

**FEDERATED FARMERS OF NEW ZEALAND (INC)**  
**SHAREMILKERS' SUBSECTION**  
**CONSTITUTION**

**1 Name**

The name shall be the Federated Farmers Dairy Sharemilkers' Subsection hereafter referred to as the Subsection.

**2 Function**

The Subsection shall operate as an autonomous subsection of Federated Farmers Dairy with regard to the objects of Section 3.

**3 Objectives**

The objectives of the Subsection are:

- (a) To foster and advance sharemilking.
- (b) To represent Sharemilkers in the negotiations on matters concerning sharemilking arrangements.
- (c) That the Subsection shall have complete autonomy in the above matters.

**4 Membership**

4.1 Members shall be financial members of Federated Farmers of NZ Inc, who are herd owning or variable order sharemilkers.

4.2 Members shall terminate forthwith upon a member ceasing to fulfil the membership qualification.

**5 Voting**

Each executive member is entitled to one vote. Each delegate is entitled to one vote. Observers are not entitled to vote.

**6 Policy**

6.1 Subsection policy shall be formulated within the parameters of Federated Farmers Dairy policy.

6.2 Subsection policy shall be in accordance with the objectives as detailed in Section 3 of this Constitution.

**7 Annual General meeting (AGM)**

7.1 (a) In accordance with Section 9 of this Constitution, provinces (or groups of provinces) with an established sharemilkers subsection shall hold an AGM to elect their delegate(s) to attend the National Subsection AGM. In event that there is not a sharemilker quorum, this may be part of the Dairy Industry Group meeting.

(b) The National Subsection AGM shall be held each year prior to the Federated Farmers Dairy AGM. The AGM shall be open to all members of the Subsection. Voting delegates from each province (or groups of provinces) shall be those elected in accordance with clause 7.2(a) of this Constitution.

- (c) The expenses of voting delegates attending the Subsection AGM will be met by the national Office of Federated Farmers.
- (d) Other members attending the AGM do so at their own expense unless they have made prior arrangements with their respective province(s)
- 7.2 Voting delegate representation by provinces (or groups of provinces) at the Subsection AGM shall be on a basis of the following:
- (a) One delegate for any one province.
- (b) With the mutual agreement of the Subsection National Executive Committee and the National Federated Farmers Dairy Executive, clause 7.2(a) may be amended from time to time, to effect a grouping of provinces to limit the total number of voting delegates to the Subsection AGM. Such amendments shall be made to meet the budgetary constraints of the Federated Farmers Dairy section.
- 7.3 Voting rights shall be accorded to a province (or groups of provinces) on the basis of one (1) vote for the first 100 members or part thereof, and one (1) additional vote for every complete 100 members. This shall form the basis for the voting card system.
- 7.4 The AGM shall elect a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and an Executive Committee as set out in clause 8 of this Constitution. Upon election the Chairperson will cease to represent his or her province (or group of provinces) and such province (or group of provinces) may appoint a replacement delegate to the AGM.
- 7.5 The AGM will also elect a negotiation committee of three (3) plus two deputies. The negotiators have the autonomy to negotiate and finalise any negotiations.
- 7.6 Elections for various positions are to be conducted according to the exhaustive system of voting.
- 7.7 The subsection Chairperson is a full member of the Federated Farmers Dairy Council and Executive.
- 7.8 Five (5) to form a quorum.

## **8 Subsection National Executive Committee**

8.1 The meeting will elect an Executive Committee (Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and up to four (4) others elected by the Annual General Meeting of the Subsection.

8.2 The National Federated Farmers Dairy Chairperson shall be an ex officio member of the Subsection National Executive Committee.

8.3 The Executive Committee shall carry on the ordinary business of the Subsection between Annual General Meetings and shall meet at such times and places as directed by the Chairperson of the Subsection or the Chairperson of Federated Farmers Dairy.

8.4 Three (3) to form a quorum.

## **9 Provincial Subsections**

9.1 In each province where a provincial subsection is established, an Annual General Meeting, open to all members of the Sharemilkers Subsection, shall be held each year (hereinafter referred to as the meeting) to meet constitutional timeframes for the Federated Farmers Dairy AGM.

9.2 The meeting will elect an Executive Committee (Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and up to four (4) others elected by the Annual General Meeting of the Subsection.

9.3 Such meeting shall elect a delegate or delegates, in accordance with clause 7.2 (a) of this Constitution but subject to clause 7.2 (b), to represent the province at the National Sharemilkers AGM.

9.4 Where, according to clause 7.2 (a) and subject to clause 7.2 (b) of this Constitution, a group of provinces is represented at the Subsection AGM by a single delegate, those provinces shall agree amongst themselves who the delegate shall be.

## **10 Secretarial Servicing**

10.1 The secretarial and policy services of the National Subsection shall be supplied by the National Office of Federated Farmers. There will be an annual budget allocation for the purpose of enabling payment of expenses for the Subsection Annual General Meeting and other normal business. In the event of extra-ordinary expenses or expenses to go towards negotiations with sharemilker employers necessitating additional meetings, expenses for the Subsection will be borne by the National office of Federated Farmers on application to the Federated Farmers Dairy Executive of the Federation.

10.2 The secretarial services of each Provincial Subsection shall be the responsibility of each provincial organisation.

### **11 Alteration of Rules**

Alterations, amendments and rescissions of this Constitution require the endorsement of a 75 percent majority of the Sharemilkers Subsection Council. The Sharemilkers Subsection Council aims to review the Constitution every five years to ensure it remains relevant.

### **12 Interpretation**

If at any time any matter shall arise which is not provided for by this Constitution or in the interpretation of this Constitution, recourse shall be taken to the Constitution of Federated Farmers (Inc) and in the event that the matter remains unsolved, the matter shall be determined by the National Executive of Federated Farmers.

### **13 Prior Constitution or Rules**

All rules whatsoever of the Subsection existing prior to the date of adoption of this Constitution are superseded and repealed and therefore of no effect.