



OLDHAM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. TITLE:

The Society shall be called
“OLDHAM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY”.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF CONSTITUTION:

The Members of the Society at the Annual General Meeting, held on Thursday 23rd September 2021, voted by the required majority to accept the constitution and rules of the Society as herein stated.

3. OBJECTS:

The object of the Society shall be to associate its members for the purpose of mutual assistance in all matters pertaining to photography.

4. ELECTION OF MEMBERS:

- (a) Candidates for membership to the Society shall make application on a form provided and approved by the Council.
- (b) A candidate for membership shall not be deemed elected unless approved by the vote of the majority of the council members with no objections and having paid the agreed subscription.
- (c) A candidate for membership shall give an undertaking on the prescribed application form to accept and abide by the Constitution and Rules of the Society.
- (d) Members and visitors under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian, or an adult with the specific agreement of the parent or guardian, who will be responsible for their safety at all times.

5. SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Members will be required to pay a subscription to the Society. The subscription shall be paid annually and will become due on the day following the Annual General Meeting. The amount of subscription will be determined by a majority vote of approval by the members at the Annual General Meeting each year. A pro rata subscription must be paid by a new member on the date of his acceptance being voluntary subscriptions of a gratuitous nature and not a consideration for advantages obtained.

6. ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL YEAR:

The administration and financial year of the Society shall be the period commencing on the first day of September and ending on the thirty first day of August in the following year.

7. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP:

(a) Any member wishing to resign his/her membership shall signify his/ her intention in writing to the Secretary.

(b) Any member whose subscription is more than three months in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned his/her membership but he/she shall remain liable to pay the arrears of subscriptions or other payments due at the date on which his/her membership is terminated. The member concerned may be allowed to resume membership at the discretion of the Society.

(c) The Society, through its Council, may terminate the membership of a member having acted in a manner considered to be detrimental to the interests, well-being and welfare of the Society or not in accordance with conduct normally expected of a Society Member. Any member whose membership is so terminated shall be notified in writing and shall have the right to appeal against the decision within one month.

8. BUSINESS MANAGEMENT:

(a) The business of the Society shall be managed by a Council consisting of the President, the President Elect, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Retiring President during the term of his/her successor, the Programme Secretary, one or two Competition Secretaries and four ordinary members. Each ordinary member shall retire after three years but shall be eligible for re-election in accordance with Rule 10(b) and 11.

(b) Any member of the Council having attended less than fifty per cent of the ordinary monthly meetings of the Council in any one year shall cease to be a member of the Council unless reasonable and just cause for absence shall be shown.

(c) The Quorum of the Council shall be FIVE members and no business shall be transacted at a meeting of the Council unless at least FIVE members of the Council are present at the meeting.

(d) The Council shall normally hold a MINIMUM of SIX ORDINARY MEETINGS each year.

(e) The date and place of each of each Ordinary Meeting of the Council shall normally be decided at the preceding Ordinary Meeting.

(f) A Special Meeting of the Council may be called by the Secretary, acting with the agreement of the President, giving Council Members seven days notice.

9. WEEKLY MEETINGS;

An ordinary weekly meeting of the Society shall be held each THURSDAY and shall commence at 7.30 p.m. at the Headquarters of the Society or at such other place and time as may be determined by the Council.

10. GENERAL MEETINGS:

(a) The Society shall hold a general meeting of its members each year which shall be known as THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, and which shall be held on the FOURTH THURSDAY IN SEPTEMBER. The Annual General Meeting shall commence at 7.45 p.m. and shall be held at the Headquarters of the Society.

(b) At the Annual General Meeting, the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting shall be circulated and approved. The Treasurer's Statement of Account, having been duly audited shall be presented. The inventory of the Society's property and effects shall be available. A report on the year's work and achievements shall be presented by the President on behalf of the Council. The Officers of the Society and Ordinary Members of the Council shall be elected by a majority vote being taken of the members present and voting. The auditor/auditors shall be appointed and other business included on the agenda concerning the work and interest of the Society transacted.

(c) The Quorum of the Society at all GENERAL MEETINGS shall be 30% of the ordinary membership at the date of the meeting and no business shall be transacted at such meetings unless at least the above percentage of ordinary members are present at the meeting.

(d) The Society shall hold SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS of its members as required either by and in pursuance of a resolution passed by the Council or at any time within FOURTEEN DAYS of the receipt by the Secretary of a requisition in writing signed by at least TEN members of the Society or email notification from ten such members stating fully the reasons for such a meeting. A deposit of £50 is required which shall be returned or forfeited as the members voting at the special meeting may determine. The Quorum for a Special General Meeting shall be in accordance with rule 10(c) above.

(e) Resolutions except those dealing with a change of rule in accordance with Rule 20 below, at the Annual General Meetings will be deemed to be accepted and passed by a simple majority of members attending and voting in favour. Resolutions except those dealing with a change of rule in accordance with Rule 20 below, at a Special General Meeting, will be deemed to be accepted and passed only by a majority of not less than 75% of members attending and voting.

