

# **Funtington Players**

## **CONSTITUTION AND RULES**

Revised and Adopted July 2018

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### **1. Title:**

The Society shall be named 'Funtington Players'.

### **2. Objectives:**

- 2.1 The study, performance, enjoyment and furtherance of dramatic art.
- 2.2 To provide a programme of social and recreational activities for the Members.
- 2.3 To support, when resources permit, charitable organisations and events which are complementary to, or supportive of, the objectives of Funtington Players.

### **3. Constitution:**

The Society shall consist of Ordinary Members, Honorary Life Members and Temporary Members, collectively referred to in these Rules as 'Members'.

#### **3.1 Ordinary Members:**

Ordinary membership is open to any individual on payment of the annual subscription provided that such individual accepts the Constitution and Rules of the Society and subject to approval by the Management Committee which reserves the right to veto any membership application if it considers there are reasonable grounds for doing so.

#### **3.2 Honorary Life Members:**

Honorary Life Membership, in recognition of meritorious service to the Society, can be conferred only by a proposition duly passed at a General Meeting.

#### **3.3 Temporary Members:**

From time to time the Society may engage artistes or other specialists for specific productions. Such artistes and specialists shall be granted Temporary Membership for the duration of those productions for which they are engaged.

- 3.4 All Members other than Temporary Members have full voting rights.
- 3.5 All Members are bound by the Rules of the Society.
- 3.6 No Member shall receive financial benefit from the Society, except arising from the provision of goods or services authorised by the Management Committee.

### **4. Officers:**

#### **4.1 The Officers of the Society shall be:**

Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer

- 4.2 The Chairman and Vice-Chairman may not serve in the same office for more than three consecutive years.

Officers retiring under this Rule will become eligible for re-election after a period of one year.

**5. Management Committee:**

- 5.1. The direction and management of the Society's affairs shall be vested in the Management Committee, which shall consist of the Officers of the Society and four Ordinary Members or Honorary Life Members.

- 5.2. All members of the Management Committee shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting for a period of one year and may offer themselves for re-election at the following Annual General Meeting, if eligible.

- 5.3. The powers of the Management Committee shall include but not be limited to:

5.3.1 Provisional appointment of an Officer in the event of a vacancy arising, provided the person so appointed is a member of the Management Committee. Otherwise, the provisional appointment shall be subject to ratification at an Extraordinary General Meeting, which shall be convened as soon as possible after such an appointment. An Officer so appointed may serve only until the next Annual General Meeting, when he or she may stand for re-election in the normal way.

5.3.2. Co-option of any Member onto the Management Committee or any other committee.

5.3.3. Appointment of a Social Committee, Production Committee or any other Committees which may from time to time be required. At least one member of such Committees shall be a member of the Management Committee.

5.3.4. Approval of plays for performance, appointment of production directors and setting of production budgets.

5.3.5. Termination of membership of any Member whose conduct, in the opinion of the Management Committee, is contrary to the interests of the Society provided such termination is effected by means of a formally proposed and seconded resolution carried by a majority of the Management Committee in a secret vote.

**6. Social Committee.**

Any Social Committee appointed by the Management Committee to arrange social and recreational activities for the Members shall comprise at least two Members and may co-opt additional Members, as required.

## **7. Production Committees.**

For each production for public performance, the Management Committee may appoint a Production Committee to oversee the day-to-day progress and development of the production. Such Production Committee shall include the Director and production assistant together with a stage manager who is familiar with the facilities and constraints of the production venue as well as the technical capabilities of the set-building crew.

## **8. General Meetings.**

- 8.1. The Annual General Meeting shall be convened no sooner than two weeks and no later than eight weeks after the end of each Financial Year and shall transact the following business:
  - 8.1.1. To receive and, if approved, adopt a statement of the Society's accounts to the end of the preceding Financial Year.
  - 8.1.2. To consider and, if thought fit, sanction any proposed alteration to the Rules.
  - 8.1.3. To elect the Officers.
  - 8.1.4. To elect the remaining members of the Management Committee.
  - 8.1.5. Motions and resolutions for consideration at an Annual General Meeting must be received in writing by the Secretary at least seven days before the meeting.
  - 8.1.6. Nominations for the election of Officers and members of the Management Committee may be made from the floor at the Annual General Meeting, but must have the agreement of the nominee and the support of a seconder.
- 8.2. An Extraordinary General Meeting must be convened by the Secretary within one calendar month of a request signed by twelve or more Members or called by the Management Committee.
- 8.3. Notice of an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be issued to Members at least fourteen days before the date of such meeting.

## **9. Quorum**

- 9.1. Management Committee: Five shall form a quorum.
- 9.2. General Meetings: Four members of the Management Committee and 10 other members shall form a quorum.

## **10. Subscriptions**

- 10.1. The annual subscription shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting.
- 10.2. Subscriptions are due on the first day of each Financial Year.
- 10.3. A subscription which is overdue by four months will be taken to be an intention not to continue membership.

- 10.4. New Members joining the Society three months or more after the start of the Financial Year shall pay a reduced subscription during that year, the reduction being at the discretion of the Treasurer.
- 10.5. Honorary Life Members and Temporary Members do not pay a subscription.

## **11. Finance.**

- 11.1. The Financial Year shall begin on the 1st June and end on the 31st May.
- 11.2. The accounts of the Society shall be presented to the Members at each Annual General Meeting.
- 11.3. The authority to commit the funds of the Society is vested in the Management Committee, and in the membership acting in General Meeting.
- 11.4. Commitments may be made by individual Officers only when acting with the approval of the Management Committee.
- 11.5. If the Society's assets are insufficient to meet any loss, all Members are jointly and severally liable to make good any such deficiency.
- 11.6. In the event of the Society being wound up, any funds remaining after payment of all debts shall be disbursed to charity.

## **12. Alterations to the Constitution and Rules.**

- 12.1. No alteration may be made except at a General Meeting by a two thirds majority of Members present and voting.
- 12.2. Proposals for alteration must be made in writing to the Secretary 14 days before the date of the General Meeting and shall be published in the agenda for that Meeting.

## **13. Interpretation of the Rules.**

- 13.1. Interpretation of the Rules is vested in the Chairman of the Society.
- 13.2. The Management Committee shall have the power to give rulings on any matter on which the Rules are silent, but any such rulings must be reported to the next Annual General Meeting.

## **14. Copies of Rules**

A copy of the Constitution and Rules shall be given to each person applying for membership and pursuance of such application for membership from that point shall constitute acceptance of the same.

## **15. Data Protection Act**

The Management Committee is responsible for setting the society's privacy policy and ensuring compliance. New members, and existing members at renewal, will be advised of the policy and have the right to opt out of communications from the society at any time.

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