

THE STEREOSCOPIC SOCIETY

CONSTITUTION 2016

[Approved at AGM held in May 2002, with minor revision approved at AGM of May 2004. Further revisions were made at the AGMs of May 2006 and May 2010, together with amendments made in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2016. This Constitution supersedes the previous one issued in 2013 and is **effective from May 2016.**]

1. NAME, OBJECTS AND STATUS

The Society shall be known as THE STEREOSCOPIC SOCIETY - hereinafter referred to in this Constitution as "The Society". The objects of The Society are to foster the advance of all forms of stereoscopy and the production, circulation and evaluation of three-dimensional images created by film or digital photography, by computer, holography or any other means. The status of The Society is that of a private members' society managed by a Committee elected from the members by the members and responsible to the members.

2. MEMBERSHIP

All persons are eligible to apply for membership, of which there are two classes:

- (a) members;
- (b) honorary life members, elected by the Committee in recognition of their outstanding services to The Society.

The Committee shall have the right to refuse membership to any applicant if acceptance would contravene the Society's aims and objectives. Applicants would have the right to appeal and this appeal would be heard by the Committee within 6 months. If an existing member was deemed to be contravening any terms of this Constitution their membership may be terminated by the Committee, with the right to appeal as above.

3. OFFICERS

The Officers of The Society are the Chairman, the General Secretary and the Treasurer. All officers shall be elected by the members, and no-one shall hold more than one office, except temporarily for a period not exceeding three months. The Chairman shall serve for three years, but at the end of that period shall not be eligible for nomination as Chairman for a further three years. In exceptional circumstances the Chairman may be re-elected for a further period not exceeding three years. The retiring Chairman can be elected by the Committee to the position of honorary President for at least one year and will continue to serve on the Committee in that capacity, to give some degree of continuity (Amended 2013).

COMMITTEE

The affairs of The Society shall be managed by a Committee in accordance with this Constitution, and shall include the following members:

- (a) the Officers of The Society;
- (b) ten or more other Committee members.

Consideration shall be given to the association of Committee members with designated functions (such as Journal Editor, Convention Organiser, Membership Secretary, etc) where appropriate. All Committee members shall be elected and serve for two years, half of the Committee being re-elected each year. Committee members are eligible for re-election.

The Committee shall have the power to make and prescribe all standing orders, rules and regulations necessary for the proper management of The Society in accordance with this Constitution. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt members to fill any vacancies

occurring between elections. Co-opted members are entitled to vote at Committee meetings, and shall be confirmed in office between elections by a motion to that effect at the first General Meeting of which due notice can be given.

As soon as practicable after an election the Committee shall appoint from among its members deputies for The Society's Officers, if possible. The Chairman or, in his absence, his appointed deputy shall chair all Committee and General Meetings. In the absence of the Chairman or his deputy, the General Secretary or his deputy shall take the chair.

The Committee shall meet as often as necessary, but not less than three times a year. Notice convening a meeting and an agenda shall be forwarded to all Committee members at least seven days prior to the date fixed for the meeting, but if any Committee member should inadvertently fail to receive such notice the business transacted shall not be invalidated thereby.

A quorum shall be half the Committee members entitled to be present and vote. Should a quorum not be present within an hour of the advertised time of the meeting, the meeting shall be postponed or abandoned. If voting on any matter is equal the Chairman shall have a second, or casting, vote. Minutes of the discussions and decisions of all Committee meetings shall be recorded, checked for accuracy at the next meeting, signed by the Chairman and stored by a designated Committee member.

The Committee shall arrange for insurance to cover public liability aspects and may at the Committee's discretion arrange to cover for loss of or damage to the Society's equipment.

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

All candidates must be paid-up members of The Society who have given an undertaking to serve if elected. Their names, together with the names of their proposer and seconder, who must also be paid-up members, shall be notified in writing to the General Secretary. The Society's Journal shall be used to ask for nominations, and list those received. An election is not essential if only a single nomination is received for any given post, or if the total number of nominations is less than, or equal to, the number of vacant posts. Provisional acceptances shall be by the Committee, but subject to discussion and possible approval at the next General Meeting.

