



**TE ROPU WAHINE MAORI TOKO I TE ORA**  
**MAORI WOMEN'S WELFARE LEAGUE INC**

**CONSTITUTION 2022**





# CONSTITUTION

August 2022



## INDEX

<b>INTRODUCTION – TE TIRITI O WAITANGI .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>PREAMBLE .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>I NAME .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>II REGISTERED ADDRESS .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>III OBJECTS .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>IV DEFINITIONS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>V LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>VI LEAGUE BRANCHES .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>VII REGIONAL COUNCILS .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>VIII NATIONAL COUNCIL .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>IX INSIGNIA OF THE LEAGUE .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>X ADMINISTRATION .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>XI OFFICERS OF THE LEAGUE .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>XII NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>XIII AGENDA .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>XIV GENERAL MEETINGS .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>XV VOTING .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>XVI FINANCE .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>XVII COMMON SEAL .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>XVIII ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>XIX DISPUTES RESOLUTION PROCESS .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>XX DISMISSAL OF MEMBERS .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>XXI LIQUIDATION, DISSOLUTION OF THE LEAGUE .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>XXII RECESS .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>XXIII GUIDELINES FOR DISPOSAL OF LEAGUE PROPERTY .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>APPENDIX “A” .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>TE WHAKAPONO (THE CREED) .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>APPENDIX “B” .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>THE LEAGUE WAIATA .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>APPENDIX “C” .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>THE FLAG .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>APPENDIX “D” .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>LEAGUE TROPHIES .....</b>	<b>20</b>

**CONSTITUTION OF**  
**TE ROPU WAHINE MAORI TOKO I TE ORA**

**INTRODUCTION – TE TIRITI O WAITANGI**

Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora acknowledges Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of Aotearoa.

Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora endorses its commitment to Articles 1, 2 and 3 of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

**PREAMBLE**

Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora is an organisation principally concerned with the well being of Maori women and their whanau and the people of New Zealand generally. Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora shall consist of all Members who are affiliated to Branches of the League. It shall be non-sectarian, non-profitable and non-party political.

**I NAME**

The name of the organisation is TE ROPU WAHINE MAORI TOKO I TE ORA or "THE MAORI WOMEN'S WELFARE LEAGUE INCORPORATED", hereinafter referred to as the LEAGUE and in abbreviation as MWWL. The League is incorporated pursuant to the Incorporated Societies Act 1908 and has acquired charitable status in accordance with the Charities Act 2005.

No Branch, region or individual can seek incorporation as a body corporate using the name of TE ROPU WAHINE MAORI TOKO I TE ORA or MAORI WOMEN'S WELFARE LEAGUE INCORPORATED. All intellectual property rights in the name of the League belong to the League.

**II REGISTERED ADDRESS**

The registered office of the League shall be in the City of Wellington at 24 Burnell Avenue, or at any other address as may from time to time be decided and notified to the Registrar of Incorporated Societies.

**III OBJECTS**

- (1) The main object of the League is to provide and promote transformational leadership amongst Maori women and their whanau.
- (2) To effectively participate in the holistic health of Maori, including the spiritual, social, cultural, environmental and economic wellbeing of theirwhanau and communities.
- (3) To uphold the mana of tamariki, through a commitment to uplift te mana o te tamaiti.

- (4) To participate in promoting life-long education and training.
- (5) To participate in the economic development for Maori and their communities.
- (6) To participate in the creation of employment and the establishment of businesses for Maori women and their whanau.
- (7) To support and advocate for the revitalisation of Te Reo Maori.
- (8) To revive, preserve and maintain the teaching of Maori arts and crafts and Te Reo Maori to perpetuate the ethics of Tikanga Maori.
- (9) To assist in the rehabilitation of offenders and take appropriate action to assist the victims of crime.
- (10) To promote understanding between all women.

To implement these objects the League shall have the power to:

- (a) Formulate such general principles governing Branches and Regional Councils, as hereinafter defined, as will ensure or may be thought desirable to ensure unity of purposes and to make rules for their conduct.
- (b) Form or assist in forming Branches in Aotearoa New Zealand and overseas.
- (c) Form or assist in forming Regional Councils and advise and assist them.
- (d) Provide and raise funds for the purpose of the League, whether from within its membership or from grants, donations, subscriptions and contracts from government or its agencies, local authorities, councils, corporations and other bodies including companies, associations, firms and persons whatsoever; also to receive legacies and other benefits.
- (e) Apply the funds of the League in and toward the above objects and not otherwise.
- (f) Do such other things as may be incidental or conducive to the attainment of the objects of the League.
- (g) Invest any monies not required for immediate use:
  - i) on deposit with any bank or organisation as authorised by resolution of the National Council;
  - ii) in any investment for the time being authorised by the laws of New Zealand for the investment of Trust Funds; or
  - iii) in freehold or leasehold property, with power to sell or transpose any of the investments so made.

