

Rules of the Benevolent Fund

Association of British Dispensing Opticians

History

In late 1938 The Association on ispensing Opticians decided to set up a Benevolent Fund so that any member (or dependants) in financial distress should have a source to which he or she could turn for sympathetic help. Before this could be drawn up, the Second World War intervened and postponed the plans for nearly two decades.

The Fund was formally established on 1 January 1964 with monies it had accumulated by donations and advance contributions.

The original scheme budgeted for payment of a small sum weekly from members over a period of seven years.

The Deed

This Deed is made the tenth day of October 1962 BETWEEN THE ASSOCIATION OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS LIMITED of 50 Nottingham Place W.1. in the County of London (hereinafter called "the Association") of the first part and

ALFRED JAMES HAWES
HERBERT FRANK MARGRETT
LESLIE EDWARD SWIFT and
EDMUND ALBERT WILKES

(hereinafter called "the Trustees") of the second part

WHEREAS

(1) The Association was incorporated under the Companies Acts 1908–1948 on the Eighteenth day of April 1928.

- (2) The affairs of the Association are managed by a Council (hereinafter called "the Council") constituted in the manner prescribed by the Articles of the Association.
- (3) The Association being desirous of forming a fund for the benefit of its members and others who might be or become necessitous by subscription or otherwise have formed a fund for such purposes which now consists of the sum of £336 8s 3d.
- (4) For the better ordering and regulating of the said fund and its administration it has been decided that these presents shall be entered into and executed by the parties hereto.

NOW THIS DEED WITNESSETH and it is hereby declared as follows:-

- 1. The Trustees shall stand possessed of the said sum of £336 8s. 3d. and all other monies received by way of subscription donation bequest or otherwise (hereinafter called "the Fund") upon the following trusts that is to say:-
 - (a) to pay thereout all necessary costs charges and expenses which may be properly incurred in administering the trusts declared by these presents and subject thereto;
 - (b) subject to rules set forth in the schedule hereto and in accordance with directions of the Management Committee established thereby to pay apply or appropriate the

whole of the Fund to relieve and assist by donation or grants necessitous persons who are or were members of the Association who are engaged in or connected with dispensing optics or employees of the Association or of the Guild of British Dispensing Opticians and in each case the dependants of such persons;

- (c) to invest the balance of the Fund in any of the modes of investment for the time being authorised by law for the investment of trust funds and not in any other mode of investment with power for the Trustees from time to time to vary such investments into or for others of a like nature.
- 2. On the death or retirment of any one of the Trustees a new Trustee shall be appointed by the Council in his place and thereupon the Fund shall be transferred into the names of the said new Trustee jointly with the surviving or continuing Trustee and a Trustee whether originally or subsequently appointed may retire by giving one calendar month's prior notice in writing to the Council of his desire so to do and thereupon such retiring Trustee shall execute all necessary documents and do all necessary acts for transferring the Fund into the name of the continuing Trustees with or without a new Trustee in his place.

IN WITNESS whereof the Association has caused its Common Seal to be hereunto affixed and the Trustees have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and the year first above written.

On 21 August 1989 The Charity Commission recognised the change of name to "The Association of British Dispensing Opticians Benevolent Fund".

RULES OF THE ABDO BENEVOLENT FUND

Name

Object

1. The name of the Fund shall be the 'ABDO Benevolent Fund'. (This was changed from the 'ADO Benevolent Fund' on 21 August 1989).

2. The object of the fund shall be to relieve and assist by donation or grants necessitous persons who are or were members of the ADO or ABDO or the employees of members of the Association who are engaged in or connected with dispensing optics or employees of the Association or of the Guild of British Dispensing Opticians and in each case the dependants of such persons.

Management Committee

- 3. The affairs of the Fund shall be administered by a Management Committee established as hereinafter provided; the mode of application for grants and assistance and the nature of the recommendations to be required in support thereof, the qualification and merits of the applications, the amount of the grants in individual cases and the purposes for which such grants shall be applied and the advisability for their renewal shall in every case be determined by the Management Committee.
- 4. The Management Committee shall consist of five persons of whom four shall be appointed by the Council and shall hold office at the Council's pleasure.

The remaining member shall be elected in such manner as the Council shall prescribe by the Benevolent Fund Members (as hereinafter defined) at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office for a period of three years but shall be eligible for re-election.

Voting

5. All members of the Association shall be entitled to attend General Meetings. Only those persons who are Benevolent Fund Members shall be entitled to vote at such General Meetings.

A Benevolent Fund Member shall be any person who has paid the membership fee to the Fund and is therefore a Life Member.

General Meetings

- 6. (a) The Annual General Meeting of the Fund shall be held either immediately prior to or after the Annual General Meeting of the Association and at such meeting a report of the Management Committee and the accounts for the preceding calendar year shall be presented. At such meeting an auditor shall be elected to audit the accounts for the current year.
- (b) A special General Meeting may be called as often as the Management Committee shall deem necessary. A Special General Meeting shall also be called whenever the Chairman of the Management Committee shall be required in writing so to do by at least thirty Benevolent Fund members who shall specify the object for which they desire such meeting to be called but no business shall be transacted at such meeting or at any adjournment therefore other than that specified in the requisition.
- (c) The quorum for the transaction of business at a General Meeting shall be five Benevolent Fund members.
- (d) At every General Meeting the Chairman of the Management Committee for the time being shall if present take the chair and in his/her absence the Chairman shall be chosen from the Management Committee.

Powers and Duties of the Management Committee

- (e) All General Meetings shall be convened by notice given in "Dispensing Optics" or otherwise as the Management Committee shall decide not less than 28 days before the day fixed for such meeting and the business to be transacted shall be stated in the notice.
- 7. (a) The Committee may from time to time make such regulations, not being inconsistent with these Rules, as they shall deem expedient for the conduct of the affairs of the Fund.
- (b) The quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the Management Committee shall be three.
- (c) The General Secretary for the time being of the Association shall be the Secretary of the Fund and shall perform such duties as the Management Committee shall entrust to him/her.
- (d) The receipts for all monies paid to the Management Committee by the Trustees shall be signed by two members of the Management Committee or one member of the Management Committee and the Secretary and all cheques drawn upon the bank account of the Fund shall be signed by two members of the Management Committee or one member of the Management Committee and the Secretary.
- (e) Proper accounts of the administration of the Fund shall be kept by the Management Committee and such accounts shall be made up annually and submitted and audited by the auditor once a year.
- (f) The Management Committee shall annually draw up an Annual Report of the affairs of the Fund. The Annual Report shall be presented to the Annual General Meeting and shall be published in "Dispensing Optics" or otherwise as the Management Committee shall think fit.

8. The Council may vary or add where Rules in such manner as they think fit but if in the Council's opinion any such variation or addition is of a material character the Council shall present such proposed variation or addition to the Benevolent Fund members at a General Meeting and such variation or addition shall only take effect if a majority of the Benevolent Fund members present vote in favour of such variation or addition.



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