5. ORGANISATION OF GROUPS

To facilitate the circulation of folios, participating members shall be organised into Groups. The Committee shall appoint a Group Secretary to each Group, who shall be responsible, through the Folio Group Co-ordinator, to the Committee for the management of that Group. Any such appointment by the Committee shall have no effect until ratified by a majority of the Group members. Subject to the foregoing, a Group Secretary shall continue in office indefinitely, or for such shorter period as the Committee may determine. Group Secretaries are eligible for election as Officers or Committee members.

6. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual subscription shall fall due on 1 January. The rate of subscription shall be determined by the Committee, but any change in excess of ten percent rounded up or down to the nearest £1 must be ratified at a General Meeting. Members whose subscriptions have not been received by 31 May shall be deemed to have resigned from The Society.

7. FINANCE

All appointments are honorary, but Officers, Committee members, Group Secretaries and members carrying out designated duties or functions may claim all reasonable and legitimate expenses incurred in so doing. The Treasurer shall keep a record of all income and expenditure, which shall be available for inspection if requested by the Committee.

The financial year shall end on 31 August and, as soon as possible thereafter, a financial statement shall be prepared by the Treasurer. This is to be audited by an Auditor who shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting. The Auditor need not be a Society member and is not a member of the Committee. The audited financial statement shall be discussed at the next General Meeting and shall be published in The Society's Journal (in abbreviated form if necessary), or by email.

8. ANNUAL CONVENTION

Whenever possible, members of The Society shall meet together annually at a Convention arranged by the Convention Organiser.

9. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of The Society shall be held at a time and place determined by the Committee, but will normally be held during the annual Convention. An agenda, stating the date, time, place and the business to be transacted shall be printed in the issue of The Society's Journal that is published before the date fixed for the meeting, or by email. The Chairman and Treasurer shall present reports on the general and financial status of The Society respectively.

All matters on the agenda put to the vote shall be decided by simple majority. If the votes on any matter are equal, the Chairman shall have a second, or casting, vote. If important topics, such as the election of Officers, are to be decided by ballot, then the Chairman of the meeting shall appoint two scrutineers to supervise the counting of the votes.

All decisions of an Annual General Meeting shall be binding on Society members, unless twenty or more forward a written petition to the General Secretary within thirty days of the meeting requesting that the matter be put to the entire membership. If the matter cannot be resolved by discussion, then the General Secretary shall organise a postal ballot of all members within thirty days of the end of the discussion period. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting and any subsequent ballot shall be reported in The Society's Journal, or by email.

10. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called at any time by Committee decision if the interests of The Society so demand, or by the General Secretary in response to a petition to that effect signed by at least one-fifth of the paid-up members. The meeting shall be held within thirty days of receipt of such petition, (unless it can be resolved by discussion) and an agenda shall be forwarded to all members at least fourteen days before the date fixed for the meeting, stating the date, time, place and matters to be determined.

11. AFFILIATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

The Committee shall have the power to affiliate The Society with any other organisation having similar objects, subject to ratification at a General Meeting.

12. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Any proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be by Committee decision or a written resolution to this effect forwarded to the General Secretary bearing the names of the paid-up

members proposing and seconding the amendment. Any such amendments will be considered at the next General Meeting of which due notice can be given. Voting, including postal voting, shall be in accordance with paragraphs 10 and 11 of this Constitution

13. DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY

The Society may be dissolved only by a motion to this effect on the agenda of a General Meeting of which due notice has been given in accordance with paragraphs 10 and 11 of this Constitution. In the event of The Society being dissolved, the Committee shall have the power to hand over the assets to any club (or clubs) or society (or societies) having similar aims and objects to The Stereoscopic Society.

Updated May 2016.

Colin Metherell, acting Honorary General Secretary.