

CONSTITUTION

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA (LIASA)

PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY LIBRARIES INTEREST GROUP (PACLIG)

Article 1 - NAME

- 1.1 The name of the body shall be: Public and Community Libraries Interest Group (PACLIG) of the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA).
- 1.2 In this constitution, this body is hereinafter referred to as “PACLIG” and the Library and Information Association of South Africa as “the Association”.
- 1.3 In this constitution, the Executive Committee is the Executive Committee of the Public and Community Libraries Interest Group (PACLIG)

Article 2 - ESTABLISHMENT

PACLIG is established in terms of Article XV of the Constitution and Rule 9 of the Rules of the Association. This Constitution is subordinate to the Constitution of the Association and in case of any conflict between them the Constitution of the Association shall prevail. The powers of PACLIG are as circumscribed by the Constitution and Rules of the Association.

Article 3 - AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims and objectives of PACLIG shall be:

- 3.1 To support and promote the aims and objectives of the Association.;
- 3.2 To unite library and information workers interested in furthering and improving public and community library services throughout South Africa;
- 3.3 To provide for the exchange of new ideas and experiences among members at national and regional workshops, meetings and conferences;
- 3.4 To liaise and co-operate with other groups and organizations in the advancement of public and community library and information services;
- 3.5 To advocate for, and address all issues, which are of importance to and which affect public and community libraries;
- 3.6 To advocate for the enhancement and development of public and community librarians;

- 3.7 To commit to quality public community library services, which benefit the general public.

Article 4 – MEMBERSHIP

Membership in PACLIG will be open to:

- 4.1 Members of the Association interested in the aims and objectives of PACLIG; and
- 4.2 Interested individuals who wish to participate at PACLIG level only, as provided for in Rule 1 of PACLIG’s Rules.

Article 5 - GOVERNANCE

In terms of Article 4 of this Constitution, members of PACLIG, in good standing, constitute the highest decision-making authority of PACLIG. The rights of members of PACLIG in respect of voting, nominating and eligibility for election are as set out in Article X and Rule 4 of the Constitution of the Association. These rights are expressed at properly constituted meetings of PACLIG.

Article 6 - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

- 6.1 The Annual General Meeting shall be the supreme forum of PACLIG.
- 6.2 The Annual General Meeting shall take place in accordance with Rule 5 of the Rules of PACLIG.
- 6.3 Decisions taken at the Annual General Meeting shall be taken as motions to the Association’s Business Meeting.

Article 7 - MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 The management of PACLIG shall be vested in an Executive Committee which shall carry out the policies and projects of PACLIG and that is accountable to PACLIG and to the Representative Council of the Association for the proper management of PACLIG.
- 7.2 The Executive Committee shall be composed of the following members who will be elected at the PACLIG Annual General Meeting:
- 7.2.1 Chairperson
 - 7.2.2 Vice-chairperson
 - 7.2.3 Secretary
 - 7.2.4 Treasurer
 - 7.2.5 Public Relations Officer (PRO)
 - 7.2.6 The immediate Past Chairperson
 - 7.2.7 The Convenors of the regional groups

- 7.3 The Executive Committee shall serve for a two-year period, to correspond with the Association's term of office. Office bearers shall not serve for more than two consecutive terms (four years) in the same office. The retiring Committee shall continue to act until the new Committee takes office.
- 7.4 All members of the Executive Committee must be individual members, in good standing, of the Association.

Article 8 - REGIONAL GROUPS

PACLIG may have Regional Groups representing specific geographic areas in line with the Constitution of the Association. These Regional Groups shall be basic components of PACLIG and not autonomous units.

- 8.1 The role and purpose of Regional Groups are :
 - 8.1.1 To support the aims and objectives of PACLIG through member participation within a specific geographic area;
 - 8.1.2 To provide for the exchange of new ideas and experiences among members;
 - 8.1.3 To provide input to the Executive Committee on issues of concern to members.
 - 8.1.4 To participate in advocating for issues as directed by the Executive Committee.
- 8.2 Regional Groups shall elect a committee consisting of at least a Convenor and two other office bearers. The term of office shall correspond with the term of office of the Association.
- 8.3 Regional Groups shall be represented in the Provincial Branch Committee of the Association in that region.

Article 9 - RULES

PACLIG shall at an Annual General Meeting adopt or amend Rules of PACLIG, which shall be in accordance with the provisions and spirit of the Constitution and Rules of the Association and of this Constitution; which shall govern the practical application of the provisions of this Constitution.

Article 10 - AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

- 10.1 The Executive Committee and /or the Region Groups Committee may propose amendments to the Constitution. Proposed amendments shall be submitted to the Chairperson in writing not less than two months before the Annual General Meeting.
- 10.2 All proposed amendments shall be considered legitimate, unless they are found to be contrary to the Constitution of the Association

- 10.3 All proposed legitimate amendments shall be distributed to the membership not less than twenty-one (21) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- 10.4 To be passed, an amendment to the Constitution shall require a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at an Annual General Meeting. It shall not be enforced or acted upon until approval is obtained from the Representative Council of the Association.

Article 11 - DISSOLUTION

- 11.1 PACLIG may be dissolved by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present and voting at an Annual General Meeting.
- 11.2 In the event of the dissolution of PACLIG, the Representative Council of the Association will be empowered to act as trustee on behalf of the Association.
- 11.3 In the event of the dissolution of PACLIG, all funds and other assets will revert to the funds of the Association.