

**Historical Publications Southern Africa
(formerly Van Riebeeck Society)
Laws**

1. (a) The objects of the Society shall be:
 - (i) to print, or reprint, for distribution among the members and for sale to the public, rare and valuable books, pamphlets and documents relating the history of southern Africa;
 - (ii) to promote research into the history of southern Africa as a whole and to make the results of such research widely available;
 - (iii) to promote contact and exchange of knowledge and information with those interested in the past of southern Africa within and without universities, with the purpose of publishing and distributing the results of historical research.(b) The activities of the Society shall include:
 - (i) the regular publication of rare and valuable books, pamphlets and documents relating to the history of southern Africa;
 - (ii) the periodical publication of a newsletter.(c) The Society shall be a body corporate capable of suing and being sued in its own name.
(d) The Society shall not operate for commercial gain and any profit derived from its activities as foresaid shall be applied to the furtherance of its objects.
2. The Council hereinafter provided for shall at its first meeting after the Annual General Meeting, determine the annual subscription for the following calendar year and such annual subscription shall be payable on 1 January of each year.
3. Each member of the Society, having paid his/her subscription, shall be entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting and to receive a copy of every work produced by the Society within the period subscribed for.
4. A General Meeting of the subscribers shall be held at least once in every calendar year.
5. (a) The management of the affairs of the Society shall be vested in a Council consisting of ten members, viz. a Chairman, a Vice-chairman, a Treasurer and six additional members, to be elected at every third Annual General Meeting, commencing with the Annual General Meeting for 1992, and the Director of the National Library of South Africa, or his/her nominee, as an ex-officio member. The Council has the right to co-opt at any time, six extra members who are qualified subscribers.
(b) Every qualified subscriber shall be eligible for election as a member of the Council, provided:
 - (i) he/she has been duly nominated in writing by two other qualified subscribers (N.B. a qualified subscriber is a member who, at the date of the calling of the Annual General Meeting, is a life member, or who has paid his/her subscription either for the current or the previous year); and
 - (ii) he/she has accepted such nomination verbally (if present at the meeting in question) or in writing (if not so present).(c) Notice of such meeting shall be sent to members at least three weeks before the day of the meeting.
(d) The Council shall meet when necessary for the dispatch of business and at any such meeting a quorum shall consist of five persons. In the event of a deadlock, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote.

6. The Council shall appoint a Secretary and such other officials as may be deemed necessary from time to time in the interests of the Society.
7. The Society shall not pay to its employees, office-bearers, members or other persons remuneration which is excessive, having regard to what is reasonable in relation to the service rendered to the Society by such person, and shall not economically benefit any person in a manner which is not consistent with its objects.
8. The Society shall not accept any donation which is revocable at the instance of the donor for reasons other than a material failure to conform to the designated purposes and conditions of the donation, including any misrepresentation with regard to the tax deductibility thereof in terms of section 18A of the Income Tax Act 58 of 1962, as amended, or any corresponding provision in a statute which replaces such section.
9. Members of the Council and its employees or agents shall be indemnified out of the funds of the Society against any claim made against such person in relation to or arising out of activities legitimately conducted on behalf of the Society.
10. Anyone preparing and editing works for the Society shall, if desired, receive gratis six copies of such works and shall be entitled to purchase at a discount of 40 percent off the recommended South African retail price any further copies of the work required for his or her personal use and not for resale, such copies to be paid for within 30 days of invoice: provided that if two editors are involved the total number of presentation copies shall be ten; if more than two editors, twelve.
11. (a) These laws may only be amended by a two-thirds majority of those present at a General Meeting of the Society, after consideration by Council.
(b) The Council shall submit to the Commissioner for the South African Revenue Services a copy of any amendment passed in terms of paragraph (a).
12. In the event of the dissolution of the Society, its remaining assets will be transferred to the National Library of South Africa for use in a manner in keeping with the aims of the Society.