

For voting by individuals

Notice of Motion for the Determination of Membership Fees for 2025/26

The Management Committee proposes that the New Zealand Branch Service Fee for 2025/26 for an Adult Single Member be increased by \$1 to \$56 for the year 2025/26. This is an increase of only 1.8% which is less than the current Government published rate of inflation. The Branch is absorbing the additional increases in running costs.

The Society Subscription (expressed in Pounds) will be that set by the Society at its AGM in November 2024, and the Management Committee will determine in July 2025 what that amount will be when converted to NZ\$. This will be a close conversion, and the movement in the exchange rate between July 2025 and when the funds are remitted to the Society (in late September or early October 2025) will be managed through the Subscriptions Bank Account.

The fees for other categories will change as shown in the table below (figures have been rounded to whole \$).

| | Membership Category | Branch Service Fee | \$ |
|-----|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| | Adult Single | 100% | \$56 |
| | Adult Single Email | 100% - \$16 | \$40 |
| * | Adult Joint (per person) | 100% - \$12 | \$44 |
| ** | Adult Joint Email (per person) | 100% - \$20 | \$36 |
| | Young Adult (18 – 24) | 80% - \$10 | \$35 |
| | Young Adult (18 - 24) Email | 80% - \$10 - \$16 | \$19 |
| *** | Half Year | 50% | \$28 |
| | RSCDS Life Member | 100% | \$56 |
| | RSCDS Life Email | 100% - 16 | \$40 |

- * Only one Joint Member may be registered in association with any other Joint or fee paying Member in a household. Both should be registered as Adult Joint.
- ** Both members should be registered as Adult Joint Email, only one will receive publications sent by email.
- *** Half Year membership is available to new members joining after 1 January 2025. The fee is 50% of the fee for Adult Single membership for the relevant membership year. It is not available to lapsed members re-joining.

Proposed by: Lesley Nicol (Acting Treasurer)

Date:



28 Aug 2024.

Seconded by: Debbie Roxburgh (President)

Date:



29/8/24

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Notice of Motion

Management Committee Expenses

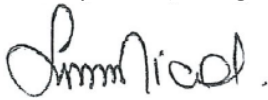
The Management Committee propose that 100% of the Summer School Accommodation cost be reimbursed for the following branch positions. To offset this increase the Management Committee proposes that the Honoraria for the following Management Committee positions be discontinued.

- a) President
- b) Vice President
- c) Treasurer
- d) Secretary
- e) Communications, Publicity and Membership Co-ordinator
- f) Education and Training Co-ordinator
- g) Information Technology Co-ordinator
- h) Youth Co-ordinator

Where travel timetables mean that it is impossible for a Management Committee member to arrive in time for a scheduled meeting, that discretion be given to reimburse the cost of an additional night. This not being a general arrangement for the whole committee. This applies for the financial year (1 September 2024[sic] to 31 August 2025[sic]).

Proposed by: Lesley Nicol (Acting Treasurer)

Dated:



28 Aug 2024

Seconded by: Debbie Roxburgh (President)

Dated:



30/8/24

Rationale: We feel that the membership did not fully understand the 50% accommodation amount when the change was made from reimbursing 100% of the NDR (non-dancing resident) rate at the 2023 Branch AGM. This is not 50% of the cost of attending Summer School; it is 50% of the cost of the accommodation incurred at the Summer School venue. Note: Accommodation costs will vary between each Summer School.

For example: At the Nelson Summer School the accommodation portion was \$760-00. Therefore, from the resident fee paid of \$1750-00, each committee member was entitled to only \$380-00 as 50% of the accommodation reimbursement.

The Management Committee suspects that most Office Holders do not claim the honoraria because of the negative tax implications. The amount the Office Holder receives is actually much smaller than the intent shown as an Honorarium, because withholding tax has to be deducted and paid by the Branch to the IRD before payment to the office holder.

Management Committee has been struggling to attract members to serve on the Committee and feels that some people may not volunteer for any of these positions due to the personal financial costs. We have experienced first-hand the benefits of having the Management Committee visible and available to interact with the membership throughout the Summer School and believe that reimbursement of 100% of the accommodation costs acknowledges the importance of this.

Management Committee's Note: the financial year should read (1 September **2025** to 31 August **2026**)

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Amendment to Notice of Motion relating to Management Committee Expenses

That the motion be amended so that the first line reads:

The Management Committee propose that **50%** of the Summer School Accommodation cost be reimbursed for the following branch positions.

Rationale

At the 2023 AGM it was proposed that, for Summer School 2023/24, expenses for Branch Management (BM) members should be limited to 50% of the full school accommodation costs (plus travel). This proposal was the outcome of a BM discussion, facilitated by a professional management consultant, at which expenses were examined in depth. The proposal was approved by the Region delegates and endorsed at the 2024 AGM when members of NZ Branch voted overwhelmingly in support.

It is disappointing to learn that the BM has reversed this decision and, for Summer School 2024/25, will permit themselves to claim the school accommodation costs in full. Under this arrangement, it is estimated that the cost could account for as much as one third of the Branch income from membership fees

The argument appears to be that the BM should be immune from variations in the cost of attending Summer School.