(f) At least SEVEN days notice in writing shall be given by the Secretary to all members for all Special General Meetings of the Society.

(g) Every notice of motion shall be in writing and signed by the member or members giving the notice and delivered to the Secretary at least TEN clear days before the next Annual General Meeting, and the Secretary shall number and date each notice of motion as received.

11. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:

(a) The following Officers of the Society shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting: 1. PRESIDENT

2. PRESIDENT ELECT

3. SECRETARY

4. TREASURER

5. PROGRAMME SECRETARIES

6. COMPETITION SECRETARIES

(b) An Election shall also take place to appoint members of the Council in accordance with Rule 8(a).

(c) In the event of a vacancy occurring in any of the offices referred to in sub paragraph (a) or (b) of this rule before the next succeeding Annual General Meeting of the Society, The Council shall appoint a suitable member of the Society to fill the vacancy.

(d) The Council may appoint from members of the Society such Assistant Secretaries as may be deemed necessary for the efficient working of the Society,

(e) Assistant Secretaries appointed shall serve for any period considered necessary by the Council but for a period not exceeding the date of the next succeeding Annual General Meeting of the Society.

(f) The Council shall have power to appoint such sub-committees as are deemed necessary for dealing with special business which may arise and may delegate to such sub-committees the powers of the Council as deemed necessary within the terms of reference given to such Sub-Committees when formed.

12. CUSTODIANSHIP:

The Council shall be the custodians of the property and effects of the Society and shall cause a proper inventory of such property and effects to be kept by the Treasurer. All additions and deficiencies to be reported at the Annual General Meeting each year.

13. FINANCE:

(a) The Council shall have power to invest the funds of the Society and no personal responsibility for profit or loss resulting there from shall be attached to any member of the Council.

(b) The Treasurer shall receive all monies payable to the Society and shall pay all liabilities of the Society as directed by the Society or the Society's Council. The Treasurer shall keep a debtor and creditor account and prepare the annual statement of accounts of the Society immediately after the 31st August in each year. On retiring from Office, he/she shall hand over to his/her successor or to the President or Secretary, all books (after being duly audited), papers and cash belonging to the Society.

(c) Auditors shall act in accordance with accepted and recognised principles to conduct an efficient audit.

14. PRESS COMMUNICATIONS:

Communications to the Press on behalf of the Society shall be made only by the Officer duly authorised by the Council.

15. SECRETARY'S DUTIES:

The Secretary shall convene, attend, and take minutes of all meetings and conduct the correspondence of the Society. He/she shall act on all occasions under the direction of the Council. On his/her retirement from Office he/she shall hand over to the successor or to the President of the Society, all books, papers, etc. appertaining to the Office of Secretary. The Secretary shall advise the President or the Chairman at meetings on rules, protocol and conduct of such meetings.

16. HONORARY MEMBERSHIP:

The Council shall have power to confer Honorary Membership of the Society.

17. SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS:

(a) Special Interest Groups may be set up from time to time, to cater for particular interests or genres, such as, but not exclusively, nature or portraiture.

(b) Each SIG will appoint a group leader and a treasurer will also be appointed. (c) SIGs will be self-organising and self-financing.

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(d) SIGs will be run in compliance with this Constitution and with any conditions set out by the Society's Public Liability Insurance.

(e) The leader of the SIG will report to the Council on the SIG's activities.

(f) Each SIG's accounts will be separately audited at the end of the financial year.

(g) A report of its work during the previous year and a balance sheet will be presented at the AGM.

(h) Any money collected by the SIG is to be considered the property of Oldham Photographic Society and will form part of the Society's assets. If the SIG should be discontinued, any money it holds will be paid over to the Oldham PS Treasurer.

18. DISSOLUTION:

The Society may be dissolved by resolution passed at an Annual or Special General Meeting provided that:

(a) At least TWENTY EIGHT day's notice in writing of the proposal to dissolve has been given by the Secretary to each member of the Society and

(b) at least 75% of the members present and voting vote in favour of the proposal.

It shall not be competent for the Society to dissolve and reform if such action would enable the Society to escape any penalty about to be imposed under the law of the land.

19. TRANSFER OF ASSETS ON DISSOLUTION:

Where the Society is dissolved otherwise than by action in a Court of Law all net assets of the Society shall be distributed equally amongst the members in good standing in such manner as deemed appropriate and practicable by the Council.

20. PROVISION OF RULES:

The Constitution and Rules of the Society shall be available to all members.

21. ALTERATION OF RULES:

These Rules shall not be altered or rescinded, except with the consent of at least 66% of the members present and voting at the Annual General Meetings or at a Special General Meeting convened for such a purpose in accordance with rule 10(d), and the notice convening the meeting shall set forth the terms of the proposed alteration.

22. UNCOVERED SITUATIONS:

In the event of any situation arising which is not covered by these rules, the matter shall be referred to the Council whose decision in the matter shall be final and binding.