#### **IV DEFINITIONS**

In this Constitution and the Rules made from time to time by the League:

- (1) “Annual general meeting” of Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora is held during the annual National Conference.
- (2) “Branch” means an association of women formed in accordance with this Constitution and the rules of the League and thereby affiliated to the League.
- (3) “Member” means a financial member of a Branch.
- (4) “Branch Executive Committee” means an elected Committee consisting of the Branch President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- (5) “Regional Council” means appointed delegates of financial Branches within a Region formed in accordance with the Constitution and Rules of the League.
- (6) “Regional Executive Committee” means an elected Committee consisting of Regional President, Regional Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, Rangatahi Representative and Regional Area Representative.
- (7) “National Executive Committee” means the Committee consisting of the National President, Vice President, and the Regional Area Representatives.
- (8) “National Council” means the elected delegates representing their Branches.
- (9) “National Conference” means the annual Conference of Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora during which the Annual General Meeting is held.
- (10) “Regional Area Representative” means an officer of the National Executive Committee appointed by the Regional Council.
- (11) “National Office” means the registered address of the League and includes employees of the League.

#### **V LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP**

Members are the foundation of the whole League movement. The membership shall consist of Foundation members, Senior members, Life members, Rangatahi members, Honorary members and Overseas members. The classification of membership is:



***Foundation membership***

Foundation members are the founding members of Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora in 1951. Foundation members are not required to pay a subscription fee.

***Life membership***

Life Membership may be conferred upon any Senior League member who has given 15 years of service or more to working and upholding the Objects of the League. A Life member should be nominated by her Branch and the recommendations together with the member's citation must be sent to the Regional Area Representative who will submit it to the National Executive Committee for approval. Life Membership shall be automatically conferred on all National Presidents on expiry of their term of office in recognition of their service to the League.

Life members shall be entitled to all the privileges of Senior members, but the Branch conferring the honour shall be responsible for that member's annual subscription, except in the case of Past National Presidents, who shall not be liable for further annual subscriptions.

***Senior membership***

Senior membership shall be open to all women who comply with the conditions of membership and upon payment of the senior membership subscription fee.

***Rangatahi membership***

Rangatahi membership shall be open to all girls and young women from the age of 10 to 18 years who may join a Senior Branch or form Rangatahi Branches upon payment of the subscription fee. Rangatahi members of a Branch can conduct meetings under the same principles as a parent Branch. Rangatahi Branches shall be responsible to a parent Branch.

***Honorary membership***

Honorary membership may be conferred by a branch, Regional Council or National Council upon any person, male or female, who actively supports the Kaupapa of the League and is interested in and supportive of the objects of the League. An honorary member shall not hold office or be eligible to vote at Branch, Regional or National level.

***Overseas membership***

Overseas membership may be conferred by any Branch upon any woman resident outside Aotearoa/New Zealand.

**Conditions of membership**

- (a) New members shall be proposed and seconded by two financial members of the League and upon payment of the annual subscription shall be deemed to be full members of the Branch.
- (b) A member can only be affiliated to one branch at any one time.
- (c) Non-financial members: Should a member allow her annual subscription to fall into arrears after the end of the financial year, she shall be deemed non-financial and as such will not be entitled to hold office or to vote.

- (d) Transfer of Members: A member may transfer from one League Branch to another provided she obtains a letter from the Secretary of her Branch stating that she is financial for the current year.
- (e) Notice of resignation from the League should be given in writing to the Branch Secretary.
- (f) Members should undertake to uphold the Objects of the League at all times and to encourage other women to join the League.

