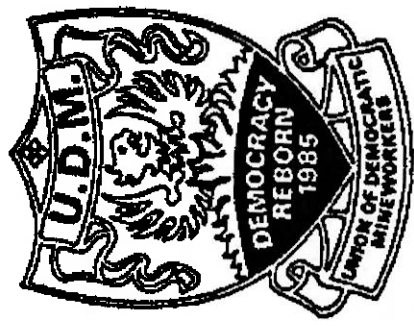


**UNION OF  
DEMOCRATIC  
MINEWORKERS**



**RULES  
2015**

**UNION OF DEMOCRATIC  
MINeworkERS**

**RULES**

**NAME**

1. The Union shall be called the Union of Democratic Mineworkers and is in these Rules referred to as "the Union." Its offices shall be at Berry Hill Lane, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, or such other place as Conference shall from time to time decide.

**OBJECTS**

2. The objects of the Union shall be:
- (1) To organise in the Union all workers employed in or connected with the mining industry in the United Kingdom and ancillary undertakings.
  - (2) To protect and advance the interests of members on all questions arising out of or in connection with their employment including their wages, conditions of employment, compensation, safety, holidays and hours.
  - (3) To negotiate and settle all disputes between members (or any section of members or any member) and employers on any question mentioned in (2) above.
  - (4) To establish pension superannuation and/or mutual benefit schemes or pay gratuities for the benefit of members, employees and officials of the Union and/or their dependants.
  - (5) To provide trade dispute benefit, victimisation benefit, legal assistance and other benefits for members in accordance with these Rules.
  - (6) To assist members or their dependants in obtaining compensation for accidents under any available statutory provisions or at common law or in contesting any legal question affecting any member or members or their dependants or affecting the mining industry and ancillary undertakings.
  - (7) To assist or federate with other Unions, Associations or Groups which have the same or similar objects to those of the Union.
  - (8) To publish (either alone or in participation with others) a journal or other publication whose main purpose is the advancement of the interests of the Union and its members.
  - (9) To promote legislation which is in the interests of the members of the Union as persons employed in or connected with the mining industry in

the United Kingdom and ancillary undertakings.

- (10) To do all such other lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.

#### CONSTITUTION

3. The Union shall be composed of workers employed in or connected with the mining, quarrying and energy industries and ancillary undertakings in the United Kingdom and such other workers who share the democratic ideals of the Union as the National Executive Committee shall resolve to deem to membership.

#### SECTIONS

4. The Union shall be divided into a number of areas, categories or groups to be known as Sections (in these Rules referred to as 'Sections' or a 'particular Section' as the case may be) and shall consist of the Nottingham Section, the South Derbyshire Section (being Sections corresponding to or based on the respective Areas of the two amalgamating Unions formerly known as the National Union of Mineworkers (Nottingham Area) and the National Union of Mineworkers (South Derbyshire Area).

#### CONFERENCE

- 5.(1) The authority and government of the Union shall be vested in a Conference of Delegates (in these Rules referred to as 'Conference') which shall function at the behest of the National Executive Committee.
- (2) The National Conference shall be held in June or such other time as the Conference shall resolve. It shall be the duty of the National Conference to:
- (a) transact the Union's business;
  - (b) discuss all matters affecting the welfare of the members;
  - (c) consider resolutions submitted to it by any Section or the National Executive Committee;
  - (d) receive a report from the National Executive Committee of its proceedings;
  - (e) receive the auditors report on the Union's financial position for the previous year.
- (3) Resolutions to be placed on the agenda of a National Conference:
- (a) in the case of resolutions (which shall not exceed four in number) proposed by any Section shall be sent to the National President not less than twelve weeks before such Conference and shall within two weeks of receipt be sent to the General Secretaries of each of the other Sections;

(b) in the case of resolutions proposed by the National Executive Committee shall be formulated and placed on the agenda not later than eight weeks before such Conference.

Amendments (not exceeding two in the case of any one Section) may be placed on the agenda by any Section or by the National Executive Committee not later than six weeks before the date of the National Conference in question and the final agenda for such Conference shall be sent to each of the Sections not later than four weeks before the Conference.

(4) A Special Conference may be called at any time by the National Executive Committee providing that a resolution shall not be passed thereat unless prior notice of such resolution has been given to all Sections sufficient to enable it to be discussed and voted upon in each of the Sections before such Conference.

