations for elections from people who are not likely to be law students at the conclusion of their term shall not be accepted without approval of 75% of the members of the Council present at the election.
- 16.10 Nominations shall be made in the prescribed form, and shall be accepted up to one hour before the opening of the AGM, unless the Council decides otherwise by a 75% majority of the members of the Council present at the AGM.
- 16.11 Any nomination that is made on behalf of an individual not present at the AGM must also include the acceptance of that person in writing.
- 16.12 If no nominations are received, or if in the election all the nominees receive votes of no confidence, the incumbent Executive Member will carry on in office and call a SGM at the next Council Meeting to hold an election for the Executive position(s) in accordance with this clause.
- 16.13 If one or more nominations are received for any one office an election shall be conducted by the Returning Officer.
- 16.14 Any dispute as to the validity or otherwise of a nomination shall be decided by the President, and the President's ruling shall be final.
- 16.15 The election procedure shall be as follows:
 - 16.15.1 Elections shall be conducted in accordance with this Constitution, and shall be by secret ballot under the optional preferential system.
 - 16.15.2 Each nominee shall be permitted a maximum of ten minutes to speak in support of their nomination.
 - 16.15.3 The Chair may allow questions from the floor to the nominee after the nominee's supporting speech.
 - 16.15.4 Where a candidate for the position of NZLSA Administrative Vice-President, Treasurer, Competitions Vice-President, Education Vice-President or Marketing Vice-President is unable to attend the election for the position for which he or she has been nominated, the nominee may select a person to act on his or her behalf and to deliver a speech on his or her behalf.

- 16.15.5 Speeches regarding nominations other than those allowed in accordance with clauses 16.15.2–16.15.4 shall not be permitted.
- 16.15.6 At the conclusion of the elections (if any) the Returning Officer shall announce to the AGM the duly elected Executive of the NZLSA.
- 16.16 The incumbent NZLSA Executive must transfer all the files to the incoming Executive within three weeks of the date of the AGM.
- 16.17 The term of office shall begin three weeks from the date of the elections and end at the same time the year after.

17. Resignation or Vacation of Office

- 17.1 Any Executive Member or NZLSA Officer may resign from office by giving one calendar month's notice to the Administrative Vice-President and all of the members of the Council.
- 17.2 If the position of President falls vacant for any reason then:
- 17.2.1 A SGM to elect a new President in accordance with clause 16 shall be held within one calendar month of the President's position falling vacant.
- 17.2.2 The Administrative Vice-President shall assume the duties and responsibilities of the President until the SGM.
- 17.3 If any other Executive or NZLSA Officer position falls vacant for any reason then:
- 17.3.1 The President shall appoint a new Executive Member or NZLSA Officer to fill the vacancy until the next Council Meeting, at which a new Executive Member or NZLSA Officer shall be elected or appointed.

18. Annual NZLSA Conference

- 18.1 The NZLSA shall convene the New Zealand Law Students' Association Conference (Conference) every year.
- 18.1.1 The Conference shall consist of:
- (a) the NZLSA National Law Students' Competitions Championships;
 - (b) NZLSA Council Meetings for at least two days;
 - (c) the NZLSA AGM; and
 - (d) any other initiatives convened by the NZLSA Executive.
- 18.2 **NZLSA National Law Students' Competitions Championships:**
- 18.2.1 The NZLSA National Law Students' Competitions Championships are to be held annually at the NZLSA Conference.
- 18.2.2 The NZLSA is the governing body of the NZLSA National Law Students' Competitions Championships.
- 18.2.3 The NZLSA National Law Students' Competitions Championships are to be held in accordance with the NZLSA National Law Students' Competitions Championships Rules contained in Schedule 1.
- 18.2.4 All complaints against the rules contained in Schedule 1 are to be solved in accordance with Schedule 1.
- 18.2.5 All students that enter and compete in the NZLSA National Law Students' Competitions Championships and the Regional Law Competitions shall abide

by the terms and conditions and any other obligations in the NZLSA Law Students' Society Competitions Entry Form.

18.3 NZLSA Rules Committee:

- 18.3.1 There shall be a body called the NZLSA Rules Committee, which shall be responsible for suggesting changes to the rules governing the NZLSA National Law Students' Competitions Championships and the Regional Law Competitions.
- 18.3.2 The NZLSA Rules Committee shall consist of the following:
- (a) The Competitions Vice-President of the NZLSA.
 - (b) Two previous competition competitors or coordinators appointed by the NZLSA Executive.
 - (c) One competitions representative from each Council Member, or the President, or a suitable LSS Executive member appointed by the President.
 - (d) One representative from each law school's faculty.
 - (e) One representative from the sponsoring law firm for each competition.
- 18.3.3 The NZLSA Rules Committee may from time to time suggest changes to the rules governing the regional and the NZLSA National Law Students' Competitions Championships.
- 18.3.4 Suggested changes to the rules, made in accordance with sub-clause 18.3.3, shall be binding until the next NZLSA Council Meeting.
- 18.3.5 The NZLSA Council shall by simple majority amend, pass, or reject any rules, resolutions, or amendments suggested by the NZLSA Rules Committee at the next NZLSA Council Meeting.
- 18.3.6 No member of the NZLSA Rules Committee may compete in the NZLSA National Law Students' Competitions Championships or the Regional Law Competitions.

