



DECISIONS OF RULES CONFERENCE 2005

A new version of the Rule Book will be published shortly.

The amendment reference (A3, A4 etc) refers to the Rules Conference agenda.

RULE 4 – MEMBERSHIP AND CONTRIBUTIONS

A3. Rule 4, Clause 6 (c).

Delete "21" and insert "27".

A4. Rule 4, Clause 6 (f) (iii)

Add at end "unless in receipt of dispute benefit".

A6. Rule 5, Clause 1

At the end of Clause 1, Additional line after 'category of membership'-
All members earning below the threshold of £210 per week (or equivalent)
shall pay half of the full time contribution rate.

The NEC shall review the threshold each year and ensure that the threshold
does not fall below a minimum of 10% above National Minimum wage.

A60. Rule 5 (1)

After 'The National Executive Council may also prescribe different rates of
contribution for different methods of payment.'

Insert;

'The National Executive Council may set or amend a levy, or a contribution
rate above the general amicus contribution rate, for the category of
membership, for a particular group of members, where that higher rate is, or
was, provided for by the Instrument of Transfer, or other legal agreement
covering that same group of members'.

RULE 6 – ELIGIBILITY TO HOLD LAY OFFICE

A10. Rule 6, Clause 5

Delete Clause 5 and renumber subsequent Clauses.

A11. Rule 6, Clause 6

Insert at the end of Clause (6).

"For the purpose of these Rules, "employee" includes anyone who has
performed paid work for the union, whether directly, or on secondment, or by
some other means by which they performed tasks for and at the direction of
the union, except where acting in a lay capacity and paid only expenses.

RULE 10 – WORKPLACE REPRESENTATION

A12. Rule 10, Clause (1)

In the first sentence delete "provides representation", and insert "has 3 or
more members".

Rule 10, Clause (2)

Insert at the end of the clause;

“Upon receipt of such notification the Union will send the workplace representative/ safety representative/ learning representative accreditation for their role. If an accredited representative fails to gain re-election, or ceases employment within the constituency for which he/she had been elected, they must inform their Regional Officer of this without delay, and should return his/her credentials to the union and cease to represent him/herself out to be a union representative.”

A13. Rule 10, insert new Clause (5)

(5) Due to the unique nature of some industries e.g. (Construction, Contracting, Leisure etc), the NEC has authority to allow working representatives from the sector to attend national conferences, sector conferences, and committees during periods of unemployment. The NEC shall decide on what evidence it requires.

A18 Rule 12 Clause 13

Add at end;

National Officers, with approval from the National Executive Council shall call emergency Delegate Conferences when considered appropriate of accredited union representatives within their industrial remit.

AREA CONFERENCES AND COMMITTEES

A19. Insert new Rule after Rule 12, renumbering following rules accordingly.

Insert:

“(1) Regional Councils, subject to the approval of the NEC, shall designate intra-regional boundaries to create ‘areas’ within the region. These areas should have geographical logic.

Area Activists’ Quarterlies

“(2) The National Executive Council shall convene Area Activist Quarterlies for each area four times per year. Every work place representative and every lay branch officer will be entitled to attend the Area Activist Quarterly in which their branch or work place is located. The Area Activist Quarterly meetings will receive reports from their Regional Council and any Industrial Sector Committees.”

Area Committees

(3) The National Executive Council shall have the authority to establish Area Committees to co-ordinate the activities of the Area Activist Quarterlies. The National Executive Council shall issue standing orders for the composition of the Area Committee and it shall ensure that 75% of the committee is from workplace representatives.

The National executive Council shall issue standing orders from time to time to regulate the conduct of the meetings of Area Activists and Committees

RULE 16 – EQUALITIES

A21. Insert after clause (1)

- (2) Each regional forum shall be entitled to elect:
- 1 delegate to the regional council
 - 1 delegate to the National Equality Committee, plus 1 extra delegate for each of the three largest regions
 - 3 delegates to the National Equality Conference, plus 2 extra delegates for each of the three largest regions
 - Up to 12 members to a regional Equality Committee for that group
 - Delegates, as appropriate, to other such bodies as the NEC may approve.

And re-number subsequent clauses.

Insert new clause (4)

Regional Equality Committees

(4) The Regional Council shall convene on request, up to 4 times a year, each Regional Equality Committee. These meetings will be organised and run by the Committee, and be open to any members of that equality in the Region. Each Regional Equality Committee shall promote the implementation and development in the region of the Union's policies relating to that group, assist in promoting the interests of members of that group in the region, make recommendations to, and consider such other business as may be referred to it by the Regional Council or the National Equality Committee.

And re number subsequent clauses.

