

Swedish Sea Rescue Society  
Last updated 9 July 2012

The statutes of the Swedish Sea Rescue Society

APPROVED ON 9 JUNE 1988

§ 15; the change to this statute was approved at the annual general meeting on 31 May 2010 and has been updated, as specified below.

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#### § 1 Name of the society

The society's name is the Swedish Sea Rescue Society (Svenska Sällskapet för Räddning af Skeppsbrutne), abbreviated to SSRS.

#### § 2 Purpose

This society, which was created in 1907 on the initiative of the then Swedish General Shipping Association (Sveriges Allmänna Sjöfartsförening), has the task of identifying and maintaining interest in sea rescue within Sweden, proposing measures designed to streamline this service and managing the individual work of sea rescue along the coast of Sweden and the surrounding waters, together with Lakes Vänern, Vättern and Mälaren.

The society will also run other humanitarian or non-profit aid operations at sea and along the coast whenever the board decides that this can be done without jeopardising the society's main objectives.

#### § 3 Membership

The members of the society pay an annual fee, which is determined at the annual general meeting. Permanent members pay a one-off fee, which is the same as the members' fee determined by the annual general meeting.

Following suggestions from the board, the annual general meeting can elect as honorary members people who have promoted the society's objectives by showing a special interest.

#### § 4 Board

The society's interests are managed by a board. It can have no more than 20 members.

The board members are elected at the annual general meeting for a period of two years. This mandate period expires at the end of the annual general meeting at which board members are elected.

Board members can be re-elected.

The board appoints from among its members a chairperson and one or two deputy chairpersons.

No fees are paid to board members.

#### § 5 Seat of the board

The board has its seat in Gothenburg, where the society's and the board's meetings should mainly be held.

#### § 6 Board meetings

The board decides on the time and place of its meetings. Meetings must also be held when at least three members request this or the chairperson feels it is necessary.

Summons to the meetings will be issued by the chairperson.

The summons must contain information about the time and place of the meeting and the questions that will be discussed.

#### Quorum

There is a quorum if at least six members are present.

Matters for discussion will be approved by a straight majority. If the votes are equally split, the chairperson has the deciding vote.

#### § 7 Right to attend meetings

If he/she so chooses, the chairperson is entitled to invite representatives from the relevant government authorities or individual organisations to attend the society's and the board's meetings and participate in the discussions.

#### § 8 Minutes

Minutes are to be kept at meetings. The minutes should specify the board members who were present.

The minutes should contain a brief account of the nature of the questions, requests and relevant decisions.

The minutes are to be verified by the chairperson and one board member the board appoints at each meeting from among those attending. This verification must be made no later than 30 days after the day of the meeting. The minutes should be distributed to the board members at the earliest opportunity after they have been verified.

#### § 9 Managing director

The board appoints a managing director to execute the board's decisions and manage the society's undertakings.

#### Secretary

The board appoints a secretary.

#### § 10 Authorised signatory

The persons or persons appointed by the board for this purpose are authorised to sign for the society.

#### § 11 Funds

Part of the society's funds is to be set aside as a reserve fund. This reserve fund should be no less than five million Swedish kronor (SEK 5,000,000), but it can be increased by allocating suitable sums that are decided at the annual general meeting or proposed by the board. This reserve fund can only be used in extraordinary circumstances.

#### § 12 Management of funds

The society's bonds and other documents of value are to be kept as an open deposit at the trust department of a bank with articles of association approved by the Swedish government or with a securities broker complying with the legislation (1979:749) relating to the Stockholm Stock Exchange or are to be entered in the liabilities register at the Swedish National Debt Office or some similar institution.

#### § 13

##### Awards

A medal made of gold or silver and commissioned by the society can be presented by the board as a reward to anyone who, risking his/her life at sea or at the coast, has saved or attempted to save people who have been shipwrecked. The board can also honour in some other way anyone who has especially promoted the society and its objectives.

#### § 14 Financial year

The society's accounts are to be kept and concluded for each calendar year.

##### Administration report

Every year, the board must present a report of its administration. This report should also include a balance sheet specifying the situation at the end of the financial year and a profit and loss account for the past financial year.

##### Auditors

Every year, the annual general meeting appoints two auditors and two deputy auditors to examine the board's and the managing director's management, together with the society's annual report and its accounts for the period ending with the next annual general meeting.

One auditor and one deputy auditor must be authorised public accountants.

##### Auditor's report

The board's administration report and the society's accounts must be submitted to the auditors before 1 March. Following their examination, the auditors must present their report, in which a discharge from liability for the board is to be recommended or not recommended.

The board's administration report and the auditor's report must be distributed to the members before the annual general meeting.

#### § 15 Election committee

The election committee should comprise three board members, one of whom is to call meetings. No later than three weeks before the annual general meeting, the election committee must present its nomination decisions to the board.

#### § 16 Annual general meeting

The society's members meet for the annual general meeting before the end of June every year.

At the annual general meeting, the following points should be dealt with.

- 1) Election of a chairperson for the meeting
- 2) Decision on whether the meeting was summoned correctly
- 3) Election of two members who, together with the chairperson, will verify the minutes
- 4) Presentation of the society's administration report and auditor's report
- 5) Approval of the profit and loss account and balance sheet
- 6) Decision on discharge of liability for the board and managing director
- 7) Election of board members
- 8) Election of two auditors and two deputy auditors
- 9) Election of three members as the election committee
- 10) Approval of members' fees
- 11) Any other business that concerns the annual general meeting according to the statutes

#### Individual members' proposals

Individual members' proposals that are intended for discussion at the annual general meeting must be submitted to the board in writing at least three weeks before the annual general meeting.

If suggestions relate to changes in the society's statutes, these suggestions must be submitted to the board no later than 1 February.

In both cases, the board must give its opinion on the suggestions to the annual general meeting.

#### § 17 Summons to the annual general meeting

The board must call an annual general meeting by advertising in at least two daily newspapers no later than 14 days before the meeting. In addition, a special summons should be sent to board members.

#### § 18 Extraordinary annual general meeting

The board must call an extraordinary annual general meeting when the board feels this is necessary or when such a meeting is called by at least 25 of the society's members who have given a reason in writing.

The reason for the extraordinary annual general meeting must be specified in the summons to the meeting. Matters other than those specified in the summons may not be raised for discussion at a meeting of this kind.

§ 19 Voting at the annual general meeting

Voting at the annual general meeting is to take place openly. If the votes are equal, the chairperson has the casting vote. The votes are to be cast, if this has been requested, in a secret ballot and, where the voting is even, a casting vote will decide. Every society member present has one vote.

Members who have not paid their annual fee are not entitled to vote. A list of voters must be drawn up if the conditions so warrant.

Absent members are not entitled to vote via a proxy.

§ 20 Changes to the statutes

Decisions to change these statutes are not valid unless they are approved at two annual general meetings following one another with an interval of at least 14 days, at least one of which should be the annual general meeting, and that at both meetings the changes are supported by at least two-thirds of those attending with voting rights.

§ 21 Dissolution of the society

A decision to dissolve the society can only be made according to the process described in § 20. Unless otherwise decided, the reserves of rescue materiel and other assets, together with guaranteed pensions or bequests organised or reserved for the society's employees, without consideration are to be offered to the government institution that is responsible for sea rescue operations.