

February 28, 2026

Minutes of the 47th Annual General Meeting of the Swiss Society of the Kansai

held at the Swissnex in Japan offices in Osaka on Saturday, February 28, 2026, 17:00

Herbert Bucher, President of the Swiss Society of the Kansai (SSOK) opened the meeting at 17:07. He thanked everyone for coming.

Quorum was determined as followed: the Society has 116 members—82 family members from 41 families, and 34 individual members. Present at the meeting were 26 members plus 2 online. Thus quorum (20% of members = 23 members) was reached.

The president informed the members that the Annual General Meeting was called by invitation, together with the agenda, 4 weeks before the date set for the assembly, as stipulated in the Statutes of the SSOK. He then proceeded with the ordinary business of the 47th AGM.

He thanked Felix Moesner and Swissnex for the venue, and Elliot Stanton for the work preparing the venue.

The president introduced the Agenda.

1. Approval of the Minutes of the 46th Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The President reviewed the agenda from the last meeting. There were no issues.

→ The Minutes of the 46th (2025) AGM were approved by acclamation.

2. Approval of the 2025 Annual Report

The President reviewed the annual report for 2025. The report had been made available to all members on the Swiss Society website. Below is a short summary:

2025 will be remembered in the annals of Osaka as the year of the EXPO 2025. The SSOK also had a very successful year with our membership reaching more than 100 members for the first time within the last 20 years.

Five (5) planned events were held during 2025. The attendance was as follows:

- AGM (Mar 1) 20 members
- Spring BBQ (May 17) 65 members and guests (in terrible weather!!)
- Swiss National Day (Aug 1) 116
- Autumn BBQ (Oct 18) 123 (amazing!)
- Raclette/Santa Party (Dec 14) 105

He made particular note of the following. The Spring BBQ was held in terrible weather. Despite this nearly all members who had signed up for the event came, demonstrating the dedication of our members. For the National Day event we required a new venue as our

accustomed venue—the Kobe Club— is closed for redevelopment. Kitano Club Sola was chosen and provided an excellent service. The Autumn BBQ was amazing with overwhelming participation, and smooth execution.

Reviewing the events and the work that went into organizing them, the president thanked the committee. He also gave a special thanks to the spouses who further support us. He thanked everyone for their support in 2025.

Member movements in 2025 were as stated below. We started the year with 99 members — 34 families and 31 individual members. Incoming this year were 6 families and 7 individual members, outgoing were 6 individuals, resulting in a new total of 112 members — 40 families and 32 individual members.

New Members (+19)

- Families (6):
 - Aregger, Kerstholt, Komoriya, Monthoux-Mabit, Sieber, Tsenkova/Yardonov
- Individuals (7):
 - Hamagami, Ikeda, Inamo, Jenny, Kamps, Omura, Pugnati

Outgoing Members (−6)

- Individuals (6):
 - Bissig, Date, Fukai, Hingant, Hutter, Pennisi

→ The Annual Report for 2025 was approved by acclamation.

Finally the president gave a special thanks to member Urs Pfenninger (absent) who has been in Japan for 50 years and a committee member for 28 years.

3. Approval of the 2025 Treasurer and Auditor's report

SSOK treasurer Nelson Izquierdo informed the membership that 2025 was a successful year in terms of the events.

The treasurer made special note of the National Day event; by setting the fee appropriately and making arrangements with the venue, we were able to turn a slight profit for this event, which is usually a negative on our budget.

The strong increase in members (13) was very helpful for covering the expenses of the Society. As a result we were able to come out even for the year, which is the goal of the Society, financially speaking. The year 2025 ended with a profit of ¥19,854 raising the assets of the Society to ¥1,071,487.

Mr. Andy Mueller (Auditor, excused) confirmed in writing that he had checked all the financial records and that he found everything to be in perfect order. He thanked Mr. Izquierdo for taking such good care of the finances of the SSOK

The president gave a special thanks to Nelson for his hard work.

→ The treasurer report and the auditor report for 2025 were approved by acclamation.

7. Budget and Annual Membership Dues for 2026

The president passed the word to Treasurer Nelson Izquierdo who explained the 2026 budget. The proposed budget foresees a balanced result. For the membership fees it was proposed that they remain unchanged as follows:

- ¥5,000 for family membership
- ¥3,000 for individual membership
- ¥1,000 for student membership.

→ The budget for 2026 and the membership fees for 2026 were approved by acclamation.

8. Approval of the General Directives for 2026 for the activities of the Swiss Society

The president presented the following line-up of events for 2026.

- February 28 (Saturday) AGM, Swissnex in Japan, Osaka
- May 16 (Saturday) Spring BBQ, Okuike
- July 31 (Friday) Swiss National Day Party
or August 1 (Saturday) [location to be decided]
- October 17 (Saturday) Autumn BBQ, Okuike
- December 6 (Sunday) Raclette & Santa Claus Party, (KRAC)

→ The events calendar for 2026 was approved by acclamation.

9. Change of Statutes: Allowing for proxy voting

The increase in membership that our Society has seen in recent years means that it is increasingly challenging to guarantee a quorum at our AGM. Since the current text of our statutes explicitly bars proxy voting, the committee proposes to amend them to allow such representation.

Current text

Article 8 Voting Rights

Each ordinary member has one vote. Vote by proxy (representation) shall not be permitted.

Proposed text

Article 8 Voting Rights

Each ordinary member has one vote. Vote by proxy (representation) shall be permitted. A signed and dated proxy form shall be submitted to the president or the secretary by the time of the meeting.

→ The change in statutes to allow proxy voting was approved unanimously.

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New president Jacqueline Tessier-Okuma thanked all participants for their attendance and closed the meeting at 18:00.

Philip Spaelti, Secretary of the SSOK

Kobe, March 2, 2026.