(5) Voting at Conference shall in the first instance be by show of hands but if such vote is challenged at the Conference by any Section then a card vote shall be taken based on the number of members in each Section, each Section having one vote for every 100 members or fractional part thereof in the Section. \*

(6) The Delegates to Conference shall be the President and the Vice President of the Union, the President, the Vice President and General Secretary of each of the Sections within the Union and in addition one representative for every 500 members of the Union in each of its Sections up to a total of 5,000 such members and thereafter one representative for every 3,000 members of each Section, such representatives to be chosen by each Section in accordance with its Rules.

(7) The numbers referred to in (5) and (6) shall be calculated taking the smallest number of members for which contributions have been paid to the Union during the year ending three months before the date of the Conference in question.

\* "NB By a decision of the National Executive Committee dated 12 July 1990 where a card vote is called for the National President be given powers to call for an immediate adjournment prior to any card vote being taken."

#### NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

6.(1) Responsibility for the administration of the affairs and business of the Union shall reside in a National Executive Committee which shall at all times act in accordance with (and at no time contrary to) the lawful resolutions of Conference.

(2) The National Executive Committee shall consist of:

- (a) ex-officio members namely the President, Vice President and Section Secretaries of the Union
- (b) one member chosen from each colliery every five years by the members of each Section on a ballot of such members; and
- (c) in the case of any Section having more than 7,000 members one further

**National Office**  
Union of Democratic Mineworkers

National Office  
Miners' Offices  
Berry Hill Lane  
Mansfield  
Notts  
NG18 4JU  
(01623) 676418

**Nottingham Section**  
Union of Democratic Mineworkers

Nottingham Section  
Miners' Offices  
Berry Hill Lane  
Mansfield  
Notts  
NG18 4JU  
(01623) 626094

**South Derbyshire Section**

Union of Democratic Mineworkers  
South Derbyshire Section  
Miners' Offices  
Alexandra Road  
Swadincote  
Derbys  
(01283) 221200

call upon such member to terminate his discussion forthwith.

6. Addressing the National Executive Committee  
During such time as any delegate is addressing the Committee, no other member of the Committee shall intercede. However, should the Chairman either to point of order or to put a motion or amendment forward, intercede, delegates should cease discussion until indicated by the Chair.
7. Delegates to Speak Once on One Subject  
No delegate shall speak more than once upon any subject before the National Executive Committee, except to ask a question, unless he is the mover of a motion or amendment under discussion and then only to reply to arguments which may have arisen in the discussion on this motion or amendment.
8. Point of Order  
Any delegate at any time may raise a point of order by addressing the Chair. He shall confine his remarks to the point of order raised by him and all such points of order shall be settled by the Chairman.
9. Motion or Amendment  
No motion or amendment shall be open for discussion until they have been duly seconded. If no seconder is found, the Chairman shall at once proceed to the next business.
10. Voting  
It shall be the duty of the delegate to exercise his vote or votes on all questions coming before the National Executive Committee and in no event shall he remain neutral. Voting on any question before the National Executive Committee shall be by "show of hands" but in the event of a tie in the number of votes cast, the Chairman shall exercise his casting vote.
11. Delegates Leaving the National executive Committee  
No delegate shall be allowed to leave the National Executive Committee before the completion of the business without the consent of the Chairman.

#### SCHEDULE

THE NATIONAL UNION OF MINEWORKERS (NOTTINGHAM AREA)

THE NATIONAL UNION OF MINEWORKERS (SOUTH DERBYSHIRE AREA)

