

## Rules revised November 2024

### CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY

1. The Society shall be called **FERRING AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY**. This term shall not be used in connection with any entertainment without the consent of the Committee.
2. The affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Committee which shall consist of the President, Chair, Hon. Secretary, Hon Treasurer, the remaining roles P.R.O. Technical, Stores, Wardrobe, and Box Office Managers to be appointed by the committee. Five members of the committee will form a quorum. The Director or Stage Manager of the current play will be co-opted onto the Committee as an ex-officio member of the Committee to attend Committee Meetings as and when needed. All Officers and Committee Members shall retire annually and shall be eligible for re-election.
3. The Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy occurring during the year and to co-opt Members should the occasion arise.
4. Any Profit on Productions and other fund-raising events shall be retained by the Society or devoted to any charitable purposes at the discretion of the Committee.

#### 5. MEMBERSHIP

The period of membership shall be twelve months from 1<sup>st</sup> January. There shall be five classes of Membership:

**a) Patrons** who shall be non-acting and shall be entitled to priority booking of one included ticket for each full-length production during the Membership year. Patrons do not have voting rights, but may attend the A.G.M. There are to be no new patrons.

1. **Members** who shall be eligible to participate in any production.
2. **Junior Members** under the age of eighteen who shall be eligible to participate in any production but shall not have the voting rights of a member and shall pay a reduced subscription.
3. **Life Members** The Committee shall have the power to recommend to an A.G.M. the election of Life Membership to any member who for services to the Society is in their opinion worthy of this distinction and Life Membership shall enjoy the same ticket privileges as a Patron and voting rights as a member but not pay any subscription.

4. **Volunteer Members** who are eligible to assist in any production by invitation of a Member but shall not have the voting rights of members and not pay a subscription. They must sign the Members' Book for insurance purposes
5. **ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS** as determined by the Committee shall become due on the 1<sup>st</sup> January.

## 6. PRODUCTIONS

- The Committee shall choose the Director for each Production.
- a) The Directors shall submit plays of their choice for consideration within a period to be defined by the Committee.
  - b) Auditions shall be held for all Productions. The productions shall be cast by the Director and two other Members selected by the Committee who shall declare any personal connection with any Member auditioning.
  - c) All Members may attend auditions. Ideally Backstage staff and Front of House Manager should be chosen at the same time as the Cast is selected.

## 7. General Meetings

- a) The Annual General Meeting shall be called in April each year for the purpose of receiving the reports of the Chair and Hon. Treasurer who shall present the audited accounts of the Society; to elect by ballot the Officers and the Committee for the following year; to appoint an Hon. Auditor and for the transaction of any other business.
- b) The Chair may call a General Meeting of the Members at any time and shall do so on receipt of a requisition in writing from no less than ten Members addressed to the Hon. Secretary. Fourteen clear days notice of any General Meeting shall be given and 10 Members shall form a quorum at such meetings.
- c) Notice of any proposed alterations of these Rules or any proposed special resolutions must be given in writing to the Hon. Secretary at least twenty one days prior to a General Meeting and must be given in writing to all Members not less than fourteen days prior to the said General Meeting.

## 8. TRUSTEES

- a) The number of Trustees shall not be less than two nor more than four.
- b) The Trustees shall hold office until death, resignation or removal from office by a resolution of the Members.
- c) There shall be vested in the Trustees all the property of the Society other than cash which shall be under the control of the Hon. Treasurer and the

Bank Accounts which shall be managed by any two of the Hon Treasurer and the Trustees.

- d) The Trustees may deal with the property vested in them by way of sale, mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise as directed by the Society. Such direction shall be given by a resolution of the Members of the Society passed by a majority of the Membership present at a duly convened Extraordinary General Meeting and when so passed in favour of a purchaser, mortgagee, charge, lessee or grantee shall be binding upon all Members of the Society. A certificate purporting to be signed by the Hon. Secretary for the time being of the Society shall in favour of those persons be conclusive evidence that a direction complying in all respects with the above provisions of this rule was duly given to the Trustees.

#### **9. Indemnity**

The Trustees and Members of the Committee shall not be liable (otherwise than as Members) for any loss suffered by the Society as a result of the discharge of their respective duties on its behalf except such loss as arises from their respective willful default; and they shall be entitled to an indemnity out of the assets of the Society for all expenses and other liabilities incurred by them in the discharge of their respective duties.

#### **10. Dissolution**

- 1) The Society may be dissolved
  - a. By resolution passed under Rule 8c
  - b. By notice from a liquidator of the Society or a Receiver of all or any of its assets.
- 2) The dissolution shall take effect from the day when the resolution is passed and the Trustees shall be responsible for the winding up of the assets and liabilities of the Society.
- 3) If any property remains after the discharge of all the debts and liabilities of the Society it shall be distributed to a charity or charities nominated by the Trustees.

**Revised November 2024**