#### **VI LEAGUE BRANCHES**

- (1) The Regional Area Representative is responsible for the establishment of a new Branch within her own designated Regional boundary.
- (2) The National President is responsible for the establishment of a new overseas Branch.
- (3) A new Branch requires a minimum of five members.
- (4) The Regional Area Representative shall convene the inaugural meeting.
- (5) At its inaugural meeting the prospective members shall vote for their officers elect.
- (6) The officers elect will sign a declaration that the branch is non-sectarian and non-party political which will be witnessed and collected by the Regional Area Representative.
- (7) When a new Branch has been duly established, the Regional Area Representative shall forward the names of the newly elected Branch officers, a membership list and the declaration to the Regional Executive and National Office.
- (8) Only financial members may vote on any Branch business and hold office.
- (9) Any financial member may resign from the Branch at any time by giving notice in writing to the Branch Secretary or President.
- (10) Financial members may transfer from one Branch to another by obtaining a letter from the Secretary of her Branch stating that she is financial for the current year.
- (11) Members can only be affiliated to one branch at any one time.
- (12) Each branch must affiliate to its respective Regional Council.

## VII REGIONAL COUNCILS

Regional Councils are established within boundaries determined in accordance with the Maori Land Court Districts or within such tribal boundaries as may from time to time be defined by the National Council.

- (1) A Regional Council shall be established as the co-ordinating body of all Branches within its designated regional boundary.
- (2) Delegates entitled to vote at Regional Council meetings shall be elected by their respective Branches.
- (3) A Regional Council may levy such charges as it deems necessary to manage its own affairs.
- (4) Only financial members may vote on any Regional business and hold office.
- (5) The powers and responsibilities of a Regional Council shall be:
  - (i) to co-ordinate the activities of Branches in the area, to exchange information and learn from the experience of other Branches.
  - (ii) to plan or organise any project or function of interest or concern to Branches in the Region.
  - (iii) to elect a Regional Area Representative to represent the Region on the National Executive Committee, confirmation of which is to be made at National Conference.
  - (iv) to meet the annual expenses incurred by a Regional Area Representative in travelling throughout her area.
  - (v) to organise and fund any regional initiatives agreed to by Regional Council,
  - (vi) where necessary, to lease premises or acquire assets necessary for the operation of regional council functions. However, no Regional Council can acquire assets in the name of the League or National Council without the approval of the National Executive Committee.
  - (vii) to negotiate and undertake contract work that meets the objectives of Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora.
- (6) No restriction shall be placed on the number of observers both from the League and other interested societies who may attend advertised meetings of a Regional Council.

## VIII NATIONAL COUNCIL

The governing body of Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora is the National Council, comprising the elected delegates representing their Branches.

Each Branch shall be entitled to representation on the National Council on the basis of financial membership, which shall be:

Up to 10 members	1 delegate	1 vote
11 financial members to 20	2 delegates	1 vote
21 financial members to 30	3 delegates	1 vote
31 financial members to 40	4 delegates	1 vote
41 financial members to 50	5 delegates	1 vote
51 financial members to 60	6 delegates	1 vote
61 financial members to 70	7 delegates	1 vote
71 financial members to 80	8 delegates	1 vote
81 financial members to 90	9 delegates	1 vote
91 financial members to 100	10 delegates	1 vote

## IX INSIGNIA OF THE LEAGUE

- (1) The colours of the League shall be kokowai (red) and kowhai (yellow).
- (2) The motto for the League shall be "Tatau Tatau" which being translated, means "All of us" or "All of us together".
- (3) The flag of the League shall be white with a red cross and the first quarter blue with a bordered red cross separating four white six-pointed stars.
- (4) The membership badge of the League or any replica thereof shall be a circular badge with a meeting house inset in red and the year 1951 inscribed beneath on a yellow background. Around the circumference shall be the words "Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora" and the motto "Tatau Tatau" in yellow lettering on a red background.
- (5) Members of the National Executive Committee and the National Patron shall be provided with a badge and bar attachment indicating their respective offices. The badge and bar attachment will remain the property of the League and be relinquished by any member ceasing to hold office.
- (6) Past National Presidents shall be entitled to wear a bar attachment with their membership badge bearing the inscription "Past President" in yellow lettering on a red background bordered in yellow, such badge and bar attachment to remain the property of the Past President.
- (7) Life members shall be entitled to wear a bar attachment with their membership badge bearing the inscription "Life Member" in yellow lettering on a red background bordered in yellow.

- (8) Honorary members shall be entitled to wear the League's membership badge, with a bar attachment bearing the inscription "Honorary Member" in yellow lettering on a red background bordered in yellow.
- (9) Recipients of acknowledgment badges shall be entitled to wear the League membership badge bearing an inscription as prescribed by the National Executive in yellow lettering on a red background bordered in yellow.
- (10) No other persons shall be entitled to wear the League's badge or bar attachments.
- (11) The Tablecloth of the League shall be in cloth of natural colour. The colours of the League shall be superimposed on the cloth with the League badge worked in one corner or in some other appropriate position.
- (12) All intellectual property rights in the insignia of the League belong to the League.