#### OFFICE ADDRESSES

- member for each 7,000 members in that Section such additional member or members to be chosen every five years by the members of that Section on a ballot of such members.
- (3) The members referred to in (2)(b) and (c) of this Rule shall be chosen in elections held during the month of April in the year in question such members elected in April 1996 shall take office from the end of the last day of the 1996 Annual Conference. The members elected in April 1996 shall hold office for a 5-year period concluding on the last day of June that year. Retiring members shall be eligible for re-election.
- (4) For the purpose of sub-Rule (2)(c) of this Rule when a Section has more than 7,000 members numbers above 7,000 shall be rounded up or down in accordance with the normal rules of arithmetic and shall be based on the smallest number of members of the Section in question for which contributions have been paid to the Union during the year ending 31st January in the year in question.
- (5) Notwithstanding the above requirement of a ballot vote for the period from the formation of the Union until the 30th April 1986 the members under sub-Rule (2)(b) and (c) hereof shall be the persons who before the formation of the Union were chosen as such members by the respective Executive Committees of each of the Amalgamating Unions named in the Schedule hereto from among the members of such Committees.
- (6) No member shall be eligible for membership of the National Executive Committee unless such member has either been in the industry for an unbroken period of at least five years or has continuously been a member of the Union since its formation.
- (7) Meetings of the National Executive Committee shall be held at least once every month and more frequently if the National Executive Committee shall so decide from time to time. In addition, the President in agreement with the Vice-President shall have the power to convene such a meeting at any time and shall be obliged to convene such a meeting to be held on the earliest practicable date on the written request of any Section or of the majority of members of the National Executive Committee who are entitled to vote at meetings thereof.
- (8) The meetings of the National Executive Committee shall be chaired by the President of the Union or in his absence the Vice-President but in the event of both of them failing to be present within fifteen minutes of the time appointed for the meeting to begin or both having previously stated that they would be unable to attend then the Committee shall appoint a chairman for the meeting in question from among its members present.
- (9) The quorum necessary before any meeting of the National Executive Committee may transact business shall be half the number of members thereof who are entitled to vote at its meetings save that if a quorum is not present for a meeting within thirty minutes of the time appointed for the meeting the members present shall be empowered to adjourn the meeting to such other date and time as they shall decide and if after reasonable notice of the adjourned time and date has been

given to the absent members of the Committee there is still no quorum at such adjourned meeting then the members of the Committee present at the meeting shall, fifteen minutes after the appointed time, therefore constitute a quorum.

(10) Matters arising before the National Executive Committee shall be decided by the majority of votes of the members thereof who are entitled to vote and in the event of equality of votes the President (or in his absence the Vice-President) shall have an additional casting vote.

(11) All members of the National Executive Committee shall be entitled to one vote each, the Presidents and General Secretaries of the Section shall not be entitled to vote.

(12) Any member of the National Executive Committee chosen by a Section in the manner set out in sub-Rule (2)(b) or (c) of this Rule and the General Secretary of any Section may be removed from his position as a member of the National Executive Committee by a resolution of Conference supported by a two-thirds majority on a card vote provided that there is included in such majority all the votes capable of being cast by the Section which chose the General Secretary or member in question. Any member so removed shall be a member of the National Executive Committee for a period of three years after his removal.

(13) In the event of a member referred to in sub-Rule (2)(b) or (c) of this Rule resigning, dying or becoming and continuing to be mentally or physically incapable of performing his duties for a period of more than six months then the Section in question may hold a specially convened ballot for the purpose of electing a successor and such successor shall then hold office for the remainder of the period of office of his immediate predecessor.

#### NATIONAL OFFICIALS

7.(1) The Officials of the Union shall be the President and the Vice-President.

#### THE PRESIDENT

(2) The President shall be appointed on a ballot vote of the members of the Union to hold office for a period of five years. His duties shall be to preside at all meetings of the National Executive Committee and at Conference, to oversee that the business and affairs of the Union are conducted in accordance with the Rules of the Union and to perform such other duties as shall from time to time be requested by the National Executive Committee and agreed upon by the President. He shall be eligible to stand for re-election on the expiry of his five year term of office. The date of the election shall be fixed by the National Executive Committee. In addition to the aforementioned, he shall carry out such duties as may be required by the National Executive Committee to ensure the smooth running of both administration and finance of the National Union. He shall also sign, in conjunction with the Vice-President and any other necessary signatories, if any, all documents intended to be binding on the Union. There will be no remuneration other than travelling expenses incurred whilst carrying out his duties as President

18. The books and accounts of the Union shall be open for inspection by any member or other person having an interest in the funds of the Union at all reasonable times.

#### DISSOLUTION

19.(1) The Union may be dissolved with the consent of a 75% majority of all members of the Union (save for members excluded from voting under Rule 14(2) hereof) voting on a ballot of such members taken in pursuance of a resolution of Conference.

(2) In the event of the Union being dissolved each of the Sections thereof shall be deemed, if they have not previously exercised their right to secede under Rule 11(2) hereof, to have effectively exercised such right immediately before the date of the dissolution of the Union.

#### STANDING ORDERS FOR NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1. Order of Business  
The order of Business of each National Executive Committee Meeting shall be as prescribed by the Agenda supplied to the members at the opening of each meeting and subject to those put on Standing Orders.

