

CONSTITUTION

PART I CONSTITUTION

SECTION 1: CONSTITUTION AND AIMS OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. The Association is constituted as the 'Costa Blanca Anglo Spanish Association', a non-profit making group delimited by current legislation
2. The Association has its own legal status and full powers to administer and dispose of its goods and to carry out its aims and objectives
3. The aims and objectives are: to promote friendship and understanding between the expatriate and the Spanish communities of the Costa Blanca; to gain knowledge of each other's customs, institutions, history and cultures; to arrange a series of social and cultural meetings, concerts, trips and visits, giving Members the opportunity to meet and discuss matters of mutual interest
4. The Association operates from **Mailboxes, Buzón 868, Ctra. Cabo La Nao, Pla 71-6,**

03730 Jávea (Alicante). It has autonomy in its activities.

SECTION 11: MEMBERSHIP: ITS RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

5. All those persons over 18 years of age residing within the area covered by the Association may apply for membership in writing to the Committee, and a decision will be made at their next meeting. Provided the applicant fulfils the statutory requirements, the Committee shall have no power to deny admission.
6. The rights of members are as follows:
 - a. to attend General Meetings with the right to speak and vote;
 - b. to elect or be elected to representative or management positions;
 - c. to carry out each and every duty conferred upon them;
 - d. to participate in the governance and management, as well as in the facilities and activities of the Association, in accordance with the normal rules and Statutes;
 - e. to discuss at meetings (and in Committee if so elected) all that which he considers he can contribute to facilitate the group's basic objectives;
 - f. to seek and obtain explanations regarding the management and administration by the Committee or the representatives of the Association;

g. to receive information regarding the Association's activities;

h. to have access to the common services which are at the disposal of the Association;

i. to participate in working groups.

7. The duties of the members are as follows:

j. to uphold the rules and Statutes of the Association;

k. to carry out the wishes of the General Assembly and the rules which the Committee establishes in order to carry out those wishes;

l. to punctually pay the fees as laid down;

m. to give any necessary assistance towards the successful operation of the Association.

8. Reasons for dismissal from the Association:

a. voluntary resignation by the member in writing to the Committee;

b. failure to pay the fees and subscriptions;

c. failure to uphold the statutory obligations.

PART II ORGANISATION AND OPERATION

SECTION 1: GENERAL ASSEMBLY

9. The General Assembly is the Association's leading authority; its constituent members hold its rights in perpetuity and in absolute equality

The membership, gathered together at a legally constituted General Assembly, may resolve by majority the proper business within the meeting's competence

The entire membership remains subject to the resolutions of the General Assembly, including those members who are absent, those voting against, and those present and abstaining

10. The General Assembly holds the following powers:

d. to change the status of the Association;

- e. to adopt resolutions relating to the lawful representation, negotiation and defence of the interests of its members;
- f. to control the activities and management of the Committee;
- g. to approve the annual income and expenditure account as well as present the Annual Report of activities;
- h. to elect the members of the Committee, and deal with dismissals and/or substitutions;
- i. to lay down the general courses of action which allow the Association to pursue its aims;
- j. to fix the fees and subscriptions which the membership must contribute;
- k. to dissolve and wind-up the Association.

This list of powers is illustrative only and does not impose any limitation on the extensive functions of the General Assembly

11 The General Assembly shall meet in ordinary session as a minimum once per year, within the first quarter

The General Assembly shall meet in extra-ordinary session as often as is necessary, on the instruction of the Committee or when requested in writing by a minimum of 10% of the total paid-up membership

12. The notice convening General Assemblies, whether ordinary or extra-ordinary, shall be in writing and shall be advertised in the customary places a minimum of 7 days in advance. Whenever possible members should be advised individually. The notice shall give the date, time and place of the meeting together with the Agenda

The Agenda shall necessarily include issues raised by each Working Party after these have been previously communicated to the Committee

The President shall preside at the General Assembly. If he is absent, the Vice-President shall be substituted, or else the longest-serving member of the Committee. The Secretary of the Committee shall act as secretary

At the beginning of each meeting of the General Assembly the Minutes of the previous meeting shall be read, for adoption or not. The Minutes shall reflect an extract of the deliberations, the wording of the resolutions, which have been adopted, and the number of votes cast

13. The Assembly shall be quorate at its first meeting, with a minimum of 25% of the paid-up members attending; and at the second meeting, those who are attending one half hour after the first, and in the same place

14. Each member shall have one vote

Resolutions shall be carried on a majority of votes of those present. Nevertheless, it will be necessary to call an Extra-ordinary General Assembly in order to adopt motions for the division of membership and nomination of the Committee, changes to the Constitution, dissolution of the Association, constitution of a Federation of similar Associations or integration into one which is already existing, for a majority vote by two-thirds of those attending, provided that at this meeting more than one half of the members are present, if the meeting is at first call. If at the second call, it will suffice for the vote of two-thirds of those present, regardless of the numbers present

SECTION 11: THE COMMITTEE

15. The Association is governed, managed and represented by the Committee, formed by: the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and such Spokespersons as may be necessary

The election of the Committee is by free and secret vote of the General Assembly. Candidacy is open; that is to say, any member may stand, and nominations do not need to equal the vacancies declared. The resultant elections for the posts of President, Vice-President and Spokespersons are those candidates who have obtained the greater percentage of votes, in that order. The Secretary and Treasurer are elected by the Executive Committee from amongst its members

The offices of President, Secretary and Treasurer must be held by three different persons. The exercise of these posts shall be without remuneration

16: Members of the Committee may sit for three years and may stand for reelection after two years

Dismissal from a post prior to the normal term may occur because of:

- a.voluntary resignation presented in writing setting out the reasons;
- b.infirmity which incapacitates the exercise of office;
- c.cessation of membership of the Association;
- d.sanction imposed for a wrong-doing in the exercise of the office.

