

13 October 2021

Dear Member,

**RE: SAFE Rules – Proposed Remit**

1. We write in accordance with Rule 5 of the SAFE Rules (the Rules) to provide notice of two proposed alterations to the Rules.

*Discontinuance of Life and Honorary Memberships*

2. We propose an amendment of Rule 3. The proposed amendment will discontinue new life and honorary memberships and make provision for a single class of membership moving forward.
3. Our reasoning behind this proposed amendment is that one of the defining characteristics of membership of incorporated societies is a financial contribution.
4. Rule 3 currently reads as follows:

*3. Membership of SAFE is subject to the approval of the SAFE Board (hereafter referred to as “Board”) and shall consist of the following three types:*

*a) Ordinary members: An application may be filed by any person who submits a completed membership form and pays the appropriate membership fee;*

*b) Honorary members: Bestowed on any person by the Board. Honorary members will not have voting rights and will not be eligible for office.*

*c) Life members: An application may be filed by any person who submits a completed membership form and pays the appropriate life membership fee.*

5. If passed, Rule 3 would need to be amended as follows:

**3. Membership of SAFE is subject to the approval of the SAFE Board (hereafter referred to as “Board”) and shall consist of the following two types:**

**(a) Ordinary Members. An application may be filed by any person who submits a completed membership form and pays the appropriate membership fee. When approved by the Board and the appropriate membership fee paid, membership can be granted.**

**(b) Life Members. Comprised of those members on whom Life Membership has been conferred. No new Life Memberships will be offered.**

6. For the purposes of the remit for the members, we note the following:

(a) In the case of existing Honorary Members, members will be conferred with Life Membership. No further Honorary Memberships will be granted and “Honorary Membership” as a class of membership will be abolished.

- (b) In the case of existing Life Members, members who wish to retain their Life Membership may do so. No further Life Memberships will be granted. "Life Membership" as a class of membership will therefore be comprised of existing Life and Honorary Members only.

*Provision for Board Member Reimbursement and Honoraria*

7. We wish to propose an amendment to Rule 11 g)(iv) and the addition of a further sub rule to be numbered 11 j).
8. Our reasoning behind this proposed amendment is to ensure that those members of the Board who incur reasonable expenses on behalf of SAFE are reimbursed for those expenses in a transparent manner and in accordance with established protocols. Currently, the rule provides for the Board to grant honorariums to appropriate persons as deemed fit. The proposed amendment to Rule 11 g)(iv) removes the power of the Board to grant honoraria to its own Members and the addition of Rule 11. j) creates a mechanism by which Members of the Board may be granted honoraria and reimbursed for expenses incurred on behalf of SAFE.
9. Rule 11 g)(iv) currently reads:
- 11.
- g) *The Board shall have the power to perform the following actions:*
- (iv) To grant honorariums to appropriate persons as deemed fit.*
10. If passed, Rule 11 g) would need to be amended as follows:
- 11.
- g) The Board shall have the power to perform the following actions:**
- (iv) To grant honorariums to appropriate persons who are not Members of the Board as deemed fit.**
11. It is proposed that a new Rule 11. j) is added to the Rules to read:
- 11.
- j) Members of the Board will be entitled to the payment of honoraria and to be reimbursed by SAFE for expenses incurred:**
- (i) Members of the Board may receive such honoraria as may be set by resolution of a General Meeting prior to payment**
- (ii) Members of the Board may be reimbursed by SAFE for any actual expenses properly and reasonably incurred by them on behalf of SAFE**
- (iii) The payment of such honoraria or reimbursement must be made in accordance with policies to be established by the Board.**

Notice to Members

12. In accordance with the Rules, we ask that you give members 21 days notice of these proposed alterations to the Rules.

Thank you.



Katharine Birks, Secretary, Board of Directors, SAFE For Animals