2. Minutes  
Minutes which have been previously supplied to the members shall be taken as read, the Chairman shall ask whether any Minute or Minutes will be challenged and only such Minutes that are challenged shall be read and a vote taken thereon as necessary. Any member of the Committee will be allowed to ask any question relating to the Minutes.

3. Departure from Order of Agenda  
Any departure from the specified Order of the Agenda shall only be allowed by consent of the National Executive Committee after the motion to suspend any orders. But such a motion may only be put after at least one hour's written notice together with a copy of the motion, shall have been given to the Chairman, who shall express the urgency thereof, or otherwise, to the National Executive Committee.

4. Delegates Addressing the National Executive Committee  
Any delegate wishing to speak upon any item shall indicate his intention to address the Committee through the Chair.

5. Remarks to be Strictly Relative to Business  
All remarks that are addressed to the Chair shall be strictly relevant to the business before the National Executive Committee and it shall be the duty of the Chairman to call any member to Order in violation of this Rule 5 and after two admonitions addressed to any member from the Chair, it shall be the duty of the Chairman to

give to the Unions Auditor (and where appropriate a Sections Auditor) all necessary and reasonable access thereto. The Union Auditor may in relation to such records question the Officials and Trustees of the Union.

- (5) The report of the Union's Auditor on the Union's financial position for the previous year shall be placed before the National Conference of the Union.

#### ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS

- 16.(1) Subject to sub-Rule (3) hereof alterations or additions to these general rules of the Union shall be made if it is resolved by a simple majority of the National Executive Committee entitled to vote that such alterations or additions are required and such resolution is approved by a 55% majority of all members of the Union (save for members excluded from voting under Rule 14(2) hereof) voting on a ballot of such members.
- (2) Subject to sub-Rule (3) hereof alterations or additions to Rules of the Union may be made at any time if it is resolved by a two-thirds majority of the members of the National Executive Committee that such alterations or additions are required and such resolution is approved by a two-thirds majority of Conference.
- (3) Notwithstanding anything in these Rules the rights of any Section under Rule 11(2) hereof shall not be altered except with the approval of a 60% majority of all the members of the Section in question (save for members excluded from voting under Rule 14(2) hereof) voting on a ballot of such members.

#### EXPULSION OR SUSPENSION OF A SECTION

- 17.(1) If any Section or Branch thereof shall after due warning from the National Executive Committee refuse to carry out the lawful directions, orders or regulations of the National Executive Committee or of Conference such Section may be expelled or suspended from the Union by a resolution of Conference supported by a two-thirds majority on a card vote.
- (2) If the National Executive Committee is satisfied that the matters complained of have been remedied by the Section it may within a period of three months from the date of the resolution rescind the resolution of expulsion or suspension passed by Conference under sub-Rule (1) of this Rule unless in the resolution in question Conference has expressly excluded the power under this sub-Rule to do so.
- (3) A Section which is expelled under this Rule shall be deemed for the purposes of Rule 11(2)(a) hereof to have seceded from the Union at the date of the resolution of expulsion unless such resolution is rescinded under sub-Rule (2) of this Rule.

#### INSPECTION OF BOOKS

of the National Union.

#### THE VICE PRESIDENT

- (3) The Vice President shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee on an annual basis to hold Office for one year. His duties shall be to attend all conferences and meetings of the National Executive Committee, in the absence of the President to preside at all such meetings and exercise the powers conferred on the President by these Rules. There shall be no remuneration other than travelling expenses for attending meetings of the National Executive Committee or on behalf of the Union.
  - (4) The ballot vote for National Officials shall be conducted so that both ballots do not occur within the same year, unless precipitated by the retirement of either National Official before the expiration of his/her term of office or the removal of either National Official under Rule 8(3). To enable this to take place, the President's term of office from his next election shall stand for 2½ years and the Vice-President for 18 months. Thereafter, the terms of office must comply with National Rule 7(2) and 7(3).
- #### FURTHER RULES RELATING TO NATIONAL OFFICIALS
- 8.(1) No member of the Union shall be eligible for appointment as an Official of the Union unless such member has either been in the industry for an unbroken period of at least five years or has continuously been a member of the Union since its formation.
  - (2) A National Official shall be remunerated in the manner decided upon by the National Executive Committee prior to his election and otherwise as shall from time to time be agreed between the National Official in question and the National Executive Committee.
  - (3) Any National Official may retire from office before the expiration of his term of appointment on giving not less than three months notice to the National Executive Committee or such shorter period as that Committee may agree and may be removed from office at any time and with immediate effect by a vote in favour of such removal given by 55% of those voting in a ballot of all members of the Union held pursuant to a decision of the National Conference (or Special Conference) to hold such a ballot, or by a resolution of Conference supported by at least two-thirds majority on a card vote.
  - (4) Every National Official who attains the age of 65 whilst in office shall retire on attaining that age.
  - (5) A National Official who is also an Official of a Section shall serve upon such terms as to his remuneration and the division of his time as shall from time to time be agreed between the National Executive Committee, the Section in question and the particular National Official.