#### **X ADMINISTRATION**

- (1) The League in Annual General Meeting is responsible for the Constitution and the policies of the League and shall make decisions on these matters accordingly.
- (2) The National Executive Committee is the appointed Committee and the officers of the League. It shall be responsible for carrying out the directives of the League and for the maintenance and implementation of the Constitution, the League's policies and its Rules. In particular, the National Executive Committee shall:
  - (a) be responsible to the National Council for protecting, maintaining and enhancing the mana and integrity of Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora.
  - (b) be responsible to the National Council for the management of Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora.
  - (c) have power to submit a maximum of two remits annually to National Council on matters that relate to the management of Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora.
  - (d) in the absence from any meeting of the National President and National Vice President, appoint a Chairperson from among the members present.
  - (e) have power to appoint or terminate the employment of the Kaiwhakahaere/General Manager and to negotiate remuneration.
  - (f) meet a minimum of four times a year.
- (3) The Regional Area Representatives are the connecting link between the National Executive Committee and the Regional Council and Branches in her region. The Branches shall have the right to communicate directly with the National Office and vice-versa.

- (4) Regional Councils shall manage their own affairs provided they do not contravene this Constitution or decisions made by the National Council.
- (5) Branches shall manage their own affairs provided that they do not contravene this Constitution or decisions made by the National Council or the policies and decisions of their Regional Councils.

## **XI OFFICERS OF THE LEAGUE**

The officers of the League shall be:

- (1) The National Executive Committee consisting of:
  - (a) The National President
  - (b) The National Vice President
  - (c) The Regional Area Representatives
  - (d) The Immediate Past President
- (2) An officer may be removed from office if she is adjudicated bankrupt, convicted of a criminal offence or of unsound mind.
- (3) Nominations for National President:
  - (a) Nominations may be made by any financial Branch. The nominee must be a financial member of the organisation and must give written consent to the nomination.
  - (b) The nominee must have been a senior member of Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora for a period of at least 5 consecutive years immediately prior to the nomination.
  - (c) Nominations for the office of National President shall be received by the National Office on a date nominated by National Executive Committee that is at least three months before the date fixed for the National Conference.
  - (d) Nominees must be resident in Aotearoa/New Zealand and of Maori descent.
  - (e) Nominations for National President shall be confirmed once the National Executive Committee is satisfied the nominee is non-sectarian and non-party political. No member of the National Executive Committee that has been nominated for National President shall be involved in any decision concerning the National President nominations.

(4) Nominations for National Vice President:

- (a) Nominations may be made by any financial Branch. The nominee must be a financial member of the organisation and must give written consent to the nomination.
- (b) Nominations for the office of National Vice President shall be received by the National Office on a date nominated by National Executive Committee that is at least three months before the date fixed for the National Conference.
- (c) Nominees must be resident in Aotearoa/New Zealand and of Maori descent.
- (d) Nominees for National Vice President shall be confirmed once the National Executive Committee is satisfied the nominee is non-sectarian and non-party political. No member of the National Executive Committee that has been nominated for National Vice President shall be involved in any decisions concerning the National Vice President nominations.

(5) Nominations of Regional Area Representatives:

- (a) Nominations of Regional Area Representatives shall be made by any financial Branch in the respective region. The nominee must be a financial member of a Branch and must give written consent to the nomination.
- (b) All nominations must be in the hands of the Regional Secretary not less than two months before the date of the election, which shall take place at the Annual General Meeting of the region.
- (c) Nominees must be resident in Aotearoa/New Zealand and of Maori descent.

(6) Conduct of National Elections:

- (a) The National President shall be elected every three years.
- (b) The National Vice President shall be elected annually.
- (c) All elections of officers shall be by postal ballot. Voting papers shall be issued to all financial Branches as at 30 June of the year in which the National Conference takes place together with a list of nominees and relevant information, not less than two months before the date fixed for the National Conference and shall be returned to National Office not less than 21 days before that date. Voting papers shall be taken unopened to the National Conference and there shall be scrutinised and counted by two independent Returning Officers appointed by the host region. After the votes have been counted and the results announced all voting papers will be held for 14 days and thereafter destroyed. The Returning Officers will deliver to each candidate the number of votes she has polled.
- (d) All candidates may appoint a scrutineer to observe the counting of the votes.