Vacancies arising in the Committee shall be filled at the first General Assembly held. Nevertheless the Committee can co-opt a member of the Association to the vacant position provisionally, until the next: General Assembly is held.

17. The Committee has the following functions:

- a) to show and exercise the representation of the Association and carry out the running and administration in the broadest terms within the law and to follow the decisions taken by the General Assembly (GA) in accordance with the rules, instructions and general directions established by the Committee;
- b) to take necessary decisions for representation at public hearings for the exercise of all types of legal action and to lodge pertinent appeals;

- c) to propose to the GA the defence of the Association's interests;
- d) to propose to the GA the fees and subscriptions for membership;
- e) to convene the GA and to check that the resolutions adopted are carried out;
- f) to present to the GA the accounts for adoption each fiscal year and to calculate and present the budgets for the following year;
- g) to present to the GA an Annual Report of activities for approval;
- h) to hire and fire any employees of the Association;
- i) to oversee the normal functioning and activities of the Association;
- j) to establish Working Groups to bring about in the most efficient and effective manner the aims of the Association and to authorise the projected activities of these groups;
- k) to nominate the Committee member in charge of each Working Group;
- l) to carry out the necessary negotiations with public bodies, companies and others to obtain grants and other assistance, the use of places or buildings for meetings, etc;
- m) to open current and other accounts in any suitable establishment and to arrange for funds held in these deposits;
- n) to resolve provisionally any unforeseen event not in the Rules and to give account of the same to the first GA following;
- o) to discharge all other responsibilities not otherwise attributed.

18. The Committee, previously convened by the President or his deputy, will meet in ordinary session as frequently as its members decide, but in all cases at no greater interval than three months. An Extra-ordinary meeting of the Committee shall be held at the request of one third of its members

19. The Committee shall be quorate at one half of its members plus one; Committee members are obliged to attend all meetings convened but may be excused for a valid reason. In each case the President and Secretary, or their substitutes, must attend. The Committee shall pass resolutions by simple majority of those attending

20. The Committee may delegate any of its facilities to one or more Sub-Committees or Work Groups on the vote in favour of two-thirds of its total members. It may also nominate, with the same majority, one or more agents in order to undertake the functions with which the Committee is entrusted, with suitable powers entrusted in each case

21. The decisions of the Committee shall be minuted. The Minutes shall be read and approved or corrected at the next following meeting, before any other matters are discussed

SECTION 1II: PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

22. The President holds the following functions:

- a) the direction and legal representation of the Association as delegated by the Committee;
- b) to preside and control debates at meetings, both General and Committee;
- c) to convene all meetings of members and Committee;
- d) to endorse Minutes and certificates produced by the Secretary;
- e) those other powers typical of the office, and those delegated to him by the Committee.

The Vice-President shall deputise for the President in the absence or infirmity of the President.

If both President and Vice-President are absent or infirm, the longest-serving member of the Committee present shall deputise

23. The Treasurer shall:

- a) have custody and control of the Association's assets;
- b) prepare budgets and statements of account;
- c) maintain a cash book;
- d) sign receipts and other financial papers, including cheques, in cohort with either the President or other other authorised co-signatory;
- e) pay bills as authorised by the Committee.

24. The Secretary holds the following functions:

- a) hold custody of the Association 's records;
- b) draw up the Minutes of all GA meetings and Committee meetings;
- c) draw up any certificates as required;
- d) process any correspondence ordered by the Committee or GM as may arise;
- e) keep the Register of Members.

SECTION 1V: SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORK GROUPS

25. The creation and constitution of each Work Group or Sub-Committee rests with the Committee. Those Association members who wish to form a Group shall explain the activities which they propose

to perform; the Committee shall approve, or may refuse only through reasoned argument at a duly convened Extra-ordinary General Meeting whose resolution shall be binding

The said Sub-Committees or Work Groups shall present to the Committee a detailed report of activities at least once per month

PART III FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

26. The Association at its foundation has no real property or other fixed asset

27. The maximum annual budget shall be 3000 Euros

28. The sources of income of the Association shall be:

- a) the subscriptions of its members as fixed by the General Meeting;
- b) any official or private grants or subsidies;
- c) donations, inheritances and/or legacies;
- d) income as may otherwise be obtainable.

29. All members have the obligation to sustain the Association through fees and other dues in the manner and proportion as shall be determined by the General Meeting on a proposal by the Committee. The General Meeting may establish entry, monthly or extraordinary fees etc.

30. The Financial Year shall coincide with the calendar year, ending 31 December

31. The current accounts or savings books opened in banks etc. shall be on the signature of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and one Spokesperson

For the operation of the accounts shall suffice two signatories, one of whom shall be the Treasurer or, in his absence, the President

PART IV INSPECTIONS AND SANCTIONS

32. Overall control of the execution or interpretation of the Statutes shall lie with the General Meeting, in accordance with the quorum heretofore established (see Point 14)

33. The Committee shall be watchful that it follows the forms and contents of these Statutes in accordance with the directions of the General Meeting

PART V DISSOLUTION

34. The Association may be dissolved at the express wish of an Extra-ordinary General Meeting. properly convened

35. Having resolved dissolution, the EGM shall take the necessary steps to dispose of the assets of the Association at the time of the finalisation, dissolution and liquidation of any outstanding matters

The meeting may elect a Liquidation Committee if it is deemed necessary

The Association members shall be exempt from personal liability. Their liability is limited to compliance with the obligations to which they have voluntarily contracted

The funds remaining after liquidation shall be donated to

Failing the designation of a Liquidation Committee by the EGM, the functions thereof as described in the preceding paragraphs shall fall within the competence of the Committee.