- (6) A National Official shall subject to the approval of the National Executive Committee in addition to his remuneration be paid any expenses which are properly and reasonably incurred by him in the performance of his duties.
- (7) The National Executive Committee shall have power to make such provision as it shall consider reasonable for the retirement of any National Official whether by way of pension, pension scheme, superannuation fund or gratuity.

#### MEMBERSHIP

- 9.(1) The members of the Union shall be all persons who, for the time being, are members of any Section of the Union.
- (2) Each application for membership shall be made to a Section and be considered and decided upon by the Section in accordance with its Rules.
- (3) If a member ceases for any cause to be a member of any Section of the Union he shall automatically cease to be a member of the Union.
- (4) If a Section is expelled or suspended from the Union in accordance with these Rules then the membership in the Union of the members of such Section shall cease or be suspended as the case may be.
- (5) If a Section secedes from the Union in accordance with the provisions of Rule 11(2)(a) hereof then the members of such Section shall thereupon cease to be members of the Union.
- (6) Any member who is expelled or suspended from membership of his Section under the Rules thereof shall have a right of appeal within fourteen days of the final decision by his Section on his expulsion or suspension to the National Executive Committee which may either uphold, reverse or vary, as it sees fit, the decision of the Section on the matter and such decision of the National Executive Committee shall be binding upon the Section and member in question.

#### STRIKES

- 10.(1) A strike, stoppage of work or other industrial action by all members of the Union in pursuance of its objects may only be called if first approved by 55% of those voting in a ballot of all members of the Union.
- (2) The National Executive Committee shall be entitled to hold and organise a ballot for the purposes of sub-Rule (1) of this Rule.
- (3) Subject to sub-Rule (1) hereof a strike, stoppage of work or any other industrial action may take place in any Section of the Union if (but only if) it is authorised by the Section in accordance with its Rules and first approved by a ballot of all members of the Section in question.
- (4) In the event of the industrial action referred to in sub-Rule (3) of this Rule taking place in any Section of the Union no picketing or similar activity shall be carried out by any members of the Union in relation to the members of any other Section of the Union which has not at that time taken similar industrial action provided

accordance with the provision of this sub-Rule.

- (b) In making any investment the Trustees shall have regard to the need for diversification of investments so far as is appropriate to the circumstances of the Union and to the suitability of the Union of investments of the description of investment proposed and before making any investment they shall obtain and consider proper advice on the question whether the investment is satisfactory having regard to matters aforesaid.
- (c) For the purpose of this Rule proper advice means the advice given in writing or subsequently confirmed in writing of a person who is reasonably believed by the Trustees to be qualified by his ability in and practical experience of financial matters and such advice may be given by a person notwithstanding that he gives it in the course of his employment as an officer or servant.
- (8) The National Executive Committee shall have power to instruct the Trustees to borrow money for the purposes of the Union on such terms as to interest, repayment and otherwise as the National Executive Committee shall think fit and whether or not upon the security of the whole or any part or parts of the real and personal estate of the Union.

#### AUDITORS AND ACCOUNTS

- 15.(1) The accounts of the Union shall be examined and audited annually by a professionally qualified, independent and reputable accountant or firm of accountants (herein called "the Union's Auditor") who shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee. The Union's Auditor may only be removed by a resolution of the National Conference.
- (2) The accounts of any Section relating to its own separate property may, if decided upon by any Section, be examined and audited by a professionally qualified, independent and reputable accountant or firm of accountants (hereinafter called "a Section's Auditor") other than the Union's Auditor provided that the Union's Auditor shall be given by the Section in question full and free access at all reasonable times to all books and records of the Section relating to the contributions (including payments to the Union in respect of levies) of the members of that Section to the general funds of the Union or to any other matter which is the proper concern of the Union in relation to the financial affairs of the Section.
- (3) The Union's Auditor shall examine and audit annually all the accounts of each Section unless the Section in question has a Section's Auditor in which case the work and duties of the Union's Auditor shall be restricted to the matters referred to in the proviso to sub-Rule (2) of this Rule.
- (4) The Union and each Section thereof shall keep proper accounting records which give a true and fair view of their financial affairs and shall at all reasonable times



hereof in respect of each week during which he shall receive no wages by reason of such official strike.