- (e) In the event of a tie, the position shall be decided by secret ballot at the Annual General Meeting of the National Council. The National Office shall prepare separate ballot papers for the election.
- (f) The results of the election shall be handed to the National President by the Returning Officers for announcement of the successful candidate.

(7) Terms of Office

- (a) Officers shall hold office until the conclusion of National Conference at which their successors are duly elected.
- (b) Should a National President not complete her term of office the National Vice President shall assume office until the next National Conference. This does not count as a year of her three-year term should she be elected as National President at the next National Conference.
- (c) All positions on the National Executive Committee, with the exception of the National President, shall be for a period of twelve months from the date of confirmation at the Annual General Meeting with a right of reappointment.
- (d) The National President shall hold office for a term of three years and may be re-elected for one further three year term. At the end of the two term cycle, the National President shall retire.
- (e) The Immediate Past President shall be a member of the National Executive for a period of twelve months from her last Conference as National President.

**XII NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- (1) A National Conference of Te Rōpū Wahine Māori Toko i te Ora shall be held in every calendar year and shall include the Annual General Meeting. All other general meetings shall be termed “extraordinary general meetings”.
- (2) The quorum at National Conference shall be 51% of financial Branches.
- (3) The Chairperson of all meetings of the National Council shall be the National President or in her absence the National Vice President and failing them, then the National Council can elect a Chairperson to act at the meeting.
- (4) The business of the Annual General Meeting shall include, but not be limited to:
  - (a) Adoption of Annual Report and Balance Sheet
  - (b) Adoption of Audited Accounts
  - (c) Confirmation of previous Minutes
  - (d) Appointment of Auditors
  - (e) Appointment of Legal Advisors
  - (f) Remits and Amendments



- (g) Other Business
  - (h) Confirmation of Returning Officers
  - (i) Election of National President and National Vice President and confirmation of the Regional Area Representatives
- (5) A record of all resolutions passed at the National Conference shall be kept and it shall be the responsibility of National Office to circulate copies of the minutes outlining remits and resolutions to Regional Councils and independent Branches within two months of the conclusion of the meeting. All resolutions passed at National Conference will take effect after the conclusion of National Conference. All resolutions of National Council shall form the policy of the League.
  - (6) The League may at any Annual General Meeting of the National Council agree to pay any of its officers a salary or other emolument in respect of the duty attaching to such office.
  - (7) No member of National Executive Committee shall act as a delegate of a Regional Council or independent Branch at the National Conference but may be called upon to speak in an advisory capacity or to clarify any matters under discussion.
  - (8) Other officers elected to National Executive Committee shall be confirmed in office at National Conference. These include the Regional Area Representatives who have been previously elected by their respective regions.
  - (9) Financial members other than delegates may attend as observers at National Conference and may request speaking rights through their Branch delegates.
  - (10) National Conferences shall be held in rotation by Regions confirmed at National Conference in advance of the next National Conference and Annual General Meeting.

### **XIII AGENDA**

- (1) A preliminary agenda for the National Conference incorporating all proposed remits shall be circulated to Regional Councils and Branches at least three months before the date fixed for the National Conference unless the National Executive Committee decides on a shorter time frame being no less than 28 days. Advice shall be given at the time of circulation of the latest date for receipt of notices of amendments.
- (2) The final Agenda that is circulated will include all proposed remits and proposed amendments and the previous National Conference minutes with appendices.
- (3) Acceptance of any further proposed amendments to remits during National Conference will be at the discretion of the National President.

#### **XIV GENERAL MEETINGS**

- (1) An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called by the National Executive Committee of its own volition and must be called on receipt of a petition signed by members representing 25% of the number of financial Branches then affiliated.
- (2) If such a meeting is called as a result of a petition the expenses of the meeting shall be borne by the Regional Councils of which the petitioners are members.
- (3) At least 28 days notice shall be given of an extraordinary meeting and the quorum shall be equivalent to 51% of financial Branches and the National Executive Committee.

#### **XV VOTING**

- (1) Each Branch is entitled to one vote.
- (2) Votes will be exercised by delegates present at a meeting.
- (3) Voting on any alteration to the Constitution must be carried by 75% of those persons entitled to vote at National Conference.
- (4) In the event of a ballot being requested the format shall be at the discretion of the National President.

