

## THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SUFFOLK ORGANISTS' ASSOCIATION

(Affiliated to the Incorporated Association of Organists (IAO))

1. The name of the Association shall be THE SUFFOLK ORGANISTS' ASSOCIATION.
2. The objects of the Association shall be to advance the education of the public in the study of the art of music with special reference to liturgical and organ music. To facilitate the achievement of such objects, the Association may arrange and present:
  - i. Public lectures, discussion and debates on this subject.
  - ii. Public demonstrations of instruments.
  - iii. Public demonstrations of music for organ and voices.
  - iv. Open competitions for playing, singing and composition of liturgical and organ music.
  - v. Public meetings to facilitate the exchange of information and views with other organisations and persons concerned with the composition, interpretation, presentation, teaching or publication of liturgical or organ music.

The Association may also do such other lawful things as are necessary or desirable for the attainment of the objects

3. Membership of the Association shall be open without restriction to any member of the public who is interested in organ, choral or any other kind of music. Membership shall become effective on payment of the first year's annual subscription.
4. The proceedings of the Association shall be open to members of the Public (not being members of the Association) on payment of such fee as the Association shall from time to time determine.
5. Each member shall pay a minimum subscription of such an amount as shall from time to time be determined at a General Meeting of the Association. This subscription shall fall due on the date of the Annual General Meeting in each year, provided that any member joining after the 20 November in any year shall pay a reduced subscription of such amount as the Association shall determine for the period up to the date of the next Annual General Meeting.
6. Any member whose subscription has not been paid within nine months of the date on which it fell due shall cease to be a member of the Association. Upon payment of all arrears, any such member may be re-instated at the discretion of the Council.
7. Persons who are under the age of 18 years, or who are full-time students, or are retired from regular employment due to age, may be admitted to membership of the Association on payment of a reduced rate as the Association may determine. Any member so accepted shall pay the full annual subscription for the year in which he or she attains the age of 18 years or cease to be a full-time student.

8. The business of the Association shall be managed by a Committee, named 'The Council' which shall consist of :-
  - a. The President, the President Elect, the Immediate Past President, the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Treasurer and the Journal Editor [all ex-officio] and any other member who has specific responsibilities for the management Association affairs, and who the Association considers should be a member of Council ex officio.
  - b. Ordinary members who shall be elected by Members at the Annual General Meeting and of whom two shall retire annually by rotation. Whenever any ordinary member of the Committee shall be elected President, President-Elect, Honorary Secretary or Honorary Treasurer, his position as such ordinary member of the Committee shall immediately become vacant and the Annual General Meeting shall elect another member of the Association in his or her stead until such time as he or she (the original member) would have been due to retire by rotation.
  - c. At any meeting of the Committee, six shall form a quorum.
  - d. Any vacancy of the Committee during the year may be filled by the Committee electing another member of the Association to act until the original holder would have been due to retire by rotation.
  - e. The members of the Association shall at their Annual General Meeting elect one of their number to act as President for the ensuing year and another to act as President-Elect and to follow the president in that office. The President shall retire at the end of the year on the election of his successor and shall not be eligible for re-election for the space of one year.
  - f. The Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer who are both eligible of re-election as such shall be elected annually.
  - g. An Honorary Auditor shall be elected annually.
9. The annual election of officers shall take place at a General Meeting to be held in the month of May in each year after not less than 21 days notice.
10. There shall be not less than one ordinary meeting of the Association during each quarter of the year.
11. The Committee is empowered to elect Honorary Life Members who shall be eligible to serve on the Committee if invited by the existing Committee.
12. The income and property of the Association shall be applied solely to the promotion of the objects of the Association in paragraph 2 and no payment or transfer of any part of such income or property shall be made to or for the benefit of any member of the Association. Provided that nothing shall prohibit any payment in good faith by the Association of reasonable and proper remuneration of any member of the Association not being a member of the Committee for any service rendered to the Association, or to any of its officers, of out of pocket expenses, or of any member of the Association not being a member of the Committee, being a professional musician for musical work which he or she is engaged by the Association to perform.
13. If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Association, there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to nor distributed among the members of the Association but shall be given or transferred to some other charitable institution having similar objects to the objects of the Association.

14. These Rules shall not be altered nor added to except by Resolution at a General Meeting of which 21 day's notice shall be given to the members and no alteration shall be made which would cause the Association to cease to be a charity at law.
15. Any member of the Association is entitled to demand and receive a copy of these Rules.

Adopted at an Annual General Meeting of the Association on 9 May 1987 and revised at an Annual General Meeting of the Association on 14 May 1988.

[signed] J.R.D.Hibberd Hon. Secretary