

RULES — Maa ja ilma ry

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION FROM ORIGINAL FINNISH

For particular fulfillment of the [WSFS constitution](#) section 4.6.1(3), the term of office of our officers is the time between annual or extraordinary meetings at which board elections are held. So to replace one, an extraordinary meeting needs to be called, with board elections specifically on the agenda, and at said meeting a majority of votes need to be cast for a different officer.

1§ The name and address of the association

The name of the association is **Maa ja ilma ry** and it is based in Helsinki.

2§ Purpose and activities

The purpose of the association is to maintain and support literature, to advance citizens' interest in culture, and to reform and develop people's cultural understanding.

To realize the above the association:

- Organizes cultural events, discussion and training sessions and banquets
- Organizes literary circles
- Engages in research, information and publishing activities
- Proposes initiatives to various authorities
- Cooperates with other related organizations.

In order to support its activities the association may, having gained any necessary authorization: implement fundraising and raffles, as well as engage in retail of alcoholic beverages at its organised events.

3§ Members

A person who accepts the purposes of the association may be accepted as a member of the association.

A supporting member may be accepted as a person or a legal entity that wants to support the purpose and activities.

Actual and supporting members are approved by the board of directors of the association.

Honorary chairmen and honorary members may be proposed by the board of directors and selected by the association's meeting, to honour persons that have significantly advanced and supported the association's activities.

4§ Member's rights

At a meeting of the association each member, honorary chair and honorary member has one vote. Supporting members have the right to be present and the right to speak but not to vote.

5§ Member obligations

A member is required to pay a joining fee and an annual membership fee. A supporting member is required to pay a joining fee and an annual supporting member's fee. An honorary chairman and an honorary member are not required to pay a subscription or membership fee.

6§ Member resignation

A member has the right to resign by written notification to the board of directors or the chairman, or by announcement at a meeting of the association, to be marked in the meeting's records.

7§ Member separation

The board may expel a member from the association if the member has not paid an expired membership fee, or otherwise failed to fulfill the obligations to which they are committed to by joining the association, or by their activities within or outside the association substantially damaged the association, or no longer fulfills the legal requirements or membership rules of the association.

8§ The board of directors

The board of directors of the association consists of a chairman and not less than four and not more than ten members. The board of directors shall elect a vice-chairman from among its members and from its members or outside them the treasurer, secretary and other necessary officers. The term of office of the board is the time between meetings at which board elections are held.

9§ Signing

The name of the association may be signed by the chairman, vice chairman, secretary, treasurer, or a person appointed by the board, each alone.

10§ Financial year

The association's financial year is the calendar year.

11§ Inspection / Audit

The accounts and the board's annual report must be submitted to the inspectors / auditors no later than one month before the meeting at which accounts are approved. The inspectors / auditors shall issue a written opinion no later than two weeks before the meeting.

12§ Meetings of the association

The association shall hold one ordinary meeting in January–May.

The following issues will be handled by the meeting:

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Selection of the chairman, secretary, two inspectors of the minutes and, if necessary, two scrutineers
3. Determination of the meeting's legality and right of decision
4. Acceptance of the meeting agenda
5. Presentation of the financial statements, annual report and the inspectors/auditors' report
6. Acceptance of the financial statements and releasing the board of directors and others responsible from financial accountability
7. Adoption of the following year's action plan, as well as estimates of income and expenses
8. Setting joining and membership fees for the members as well as supporting members
9. Election of a board of directors according to 8§
10. Selection of one or two operations inspectors and deputy inspectors, or one or two auditors and deputy auditors to check the current fiscal year accounts
11. Discussion of other matters on the agenda.

If a member wishes to have an item handled at the meeting, they must inform the board in writing well in advance so that the matter can be included in the invitation.

13§ Decision-making process

Decisions of the meeting will be, unless otherwise specified in the rules, the opinion supported by more than half of the votes cast.

In case of a tie vote the meeting chairman's vote will decide, except in elections, which will be settled by lot.

14§ Extraordinary meetings

An extraordinary meeting of the association may be held when the association's meeting so decides, or when the board deems it necessary, or when at least one tenth (1/10) of the voting members of the association request it of the board of directors for a specific issue, in writing.

The meeting must be held within thirty days of the date when the claim has been presented to the board of directors.

15§ Announcement of the meeting

The board must give notice of a meeting to the association's members at least 14 days prior to the meeting, by letter or e-mail to an address given by the member.

16§ Amendments to the association rules

A decision to amend the rules must be made with minimum of three-fourths (3/4) majority of the votes cast.

The meeting announcement shall state the proposal to amend the rules.

17§ Dissolution of the association

The decision to dissolve the association must be made by an association meeting with at least three-quarters majority of the votes cast.

The meeting announcement shall state the proposal to dissolve the association.

In case of dissolution, the assets of the association must be used to further the association's aims in a manner determined by the closing meeting.