#### **XVI FINANCE**

- (1) The financial year shall begin on 1 July and end on 30 June of the following year. A statement of Income and Expenditure for the year, together with a Balance Sheet as at 30 June shall be prepared.
- (2) All Branches and Regional Councils of the League shall provide their financial information to National Office by 31 July annually for the League accounts to be audited.
- (3) The Audited Accounts and annual report shall be sent to financial Branches 30 days prior to National Conference.
- (4) The Audited Accounts shall be submitted for adoption at National Conference.
- (5) Subscriptions payable by a Branch member shall be determined from time to time by the National Conference of the National Council and shall be payable immediately after the Annual General Meeting of each Branch. The full subscription shall be charged irrespective of the month in which the member joins.
- (6) At the time of payment of annual subscriptions a declaration on the same terms as in VI(6) of this Constitution must be submitted together with a current membership list.

- (7) All properties and monies belonging to the League at a national level shall be held on behalf of the National Council and under the management of the National Executive Committee. All such monies received by the League shall be banked in an account or accounts or invested in the name of the League and controlled by the National Executive Committee.
- (8) Signatories to the Cheque Accounts shall be the National President, Kaiwhakahaere/General Manager and one other member of the National Executive Committee.
- (9) Any special appeals made on Branches by the League shall, whenever practicable, be made by the National President.
- (10) A registration fee shall be paid by all Delegates and Observers to the Region hosting National Conference. The registration fee shall be determined by the host region and reviewed periodically.

#### **XVII COMMON SEAL**

The Common Seal of Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora shall remain at National Office and shall not be affixed to any instrument except by the authority of a resolution of the National Executive Committee.

#### **XVIII ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION**

The Constitution of the League may be altered, added to and rescinded the Annual General Meeting of the League, provided that due notice has been given of the intention to move in that direction. Voting on any alteration to the Constitution must be carried by 75% of those present who are entitled to vote. No alterations may be made to the Constitution that will affect the charitable nature of the League.

#### **XIX DISPUTES RESOLUTION PROCESS**

If a dispute cannot be resolved within the membership of a Branch, the Branch shall refer the dispute to the Regional Area Representative. If the dispute cannot be resolved by the Regional Area Representative, the Regional Area Representative has the discretion to refer the dispute to the Regional Executive Committee or to the National President for her determination. The decision of the Regional Executive Committee or the National President shall be final.

#### **XX DISMISSAL OF MEMBERS**

Any member of the League may at any time be dismissed from the membership of the League by the National Executive Committee for misconduct proved to the satisfaction of the

National Executive Committee. Indeed, if any member shall bring the mana of the League into disrepute, National Executive Committee may dismiss such member.

### **XXI LIQUIDATION, DISSOLUTION OF THE LEAGUE**

In the event of the League being dissolved, all surplus assets after payment of all costs, debts and liabilities shall, subject to any Trust affecting the same, be disposed of to any charitable organisation or organisations with the same or similar objects of the League as may be decided by the National Council or the National Executive Committee, depending on the circumstances.

### **XXII RECESS**

A Regional Council or Branch goes into recess after being unfinancial for two years. The Regional Council and or Branch shall send to National Office, after payments of its debts, all records and funds, which will be held in the name of that Branch for a period of two years. If the Branch is revived within two years, all records and funds will be returned to it. After two years, National Executive Committee shall decide the final disposal of such funds.

### **XXIII GUIDELINES FOR DISPOSAL OF LEAGUE PROPERTY**

- (1) Publicly advertise a meeting in the local newspaper and inform all financial members.
- (2) An extraordinary meeting is called of all financial members of said Branch or Regional Council, to vote on the disposal of property and/or chattels owned by the said Branch or Regional Council.
- (3) Appoint an independent Chairperson.
- (4) Appoint two independent scrutineers.
- (5) A quorum of 10% of membership is necessary to hold a meeting.
- (6) The financial position is to be fully presented together with the reason for disposal.
- (7) After full discussion, a secret ballot is held. Scrutineers to count the votes.
- (8) A 60% majority shall apply.

**APPENDIX "A"**  
TE WHAKAPONO (THE CREED)

Ko taku i tino manawa pa ai, ko taku  
whanau, whai muri ko taku hapu  
E mohio ana ki taku hapu  
Me te whakamanamana ki taku iwi  
Whakamanamana noa ana ki taku iwi  
Kahore he whakatete ki tau iwi

My first love is my family but I know my  
tribe,  
I know my tribe but I am proud of my  
race  
I am proud of my race but I am not  
racist

Na, he uri au no taku iwi,  
Waihoki, me awhina i taku motu.  
I raro i tenei kaupapa awhina,  
E maioha ana ki te katoa o te tangata,  
I taku maioha ki te tangata,  
Me tauwhaingā ki nga mahi tukino,  
I nga wa katoa, i nga wahi katoa.