#### BALLOTS

13. (1) Where under these Rules a ballot vote of the members of the Union is required to be taken the form and procedure shall be as laid down by the National Executive Committee.
- (2) Save where the law otherwise requires in all ballots of members held under these Rules all members shall be entitled to vote except:
  - (a) members who are not in employment;
  - (b) members who are deemed unfinancial within the meaning of Rule 12(11);
- (3) All elections for National Officials shall be held under the system of the single transferable vote
- (4) No ballot shall be held at an uncontested election.

#### TRUSTEES AND INVESTMENTS

14. (1) There shall be two Trustees who shall be members of the Union and appointed by the National Executive Committee. A Trustee shall continue in office during the pleasure of the Union, consideration will be given to appoint one Trustee from each Section.
- (2) The National Executive Committee may remove any Trustee and appoint another member of the Union in his place. A Trustee may resign his office by written notice to the National President of the Union. He shall automatically be treated as being resigned if he ceases to be a member of the Union.
- (3) The property of the Union, real and personal, (except for such parts thereof as shall be vested in the separate Trustees for a section as provided in Rule 11(2)(b) hereof) shall be vested in the Trustees who shall at all time observe and carry out the lawful orders and directions of the National Executive Committee subject to the authority of Conference. The Trustees shall deposit in their joint names and hold in their joint custody all title deeds, certificates and other documents of title representing the property of the Union in some Joint Stock Bank or other reputable and safe place of deposit.
- (7) (a) The Trustees shall as directed by the National Executive Committee invest the funds not required for the current business of the Union in such stocks, funds, shares securities or other investments or property whether real or personal of whatsoever nature and wheresoever situate and whether producing income or not as the Trustees shall consider suitable in

always that this provision shall not prevent any member of a Section which is taking the industrial action referred to in sub-Rule (3) hereof from lawfully picketing or otherwise lawfully supporting industrial action at his or her own place of employment.

- (5) Any industrial action falling within sub-Rule (1) of this Rule shall cease or cease subject to such terms or provisions as may be specified if so ordered by the National Executive Committee and for the purposes of reaching a decision thereon any Section may require a ballot of all members of the Union whose decision on any such issue shall be binding on the National Executive Committee.

#### THE SECTIONS

11. (1) Each of the Sections shall have its own Rules for the regulation of the affairs of the Section and the implementation for the benefit of the members of the Section of the objects of the Union.
- (2) The Rules of a Section (hereinafter called "the Section Rules") shall not be inconsistent with the general rules of the Union applicable to all Sections save that notwithstanding anything contained in such general rules;
  - (a) Each Section shall be entitled to have in the Section Rules and there shall be deemed to be included in such Rules unless expressly excluded therefrom the right of the Section in question to secede from the Union with the approval of a two-thirds majority of the members of the Section voting on a ballot of all such members and in the event of such secession the Section Rules of the Section in question shall apply to the separate property of the Section and the members thereof as if all references to the Union had been deleted therefrom;
  - (b) each Section shall have and be entitled to retain in its autonomous control and disposition in accordance with the Rules of the Union its own separate property which shall be held by separate Trustees for the Section or otherwise as provided in the Section's Rules;
  - (c) each Section shall have a President, Vice-President and General Secretary and such other officers (if any) as the particular Section Rules provide;
  - (d) each Section shall hold and use in its autonomous control and disposition in accordance with its Rules the amounts so received by it in respect of the Section Contribution (defined in Rule 12(1) of these Rules) for the benefit of the members of the Section as mentioned in sub-Rule (1) hereof including assistance to members or their dependants in obtaining compensation for accidents under any available statutory provisions or at common law and the provision of trade dispute benefit and victimisation benefit for members.
  - (3) Conference may create one or more new Sections with one thousand or more members and prescribe either by referring to physical area or areas or categories or groups of workers (or a combination of each) the extent of such Section and may also, subject to such consent, provide such

reasonable financial assistance for the establishment thereof out of the general funds of the Union as it shall think fit upon such terms as it shall specify provided that the persons whom it is intended shall comprise the proposed Section shall, where such persons are already members of the Union first, already have decided among themselves by a majority of at least 55% in favour of such proposal.