18.4 Conference Convenor:

- 18.4.1 The Council Member who is to host the Conference shall nominate a Conference Convenor by the date of the NZLSA AGM in the year prior to that in which the Conference is to be held, and shall notify the Council of that nomination.
- 18.4.2 The Conference Convenor shall be an NZLSA Officer of the New Zealand Law Students' Association as per clause 7.
- 18.4.3 The Conference Convenor shall be elected by the NZLSA Council at the AGM in the manner described in clause 16.
- 18.4.4 The Conference Convenor, as a NZLSA Officer, does not have voting rights on Council, but does have speaking rights.
- 18.4.5 The Council Member hosting the Conference shall make the Conference Convenor aware of the provisions of this constitution.
- 18.4.6 The organisation of the Conference shall primarily be the responsibility of the Conference Convenor.
- 18.4.7 The Conference Convenor at all times acts under the direction of the NZLSA Executive.

- 18.4.8 The Conference Convenor shall maintain regular contact with the President and Competitions Vice-President of the NZLSA.
- 18.4.9 The Conference Convenor shall report directly to the President of the NZLSA.
- 18.4.10 The Conference Convenor may appoint any persons he/she thinks fit to assist in the organisation of the Conference.
- 18.4.11 The following shall be the duties of the Conference Convenor:
 - 18.4.11.1 Maintaining sound financial records of all Conference transactions, including producing a Conference Financial Statement showing income, expenditure, and the net result of the Conference. These records are to be prepared in consultation with the NZLSA Treasurer.
 - 18.4.11.2 Organising the NZLSA National Law Students' Competitions Championships including the mooting, client interviewing, witness examination and negotiation competitions.
 - 18.4.11.3 Organising social events, including a closing dinner to which all the sponsors and Patron are to be invited and competition results announced.
 - 18.4.11.4 Organising accommodation for delegates and venues for Council Meetings.

18.5 The Annual Conference will be held on a six year rotation as follows:

- 1 University of Canterbury
- 2 University of Auckland
- 3 Victoria University of Wellington
- 4 University of Otago
- 5 Auckland University of Technology
- 6 University of Waikato

18.6 Should the nominated law school be unable to host the Conference in their respective year, the Council shall have the power to vary the order of rotation at their discretion.

18.7 Notification of inability to host the Conference must be given no less than four calendar months after the AGM to the Executive.

18.8 The Executive shall:

- 18.8.1 have an oversight function in relation to the Conference Team;
- 18.8.2 be responsible for ensuring that the Conference is organised in accordance with this Constitution and the wishes of Council;
- 18.8.3 be responsible for obtaining premier sponsorship for the Conference; and
- 18.8.4 be responsible for finding the competitions trophies from the previous year and bringing them to Conference.

19. NZLSA Magazine

19.1 The NZLSA shall produce an official magazine.

19.2 The production of the magazine shall be overseen by the Marketing Vice-President.

20. The New Zealand Law Students' Journal ("NZLSJ")

- 20.1 The NZLSJ is hereby affirmed as a legally affiliated body of the NZLSA.
- 20.2 The NZLSJ is structured and governed according to the Constitution of the NZLSJ.
- 20.3 The NZLSA is not obligated to provide funding to the NZLSJ.
- 20.4 The NZLSJ is in no way editorially beholden to the NZLSA.

21. Archives

The Executive shall arrange for the documents of the NZLSA to be archived online in a manner of the Executive's choosing and, where appropriate, physically in a manner of the Executive's choosing.

22. Control and Use of the Common Seal

- 22.1 The Administrative Vice-President of the NZLSA is to have custody of the Common Seal of the NZLSA.
- 22.2 The Common Seal may be used from time to time at the discretion of the Executive to validate documents issued in the name of the NZLSA.

23. Control and Investment of the Funds of the Society

- 23.1 The Executive shall maintain bank accounts on behalf of the NZLSA where necessary.
- 23.2 All cheques and withdrawals drawn on such bank accounts shall be authorised by two of the President, Administrative-Vice President and Treasurer.
- 23.3 The Treasurer is to administer the NZLSA funds as provided for in clause 9.3.
- 23.4 The Council may, by resolution of 75% of the members of the Council present at the meeting, authorise the borrowing or lending of money for a purpose permitted by the purposes of the NZLSA in clause 3 of this Constitution.

24. Dissolution of the NZLSA

- 24.1 The NZLSA may be dissolved at any AGM or SGM upon passage of a resolution to that effect by a 75% majority of the Council Members present at the Meeting.
- 24.2 A resolution pursuant to clause 24.1 must be confirmed by a 75% majority of a full Council at a vote by secret ballot held at a subsequent Council Meeting convened specifically for that purpose and held not sooner than 28 days and not later than 42 days after the date on which the resolution was originally passed.

25. Disposition of Property

- 25.1 The funds and property of the NZLSA must be applied solely for the promotion of the purposes as outlined in clause 3, and towards the expenses incurred in the implementation of those purposes.
- 25.2 Upon dissolution of the NZLSA under clause 24, all surplus funds and assets remaining after the satisfaction of all the NZLSA's debts and liabilities shall be transferred to the Law Foundation or such other charitable organisation within New

Zealand having the same or similar objects to the NZLSA as the NZLSA Council may determine, provided always such charitable organisation is registered as such under the Charities Act 2005.

- 25.3 The provisions of this clause 25 shall be subject to the provisions of the Charitable Trusts Act 1957.

26. Amending this Constitution

- 26.1 This Constitution may be amended or repealed at any AGM or SGM by a resolution to that effect passed by a 75% majority of the members of the Council present at that meeting.
- 26.2 At least three days notice of the proposed amendment or repeal must be given to the Administrative Vice-President of the NZLSA.
- 26.3 Any alterations to the Constitution sought pursuant to clause 26.1 may, if the Chairperson of the Meeting considers it sufficiently relevant to the original motion, be proposed in the meeting without having to satisfy the requirements of notice set out in clause 26.2.