

AtomJump Foundation Rules

Ver 0.1.0

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As per the New Zealand Section 6, Incorporated Societies Act 1908 rules, this document details how the AtomJump Foundation is organised.

The name of the society (ending with the word Incorporated)

AtomJump Foundation (Incorporated)

The objects for which the society is established

Provide open source messaging tools, globally, that provide people with the ability to readily communicate using digital means.

The tools which the Foundation publishes will always be free, downloadable and 100% open source, and because of it's non-profit status, will aim to be commercially unbiased and without a profit motive. The organization can provide the option, but it will always be an option, to host it's tools for paying customers. Any income derived from this hosting goes directly back into the Foundation itself, supporting it's staff, systems, and other purchases deemed to be required to operate the Foundation.

How people become members of the society and cease being members of the society

Joining the society is much like being employed at our sister company AtomJump Ltd. An interview will take place if the person is not already known to the society, to establish that there is a fit with the organisation. Often, this interview will take the form of some voluntary project work within the open source AtomJump Messaging products, to establish an interest level and skill level.

Membership only implies that you actively contribute a vote, when a vote is presented to the whole society. It could potentially lead to a commercial relationship with the society through e.g. employment, but the employment salary will never be more than standard market rates within that category of work.

To quit membership, a member should simply let the Chair know that they can no longer commit time to the society, and that person will lose their voting rights.

If a member is found to have acted against the principles of the society, a review panel will need to be formed to review whether to remove that member from the society. An appeal can be made to the Chair.

How meetings of the society will be called and held and how voting will take place

One annual general meeting will take place in April of each year. This will likely be held by digital video conferencing, if the members are too geographically distributed.

Any additional votes on direction will be sent to all members of the society via email / message group. If there is no majority (more than 50% of the vote), whoever is presenting will need to present a better case.

How officers of the society will be appointed

Appointment will be by a general society member's majority vote (more than 50%).

Control and use of the common seal

Any member can make use of the common seal, although if a member is found to have mis-used this privilege, they may be removed from the organisation, on agreement from a review panel.

How the society's funds will be controlled and invested

There will be one person appointed as treasurer, and 2-3 sub-treasurers. The treasurer has full access to the bank account of the organisation, and will make all payments, but the sub-treasurers can also access the account, if required, in an emergency.

All earnings will be re-invested into the operations and development of the Foundation. It will be up to all members to decide which developments/internal investments are highest priority, through their vote.

The powers (if any) that the society has to borrow money

The society, ideally, should never borrow money, however this is at the discretion of the treasurer. The servers and software have been set up to continue to run with very little financial means (simply one internet connection, and one existing hardware server).

How any property of the society will be distributed in the event of the society being wound up

The intellectual property in the software will return to AtomJump Ltd (New Zealand) if it still exists, and if not, the property will go to the original developer Peter Abrahamson, and his wife Hardip Abrahamson and their estate.

How the rules of the society can be altered

On a general majority vote (i.e. more than 50% of members must vote for the change).

How does the society handle donations?

Donation income is accepted, but it will only go towards infrastructure costs, and not towards staff income. It also must be non-refundable.

Roles

Chairperson: The Chairperson organises meetings, votes and assists with new memberships. Some general guidance on the society's direction is expected from the Chair.

Secretary: The secretary is responsible for keeping notes of all meetings.

Treasurer: The treasurer has full access to the bank account of the organisation, and will make all payments.

Sub-treasurers: Sub-treasurers can also access the bank account, if required, in an emergency.

Patron: The Patron provides general advice to the organisation.

Roles are intended to be for a three year term.