#### CONTRIBUTIONS AND LEVIES

- 12.(1) The weekly contribution of a member of the Union shall be the total of:
- (a) a sum (called 'the General Fund Contribution') which shall be paid into the general funds of the Union to promote its objects in relation to the Union as a whole; and
  - (b) a sum (called 'the Section Contribution') paid to the Section to which the member in question belongs to promote the objects of the Union in the particular Section.
- (2) The General Fund Contribution for a full member shall be the sum of 38 pence per week subject to alteration from time to time as decided by Conference.
  - (3) The Section Contribution shall be the sum in respect thereof from time to time fixed by each Section in respect of its members and in accordance with the Section Rules in question. Different Sections may fix different sums in respect of the Section Contribution of its members.
  - (4) The weekly contribution for a junior member (that is a member under the age of 18 years) shall be half that of a full member (being one who has attained that age) rounded up where appropriate to the nearest penny.
  - (5) In the event of the Union in pursuance of a resolution of Conference establishing a political fund for the furtherance of the political objects to which Section 72 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 as amended applies then an amount as directed by Conference not exceeding in each year four weekly contributions (being the total for those weeks of the sums otherwise payable as the General Fund Contribution and the Section Contribution) may, subject to the compliance with all lawful requirements, be paid to such political fund and the provisions of the preceding sub-Rules of this Rule shall be adapted thereto accordingly.
  - (6) There shall be payable by each of the Sections to the Union out of the funds of the Sections within one month of the formation of the Union and as part of its general funds an initial levy based on the number of members in each of its Section at the date of the formation of the Union, of such amount as shall be decided upon by the National Executive Committee. The National Executive Committee may in its discretion extend the said period of one month to a period not exceeding six months in the case of any Section whose numbers during that period do not exceed 5,000.

(7) The National Executive Committee shall have power to call for and impose levies on its members for the benefit of the general funds of the Union but no levy shall be imposed by it without the prior approval of a resolution of Conference supported by a two-thirds majority on a card vote.

(8) The Section Rules of any Section may contain provisions for making a levy for the benefit of the Section in question.

(9) All contributions shall be collected by the Sections which as soon as possible shall pay to the Union and render an account in respect of the production of the contributions payable to the Union as the General Fund Contribution.

(10) All levies payable under sub-Rule (7) hereof shall be collected in the manner from time to time directed by the National Executive Committee.

(11) Subject to sub-Rule (12) and (13) of this Rule if any member allows his contributions or levies payable under this Rule to fall into arrears and if such arrears amount to a sum equivalent to 8 weekly contributions payable under sub-Rules (1) or (4) hereof the member shall thereupon cease to be entitled to any benefits or services whether under the general rules of the Union or the Rules of his Section and shall be deemed unfinancial until the whole of the arrears are paid and for a period of 4 weeks after payment of such arrears. He shall also be disqualified from holding office or taking part in any negotiations during such period as he is unfinancial, nor shall any unfinancial member be accepted as a nominee for any office or service which involves payment out of the funds of the Union. Subject to sub-Rule (12) and (13) of this Rule if a member allows the arrears to remain unpaid for a period of 3 calendar months from the date when his contributions first fell into arrears he shall thereupon cease to be a member of the Union. A member whose membership has ceased under the provisions of this Rule may be readmitted to membership by his Section on payment of a fee to the Union as part of its general funds of a sum equal to the amount by which those funds would have increased but for his default together with such further sum not exceeding the total of his arrears as his Section shall decide. No benefit shall be payable to any member out of the general funds of the Union until after a period of 13 weeks immediately following the date upon which the member rejoins the Union and pays all contributions and levies in accordance with these Rules and those of his Section nor shall he, until after such period, be eligible for nomination as a candidate for any office in the Union.

(12) If a member shall become incapacitated for work by reason of sickness or injury then, in each week for which he shall receive no wages by reason of such incapacity, he shall not be liable to pay the weekly contribution which would otherwise be due from him under sub-Rule (1) or (4) hereof. If any such member shall be incapacitated as aforesaid and shall receive no wages for a period of 18 consecutive months he shall thereupon cease to be a member of the Union.

(13) Any member who shall be on official strike shall not be liable to pay the weekly contribution which would otherwise be due from him under sub-Rule (1) or (4)