Therefore I belong to my race but I  
would serve my nation, I would serve  
my nation but I have a reverence for  
humanity  
Because I have a reverence for all  
humanity I would oppose inhumanity  
anywhere and everywhere

I maioha ana ki te katoa o te tangata,  
tangi kau ana mo te hunga e pehia ana,  
Tuohu ana ki te inoi mo ratou katoa.  
Na taku whakaponu ki te Atua,  
Maea ake ana te maioha mo te katoa.

It is because I have this reverence for  
humanity that I grieve for all who now  
suffer, and pray for all mankind  
It is because I believe in God that I have  
this reverence for humanity.

Ko taku whanau, ko te hapu, ko te iwi,  
ko te motu;  
Ko enei hei tumanakotanga atu maku.  
Ko taku whanau, ko ngā whakaponu, ko  
ngā iwi, ko ngā tau iwi katoa;  
ko tenei te ao hou moku,  
Te tatai-hono ki toku ake ira.

My family, my tribe, my race, my  
nation;  
Let this be my vision of the future  
My extended family, all creeds, all  
races, all nations;  
Let this be my new world  
A part of my own humanity.

I te timatanga Te Atua,  
i takea ai nga mea katoa  
Waihoki, o nga hunga i takea mai;  
Ko ratou i manako atu ki a la,  
Tukua ana te mana ki a ratou,  
E meinga ai ratou hei tamariki Mana.

In the beginning was God  
All things were made by Him  
And as many as were made by Him  
And as many as received Him  
To them gave He power to become His  
children.

Ko tenei hei huarahi moku,  
Ko tenei hei inoi maku.

This is my destiny  
This is my prayer.

*Maori Marsden 25.2.92*

*Kaitaia 1977*

**APPENDIX "B"**

THE LEAGUE WAIATA

E TE ATUA TITIRO MAI  
AROHA IHO RA  
TENEI MATOU TE MAHI NEI  
KIA MAU KIA NGAWARI

NGA MANA TAPU O TE WA  
TE WHANAU ARIKI  
KIA WEHI RA KIA OHO NOA  
KIA MAU KIA NGAWARI

NGA ROPU TOKO I TE ORA  
NGA MATE O TE RA  
MAURIA MAI KIA TANGIHIA  
KIA MAU KIA NGAWARI

A MA TE MARIE A TE ATUA  
TATAU E TIAKI  
KEI HOKI KI NGA MAHI HE  
KIA MAU KIA NGAWARI

*Dave Manihera  
Hamilton 1974*

## **APPENDIX "C"**

### THE FLAG

The flag was presented to the League in 1951. It is the house-flag of one of the shipping companies which, since early contact with England, has traded extensively in these waters, Shaw Savill & Albion Co. The flag closely resembles the one chosen for New Zealand by Maori Chiefs and adopted in 1834 as the first national flag of New Zealand.

The original flag given to the League is now in a fragile condition and will be kept at headquarters. In 1978 a second flag, which can be flown or displayed on any occasion, was given to the League by Shaw Savill & Albion Co.

## APPENDIX "D"

### LEAGUE TROPHIES

#### Branch Report Trophies

##### **Te Puea Trophy**

For best Annual Report.

*This trophy was presented at Auckland Conference 6 April 1954 by Waikato-Maniapoto-Hauraki Branches. The components of this trophy include a:*

- (a) Rounded Carved Base representing knowledge and understanding upon which the League movement is founded and signifying co-operation and goodwill between Maori and Pakeha.
- (b) Sandblasted Glass Panel - This has the Taniwharau Crest, the mythical legend of the Waikato River which represents Te Puea and the hopes of the League to embrace and promote Maoritanga.
- (c) Mamaku arm fronds and buds represent the youth inclining towards an understanding of both Maori and Pakeha cultures but can also be interpreted to represent our women and children embracing the best in the culture of both races.

##### **Penrhyn Trophy**

For the Runner-up of the Te Puea Trophy.

*This trophy was presented at Conference 1962 by members of the Wanganui League. It was a gift to the Whanganui people who had given help to the people in Penrhyn Island.*

##### **Gwen Ryan Trophy**

For Rangatahi Report.