This ignores the rationale behind the 50% proposal which is that the Branch should be discouraged from spreading Branch business over all eight days of Summer School. Thanks to today's online resources, improved efficiency and timely decision-making during the course of the year ensure that Branch business at Summer School can be completed over three consecutive afternoon sessions. Indeed, the mid-year face-to-face meeting in July has now been reduced from two days to just one day.

Under the 50% proposal, those who opt to attend for the three days (four nights) will be compensated in full (plus travel), regardless of any variation of Summer School costs. Those who wish to enjoy all eight days of Summer School will still be generously compensated to the tune of half their accommodation costs plus travel.

Proposer: Andrew Patterson

Andrew Patterson 21/09/24

Seconder: Robyn Howes

Robyn Howes 21/09/24

Right of Reply to Notice of Motion: Management Committee Expenses

The Notice of Motion the Management Committee put forward relating to 100% of the accommodation of Summer School – was a way of cancelling out the Honoraria that has tax implications and is difficult to administer.

Due to this Notice of Motion we did not submit a Notice of Motion regarding Honoraria payment to the Management Committee.

We believe that the Amendment that has been put forward and pre-circulated by the Andrew Patterson (Nominator) and Robyn Howes (Seconder) has some misleading information

1. The 100% is not equal to a third of the Membership fees collected.
2. The accommodation cost is only part of the Summer School fee that is charged to all attendees. At the Nelson Summer School the accommodation portion was \$760-00.
3. It appears that the Nominator thought his amendment would restore the status quo as determined by the vote at the AGM 2023. But without a Notice of Motion regarding Honoraria to Management members, which has to be voted on annually, this is not the case. Therefore, Management committee would only be able to claim 50% of the accommodation and do not have the possibility to claim the Honoria.
4. This amendment suggests that the committee members would only be attending Summer School for 3 days (30th, 31st, and AGM on 1st) and 4 nights and would therefore not attend the welcome to new attendees, opening night, presidents ball or have a meeting to hand over to new committee members. There would also not be sufficient opportunities to host any forums or discussions for members.

Lesley Nicol, NZ Branch Treasurer

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Amendment to Notice of Motion for Management Committee Expenses

We would like to amend the Notice of Motion by inserting the words “ ...and meals” after Summer School Accommodation and before cost be reimbursed, so that the motion reads:

“The Management Committee propose that 100% of Summer School Accommodation and Meals cost be reimbursed for the following branch positions. To offset this increase the Management Committee proposes that the Honoraria for the following Management Committee positions be discontinued...”

The rationale behind this amendment is that our region feels that the work undertaken by the Management Committee deserves that the cost of accommodation and meals be reimbursed. The people in these roles undertake a huge amount of work behind the scenes on our behalf and throughout Summer School they are always available to discuss issues/ideas with any dancer who raises them. The amount of \$380.00 (as based on Nelson Summer School costs) is not sufficient recompense.

I know from experience that the Committee are not just at the school for meetings on the 3 days leading up to the AGM and that in the days subsequent to the AGM they continue to meet with the holders of non-management positions and future summer school organisers and others.

In light of the difficulties that we have recently encountered in getting people to take on some of the management committee roles, we need to value the work that they do and reimburse the costs of them attending Summer School. 50% of the accommodation costs is insufficient to be able to attract and retain people in these positions. The branch has recorded a profit for the last two years so we are in a position to afford appropriate reimbursement of SS costs for the Management Committee.

Proposed by: Sue Pearson



Date

25/10/24

Seconded by: Gae Stephenson



Date

25-10-2024

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Notice of Motion

Honoraria and Payment for Non-Management Committee position holders

The Management Committee proposes that the person holding the following position at the commencement of the AGM be entitled to claim annual honoraria in recognition of the time and effort involved in undertaking this role.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| a) RSCDS NZ Branch Editor | \$600 |
| b) RSCDS NZ Branch Shopkeeper | \$800 |
| c) RSCDS NZ Branch Music Advisor | \$150 |

There are no changes to this motion which was accepted at the AGM on 1 January 2024.

Acceptance of this Notice of Motion applies for the current financial year (1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025).

Proposed by: Lesley Nicol (Acting Treasurer)



Dated

28 Aug 2024

Seconded by: Debbie Roxburgh (President)



Dated

29/8/24

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Notice of Motion

President's Travel Budget

The Management Committee proposes that a provision of \$2,000 is made in the budget to fund travel and where necessary, accommodation, within New Zealand for the Branch President. The fund is to be used when the President is travelling to the Regions to further the aims of the Branch.

Acceptance of this Notice of Motion applies for the President's year of serving (1 January to 31 December 2025).

Proposed by: Lesley Nicol (Acting Treasurer)



Dated



Seconded by: Joy Dick (Secretary)



Dated



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Notice of Motion

President's Travel Budget

That the President's Travel budget be increased by 10% annually.

Proposed by Kelly Walker

Date: 29 August 2024



Seconded by Vicky Heslop

Date: 29 August 2024



Rationale: To cover increases in travel costs