

---

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

---

**1994 No. 2579**

**OPTICIANS**

**The General Optical Council (Companies  
Committee Rules) Order of Council 1994**

*Made - - - - 4th October 1994*

At the Council Chamber, Whitehall, the 4th day of October 1994  
By the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council

Whereas in pursuance of section 3(2) of the Opticians Act 1989<sup>(1)</sup> the General Optical Council have made rules entitled "The Companies Committee Rules 1994" as set out in the Schedule to this Order:

And whereas by section 34(1) of the said Act such rules shall not come into force until approved by order of the Privy Council:

Now, therefore, Their Lordships, having taken the said rules into consideration, are hereby pleased to approve the same.

This Order may be cited as the General Optical Council (Companies Committee Rules) Order of Council 1994 and shall come into force on 1st November 1994.

The General Optical Council (Companies Committee Rules) Order of Council 1959<sup>(2)</sup> and the General Optical Council (Companies Committee Rules) (Amendment) Order of Council 1971<sup>(3)</sup>, which become spent upon the revocations provided for in rule 10 of the rules scheduled to this Order, are hereby revoked.

*N. H. Nicholls*  
Clerk of the Privy Council

---

(1) 1989 c. 44.  
(2) S.I.1959/955.  
(3) S.I. 1971/1525.

*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.*

## SCHEDULE

### THE COMPANIES COMMITTEE RULES 1994

The General Optical Council, after consulting in accordance with section 3(3) of the Opticians Act 1989, in exercise of their powers under section 3(2) of the said Act, hereby make the following rules:—

#### **Citation**

1. These rules may be cited as the Companies Committee Rules 1994.

#### **Interpretation**

2. In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires:
  - “the Act” means the Opticians Act 1989;
  - “the Council” means the General Optical Council;
  - “the Committee” means the Companies Committee established under section 3 of the Act; and
  - “body corporate”, “ophthalmic optician” and “dispensing optician” have the meanings given them in section 36 of the Act.

#### **Constitution of the Committee**

3. The Committee shall consist of the persons appointed under Rules 4, 5 and 6.
4. The Council shall appoint as members of the Committee four of their number including:
  - (a) at least one of the members nominated to the Council by the Privy Council;
  - (b) at least one member of the Council chosen to represent the interests of registered ophthalmic opticians; and
  - (c) at least one member of the Council chosen to represent the interests of registered dispensing opticians.
5. The Council shall appoint as members of the Committee the following persons, not being members of the Council:
  - (a) four persons who appear to the Council to represent the interests of bodies corporate carrying on business as ophthalmic opticians; and
  - (b) three persons who appear to them to represent the interests of bodies corporate carrying on business as dispensing opticians.
6. The Council shall appoint as a member of the Committee a registered medical practitioner who may be a member of the Council and who appears to the Council to represent the interests of registered medical practitioners engaged in the testing of sight in the practices of bodies corporate.

#### **Appointment to the Committee**

7. Appointments to the Committee shall be for a period of one year expiring on the 31st day of December. Provided that where a member appointed under Rule 4 ceases to be a member of the Council he shall cease to be a member of the Committee.
8. A member of the Committee may at any time, by notice in writing addressed to the Registrar of the Council, resign his office.
9. Where a casual vacancy occurs among the members of the Committee, it shall be filled by a person appointed by the Council as being a person having qualifications for membership similar

*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.*

to those of the member whose office is vacant. The person appointed to fill a casual vacancy shall hold office until the date upon which the member whose vacancy he has filled would have regularly retired.

**Revocations**

**10.** The Companies Committee Rules 1959 (scheduled to the General Optical Council (Companies Committee Rules) Order of Council 1959) as amended by the Companies Committee (Amendment) Rules 1971 (scheduled to the General Optical Council (Companies Committee Rules) (Amendment) Order of Council 1971) are hereby revoked.

Sealed on the

3rd February 1994

Attested by:

*John Baker,*  
Member of Council.

L.S.

*D. Perkins,*  
Member of Council.

*Richard Wilshin,*  
Registrar.

---

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

The rules approved by this Order provide for the constitution of the Companies Committee of the General Optical Council and replace previous rules. The new rules enlarge the existing categories of membership of the Committee and add a member of the Council to represent the interests of registered medical practitioners engaged in the testing of sight in the practices of bodies corporate.