

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ABERNETHY SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

Date of issue: 30th October 2017

NAME OF CLUB

- The club shall be called **The Abernethy Scottish Country Dance Club** hereafter referred to as "the Club".
- It may be affiliated to relevant Local/County/Regional/National Bodies (e.g. The RSCDS).

OBJECTS OF THE CLUB

- To teach, enjoy and promote Scottish Country Dancing.

(It is usual for our classes to be organised mainly on a "termly" basis; *for instance - one term running from September to December each year and another each spring.*

MEMBERSHIP

- Membership of the Club shall be open to any person paying the appropriate fee for THREE or more of the club's teaching meetings in any one term.
- There shall be three types of membership - TERMLY (for those paying by the term), OCCASIONAL (for those paying by the night on at least THREE occasions during the current term) and TEACHER: any teacher of our class would be considered an "Honorary Teacher-Member of the Club (without voting rights)" during any term in which they were booked to teach us for at least 3 lessons.
- Membership in one term shall remain valid until the commencement of the term following.

OFFICERS

- The Officers of the Club shall be as follows:
- Chairperson,
- Secretary,
- Treasurer.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- All Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, from, and by, the Members of the Club.
- All Officers are elected for one year, but may be re-elected the following year.

THE COMMITTEE

- The affairs of the Club shall be controlled by a Committee of 5 or more persons, including the Officers and other Members elected from, and by, the Members of the Club.
- The Committee shall meet not less than twice per year.

The duties of the Committee shall be:

- To control the business of the Club on behalf of the Members.
- To keep accounts of the finances of the Club through the Treasurer. These should be available for Members to examine, at any reasonable time and be presented to every Annual General Meeting.
- To maintain a bank account. Properly nominated Committee members shall be authorised to sign Club cheques.
- To co-opt additional club members onto the Committee as the Committee feels necessary.
- To make decisions on the basis of consensus or a simple majority vote. In the case of equal votes, the Chairperson shall be entitled to an additional casting vote.

GENERAL MEETINGS

- **The Annual General Meeting** of the club shall be held not later than the end of November. [Changed unanimously from “October” at the 2014 AGM.]
- Notice of the AGM is to be given to Members by the end of dancing the previous term (*with the exception of any AGM held before adoption of this Constitution, when reasonable shorter notice may be given*).

The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to:

- Confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and of any General Meetings held since the last AGM.
- Discuss matters arising from those minutes.
- Receive an annual report on Club Activities from the Chairperson.
- Receive the accounts for the year from the Treasurer.
- Elect the Officers of the Club (namely: Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer) and other Committee Members.
- Review Club subscription rates and agree them for the forthcoming year.
- Discuss other relevant Club Business.
- Refer matters needing more time to the Committee.

NOTE: *Members should be encouraged to discuss club concerns with a Committee Member at any convenient time.*

Special General Meetings may be convened by the Committee, or by the Secretary on receipt of a request in writing from not less than FIVE Members of the Club for a General Meeting. At least 10 days notice of the meeting shall be given.

- At all General Meetings, the chair will be taken by the Chairperson or, in their absence, by a deputy appointed by the Committee.
- Decisions made at a General Meeting shall be by consensus or by a simple majority of votes from the Members at the meeting. In the event of equal votes, the Chairperson has the casting vote.
- A quorum for any general meeting of this club shall be EIGHT. Each Member shall be entitled to one vote at General Meetings.

ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- Any proposed changes to the Club Constitution may only be considered at an Annual or Special General Meeting.
- Any alteration or amendment must be proposed by a Member of the Club and seconded by another Member. Such changes shall be passed if supported by not less than two-thirds of Members present at the meeting, providing that a quorum has been achieved.

DATA PROTECTION ACT

- Personal data provided by Club Members will be used and protected in compliance with the Data Protection Act.

DISSOLUTION

- If, at any General Meeting of the Club, a resolution be passed calling for the dissolution of the Club, the Secretary shall immediately convene a Special General Meeting of the Club to be held not less than 10 days thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.
- If, at that Special General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two-thirds of the Members present, or if the meeting fails to achieve a quorum, the Committee shall proceed to realise the assets of the Club and discharge all debts and liabilities of the Club.
- After discharging all debts and liabilities of the Club, the remaining assets shall not be paid or distributed amongst the Members of the Club, but, in due course, shall be given or transferred to some other voluntary organisation(s) having objects similar to those of this Club.