



IBRG

IRISH IN BRITAIN REPRESENTATION GROUP

IBRG CONSTITUTION [✓] (July 1983)

PART I. STANDING ORDERS

(I) It was agreed that a National Conference will take place annually at the end of March, rotating between regions. The National Conference will elect the National Executive Committee. Each Branch is entitled to send two Delegates to the National Conference, each with voting rights: that is, one vote per Delegate in attendance, plus up to ten Observer delegates.

National Executive members unless they are delegates will not have a vote apart from the Chairman who will have a casting vote. For the sake of continuity it is recommended that the National Executive Officers should be elected for more than one year. In the event that the majority of Branches are in agreement with this, Standing Order 1a, 'Order of Business', will be varied.

(1) (a) Order of Business:

- (i) Election of Chairman
- (ii) Election of Vice-Chairman
- (iii) Election of President
- (iv) Election of National Secretary
- (v) Election of National Treasurer
- (vi) Election of Internal Co-ordinator
- (vii) Election of National Membership Secretary
- (viii) Election of Public Relations Officer (External Liaison Officer)
- (ix) Election of National Legal Officer
- (x) Election of National Education Officer
- (xi) Election of members without portfolio; at least one member from each region.
- (xii) All elections to take place annually.
- (xiii) Election of two auditors.

(2) All elections for national office to take place at National Conference and that nominations from branches must be sent to the National Executive Committee three months prior to the National Conference for inclusion on the Agenda, except for the 1983 National Conference.

(2) (a) The National Executive Committee will consist of those members elected at the National Conference.

(3) The National Executive Committee will have the power to co-opt on to the Committee (without the right to vote) from time to time such persons as it deems necessary.

(3) (a) The National Executive Committee will set up an appeals Committee (as a sub-committee of the NEC) to resolve internal disputes etc.

(3) (b) All conference business will be conducted in accordance with normal rules of debate.

(4) Conference business will be carried out in accordance with the Agenda.

(4) (a) Extraordinary meetings of the Conference may be called by the Executive Committee at any time; or on the written request of three or more regions given to the Chairman who will have the duty to call the Conference.

(4) (b) The definition of Regions will be that as laid down by the NEC.

(5) Disorderly conduct: any member guilty of disorderly conduct and refusing to come to order as requested by the Chairman and after the third such request may be suspended from membership of the IBRG.

(5) (a) Any member so suspended will have rights as described under (3) (a) above.

(5) (b) Disorderly conduct will include the following: disregarding the Chair, obstructing Conference business and behaving in an abusive and improper manner, and bringing the IBRG into disrepute.

(5) (c) In the event of a general disturbance which in the opinion of the Chairman renders the orderly dispatch of business impossible, the Chairman will suspend and/or adjourn the meeting.

(6) Policy decisions taken at the National Conference will remain the policy of the IBRG and will stand as such unless overturned by Conference decision; except in unusual circumstances the NEC may vary this Standing Order, but all such variations must be reported to the next National Conference for ratification.

* (7) Regional Organising Committees shall be chaired by an executive officer from the appropriate region. A vote was taken on this Standing Order and it was agreed with one abstention.

(8) Quorum at National Conference meetings:

(i) At least one quarter of the whole number of Regions* must be present at the Conference.

(ii) If not enough Regions are present the Conference may be adjourned.

(iii) When a meeting is so adjourned the Chairman may or may not fix a time and place of its reconvening.

(9) Ordinary Conference meetings: Order of business.

(i) If the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are absent, to choose someone to preside.

(ii) To approve as a correct record and sign the Minutes of the last meeting.

(iii) Chairman's announcements/opening remarks.

(iv) Consideration of reports, minutes and recommendations from Committees.

(v) Motions, in the order in which notice of them has been received.

(vi) Any business may be remitted to the National Executive Committee.

*(this would await the NEC's definition of a region).

(10) Applications for membership should be processed through the Branches monthly, then passed to the National Treasurer/Membership Secretary to be registered and for the issuing of membership cards.

(10) (a) Memberships will be renewed annually on the 1st January.

(11) New branches must be registered and ratified by the NEC.

(11) (a) All Branches must send the names of their Officers and a copy of their minutes to the Internal Liaison Officer.

(11) (b) All broadcasts and publications on behalf of the IBRG must be through the National Executive Committee. Failure to this is in breach of Standing Order (5) (b).

(c) There will be an official stamp of the IBRG for executive use only and all such use is to be covered under Standing Order (11) (b).

(12) Members of the NEC have the right to attend any properly convened Branch or meetings of the IBRG.

(13) The Group can only be dissolved by five-sixths of its financial members.

(14) The above Standing Orders become IBRG policy from 26 March 1983, having been ratified by the National Conference.