*This trophy was presented at Christchurch Conference 1976 by Miss G Ryan a Wellington teacher who is greatly interested in the work of the League.*

#### Oratory Contest Trophies

##### **E Tipu e Rea Trophy**

For Rangatahi girls 10-12 years section

*This trophy was presented by Tairawhiti at the Whanganui Conference in May 1979.*

##### **E Tipu e Rea Trophy**

For Rangatahi boys 10-12 years section.

*This trophy was presented by Tairawhiti at the Whanganui Conference in May 1979.*

##### **Ngahirakarangi Busby Memorial**

For the female winner of the oratory contest (intermediate (13-15 years) section)

*This trophy was presented by the whanau of Ngahirakarangi Busby at the 1998 Conference in Tainui.*



### **Te Atatu Branch**

For the male winner of the oratory contest (intermediate section)

*This trophy was presented by the Te Atatu Branch at the 1998 Conference in Tainui.*

### **Dame Miraka Szazy Trophy**

For the female winner of oratory contest (senior division)

*This trophy was presented at Conference in Whangarei 23 July 1977, by Taitokerau members.*

*The trophy perpetuates the memory of our ancestors by preserving the Maori language as well as providing an incentive to our young people to learn the language and promote our Maoritanga.*

### **Tu Hikitia Trophy**

For the male winner of oratory contest (senior division)

*This trophy was presented at Gisborne Conference 8 May, 1978, by Mr (now Sir) Graham Latimer, Chairman of the New Zealand Maori Council.*

### **Korerotia Te Reo Certificate**

For the female winner of Koreroia te Reo oratory contest (senior division)

## **Craft Trophies**

### **Miriona-Utu Budge Trophy**

For the Best Tukuruku entry - Traditional Material (unlined)

*Presented by the Budge family on behalf of their late mother who was a League stalwart interested in the promotion of tukutuku work and other Maori crafts.*

### **Te Arahina**

For the Best Tukuruku entry in a contemporary style (unlined).

*Presented by Cyril and Bonnie Manley in 1983.*

### **Te Ara Wahine**

For Kete Harakeke - Beginners

Green harakeke plaited bottom 27cm by 20cm

*Presented by Ngakau Kotahi Branch in 1994.*

### **Te Kete Aroha**

Kete Whakairo in harakeke - Pattern Flax only 27cm by 20cm

*Presented by Titahi Bay Branch 1994.*

### **Ngati Kahu o Kenana**

Kete Whakairo in harakeke - Coloured. Kiekie, pingao, kuta or with adornments eg feathers 27cm by 20cm.

*Presented at Kaitaia 1992.*

### **Hinemoa Paniora**

Rangatahi Contemporary Maori Art - Secondary School age (15-18 years)

2 or 3 dimensional art to reflect kaupapa Maori.

*Presented by Dargaville Branch 1992.*

**Te Ngira o Pakowhai Trophies 1 and 2 for Rangatahi and Intermediate Contemporary Art**  
*Donated by Te Ngira o Pakowhai Branch at Tamaki Makaurau in 2000.*

**Joan Walmsley Cup**

For Best Taniko entry.

*This trophy was presented by Mr and Mrs J M Walmsley of Karori 20<sup>th</sup> April 1967.  
Mrs Walmsley was a League member who was interested in promoting taniko and a specialist in fine embroidery.*

**Simon Snowden Memorial Trophy – He Taonga Whakamahara ki a Simon Snowden**

For Whakairo.

*Donated by Taitokerau Regional Council at Tamaki Makaurau in 2000.*

**Dame Rangimarie Hetet and Dr Diggeress Te Kanawa Trophy**

Awarded in recognition of innovation, excellence and creativity based on annual submissions of the League's competitions.

The criteria will be determined annually by National Executive.

**Resources for Tamariki Trophies**

**Ikaroa Trophy**

Te Reo Resource Book for Tamariki (0-2 years)

**Ikaroa Trophy**

Te Reo Resource Book for Tamariki (3-5 years)

**Te Kahu o Te Matauranga**

Te Reo Resource Book for Tamariki (6-9 years)

**Membership Increase Trophies**

**Jock McEwan Trophy**

For the highest annual increase in Senior Membership only.

*This trophy was presented at Wellington Conference 1966. Mr McEwan, the then Secretary of Māori Affairs and noted carver donated this trophy.*

**Queenie Dekker Trophy**

For the highest Rangatahi Membership increase.

*Donated by the whanau of Queenie Dekker at Kaitaia 1992.*

**Rumatiki Wright**

For the highest Branch increase in a Region.

*Donated by the Wright Whanau at Whakatane in 1996.*