Existing Clause 2 (new clause 3) Line 1

Delete "elect a delegate to the Regional Council and elect delegates and".

Existing clause 3 (new clause 5) Line 4

Replace "elect delegates to a National Equality Committee," with "elect additional delegates to the National Equality Committee up to the quota permitted,"

Existing clause 6 (new clause 8) Line 2 Replace "a workplace, safety or learning representative" with "a member in employment"

A33. Rule 19 Clause 13

Delete "...or in connection with any form of industrial action."

Insert: "Any payments made in connection with any form of industrial action must be made strictly in line with NEC guidance applicable at the time".

GPM DEFINITIONS

A35. Rule 19, insert new Clause 15

"All reference to "branch" throughout these rules refer to lay member organisations. All references to branch secretaries refer to lay officials. (Within the GPM sector the word "branch" may colloquially be used to refer to a geographical unit of paid officials, however for the purposes of these rules the chapel is the branch within the GPM sector, until such time as lay branches may be defined by the NEC, at which time the NEC defined list of branches will be definitive for the purpose of these Rules. The branch structure referred to in Section 6 of the GPMU Instrument of Transfer will continue as per the terms of that Instrument, however no GPM employee would be entitled to participate in the union's lay democracy where any other Amicus employee would not."

RULE 24 – RULE AMENDMENTS

A41. Rule 24, Clause 1, Line 1

Delete "6" Insert "4"

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

A49. Rule 25

Delete Clauses 21 and 22.

ELECTION OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL FULL TIME OFFICIALS

A51.

Insert new rule 26 and renumber the following rules accordingly.

All future/new National Officials and Regional Full Time Officials of the Union shall be elected by a ballot of all the members in the appropriate constituency who are eligible to vote.

To be eligible to stand for election as a National or Regional Official a member must be a member of a branch or in a workplace in the appropriate constituency.

The National Executive Council shall determine the rules for eligibility, nominations and period of office. They shall be generally consistent with the rules for election in rule 27.

All existing Full Time Officials from the date that this rule is adopted shall be entitled to continue in office until retirement or resignation, subject to provisions in their employment contract.

RULE 27 – Joint General Secretaries

A52. Rule 27

Delete rule and renumber

RULE 32 – IRELAND

A54. Rule 32 Clause 16

Delete clause

RULE 35 - POLITICAL

A61. Political Selections

Rule 35

New Clause 12

(renumber following clauses)

'Members who seek nomination by Amicus for a parliamentary Constituency, and are not selected as the Amicus candidate for that constituency by the Regional Political Committee, National Political Committee or National Executive Council, must withdraw and not take part in any further Labour Party selection procedures in that particular Constituency.

The above requirements would also apply to any Amicus selection procedures for election to the Scottish Parliament and Welsh Assembly'.

SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS

A59.

Under 'Dispute Benefit'

Delete	£45.00(per week)	£9.00 (per day)
Insert	£60	£12

NEC STATEMENT NO.1

DEVELOPING THE AMICUS EQUALITIES STRUCTURES

- (1) Following the merger of Amicus, Unifi and the GPMU the female membership of Amicus is 27%. The union does not know what proportion of its membership is Black and Ethnic Minority, Disabled or LGBT. Records of members_ age are kept, however, conference has before it a proposition to change the definition of young member from under 21 to 26 and under.

The NEC will therefore conduct a full census of our membership prior to reviewing the union's equality structures. The census would cover all equality areas, and would provide detailed information to both regions and sectors. This would allow us to ensure that our representative structure at national and regional level is appropriate to our membership, as well as allowing the union to identify if recruitment and membership are not commensurate with the workforce both industrially and geographically. The census will be timed so a report can go to the national conference of each equality area and sector in 2006.

- (2) The NEC will conduct a survey on the gender and equality representation on all Regional Councils.
- (3) The NEC will prepare a review of the activity of, and participation in, all Regional and National women's and equality Committees and Forums and report to the appropriate national committees.
- (4) One officer in each Region will be designated as the Regional Equality Officer and will be responsible for coordinating the equality activities in that region.

RULES CHANGES RATIFIED BY THE POLICY CONFERENCE

RULE 22 – POLICY CONFERENCE

A39. Rule 22, insert new Clause 11

“Chair of Policy Conference

“The Chair of the NEC shall chair the Policy Conference. The National Executive Council may nominate another member of the National Executive Council or a delegate to the Conference to chair a specific session of the Conference. The Chair of the NEC shall be entitled to attend meetings of the Conference Arrangements Committee. The Chair of the NEC shall not be eligible to vote at any such meetings or the Policy Conference.”

President

Delete Rule 23 entirely