

NOTICE OF MOTION TO CHANGE THE RULES

D. A. Tipple

At the Ordinary Meeting of the Irish Mathematical Society to be held in December of 1991 a motion will be proposed to change **four** of the Rules of the Society. The Constitution requires that written notice of such a motion must be given to all members. Accordingly the motion to be proposed is given below. Significant changes to the existing rules are written in italics.

Motion

The following changes shall be made to the Rules of the Irish Mathematical Society.

Rule 3. shall be amended to read as follows.

3. The election of the Office-Bearers and the additional members of the Committee shall take place at the *last* Ordinary Meeting of each session.

Rule 4. shall be amended to read as follows.

4. The term of office of the Office-Bearers and the Committee shall be two *sessions starting on the first day of January that follows the Ordinary Meeting at which they were elected*. The President and the Vice-President may not continue in office for more than two consecutive terms.

Rule 6. shall be amended to read as follows.

6. Each session shall commence on the 1st day of *January* and last until the following *31st day of December*.

Rule 9. shall be amended to read as follows.

9. A Financial Statement for each session *shall be written by the Treasurer holding office in that session*, shall be duly audited by two persons appointed by the Committee, and shall be submitted to the First Ordinary Meeting *that follows that session*.

The Committee wishes to make these changes to the Rules for the following reasons.

- (i) The Society's financial year and the terms of office of its officers and committee members should be brought into line.
- (ii) The annual financial statement written by the treasurer should be based on the accounts maintained by that treasurer. Since no rules are laid down for the keeping of the Society's accounts, different treasurers may well use different systems of book-keeping and this could cause problems.

A copy of the current Constitution and Rules of the Society is given below.

Irish Mathematical Society

Constitution

(as amended by the Ordinary Meeting held on 21 December 1984)

1. The Irish Mathematical Society shall consist of Ordinary and Honorary Members.
2. Any person may apply to the Treasurer for membership by paying one year's membership fee. His admission to membership must then be confirmed by the Committee of the Society.

Candidates for honorary membership may be nominated by the Committee only, following a proposal of at least three members of the Society. Nominations for honorary membership must be made at one Ordinary Meeting of the Society and voted upon at the next, a simple majority of the members present being necessary for election.

3. Every Ordinary member shall pay subscription to the funds of the Society at the times and of the amounts specified in the Rules.
4. The Office-Bearers shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer. The Office of President or Vice-President may be held in conjunction with any of the other offices.
5. The Committee shall consist of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and eight additional members. No person shall serve as an additional member for more than three terms consecutively.
6. There shall normally be at least two Ordinary Meetings in a session.
7. Notice of a motion to repeal or alter part of the Constitution shall be given at one Ordinary Meeting. Written notice of one month shall be given to all members before the next Ordinary Meeting at which the motion shall be voted upon, being carried if it receives the consent of two-thirds of the members present.
8. One month's written notice of a motion to repeal or alter a Rule, or to enact a new Rule, shall be given to all members before the Meeting at which it is to be voted upon, the motion being carried if it receives the consent of a simple majority of the members present.
9. All questions not otherwise provided for in the Constitution and Rules shall be decided by a simple majority of members

present at a Meeting. Eleven Ordinary members shall form a quorum for such business.

Rules

(as amended by the Ordinary Meeting held on 21 December 1984)

These rules shall be subject to the over-riding authority of the Constitution.

Subscriptions:

1. Every Ordinary Member shall pay, on election to membership and during January in each succeeding session, an annual subscription to be determined by the Committee. A change in the annual subscription shall be ratified by a Meeting of the Society.
2. Ordinary Members whose subscriptions are more than eighteen months in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned from the Society.

Officers and Committee

3. The election of the Office-Bearers and the additional members of the Committee shall take place at the first Ordinary Meeting of each session.
4. The term of office of the Office-Bearers and the Committee shall be two years. The President and the Vice-President may not continue in office for more than two consecutive terms.
5. On alternate years elections for the following positions will take place :
 - (a) President, Vice-President, and half of the additional members of the Committee.
 - (b) Secretary, Treasurer, and one half of the additional members of the Committee.

6. Each session shall commence on the 1st day of October and last until the following 30th of September.
7. The Committee shall meet at least twice during each session, the President to be convener. Five shall form a quorum.
8. The Secretary shall keep minutes of the Meetings of the Society and of the Committee and shall issue notice of meetings to members resident in Ireland.
9. At the first Ordinary Meeting of each session the Treasurer shall submit a Financial Statement for the previous session, duly audited by two persons appointed by the Committee.

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Change of ISSN

When this **Bulletin** changed its name from Irish Mathematical Society Newsletter to its present name, the ISSN was inadvertently retained for several issues.

The ISSN has been changed with this issue.

GRADUATES SURVEY Preliminary report

Donal P. O'Donovan

The background

The David Report on Mathematics in the U.S.A. which appeared in 1984, was successful in raising the awareness and funding of mathematics within that country. Having studied this and an earlier Canadian report, I began advocating the desirability of a broad based study of the mathematical sciences in Ireland. This was several years ago. In a document requested by the Irish Mathematical Society, I outlined the reasoning behind such a report, suggested a form that it could take, and hazarded a guess at the likely requirements in terms of time and money. At the September 1989 meeting of the organisation, at Maynooth, I chaired a discussion about my proposals, and there was broad agreement that something along the lines suggested should be undertaken. It was accepted that somebody from outside mathematics should be in charge, and some possibilities were put forward. Shortly thereafter the I.M.S. decided to recommend that the first step in the proposal, a graduate survey, should be carried out. A form for Trinity graduates was prepared by Richard Timoney and myself, and submitted to the I.M.S. as a specimen. Suggestions were taken on board, and the questionnaire was mailed in April 1990 to all Trinity mathematics graduates since 1945.

There has been a reasonable response. From a total of 401 questionnaires mailed, 86 were returned completed, and 19 arrived back marked not known at this address. Mailed with the questionnaire was a letter which described the survey, and included a financial appeal for the Trinity Quatercentenary Fund. This could have reduced the number responding, or biased the sample