

## 1. NAME

The name of the Society shall be the MORTON PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY and shall be affiliated to the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain through the Northern Counties Photographic Federation.

## 2. AIMS

The aims of the Society are to encourage and promote interest in photography, to render mutual assistance on photographic matters, and the encouragement of social contact between those interested in photography.

## 3. MEMBERSHIP

- a) Applications for membership of the Society shall be subject to the approval of the Society Committee.
- b) Membership of the Society implies undertaking to comply with and abide by the Constitution and Competition Rules.
- c) Any member who fails to pay the Society's appropriate annual subscription within one month of becoming due will, subject to the discretion of the Committee, be deemed to have resigned membership.
- d) Persons may be appointed to Life Membership of the Society on the recommendation of the Committee, subject to confirmation by members at an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting.
- e) Any member who brings the club into disrepute may be expelled or asked to resign from the Society following a factual investigation undertaken by the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary. Any member in this situation shall have a right of appeal to an Appeal sub-committee comprising the immediate Past Chairman and four other members of the committee.
- f) Members are allowed to bring Guest(s) to any ordinary meeting of the club without obligation to the Guest(s) to join as members. A nominal charge per guest per evening will be made.
- g) Prospective members shall be allowed to attend on payment of the current Visitor's Fee, for up to three meetings, after which the annual subscription shall become due and be backdated, with a deduction for any Visitor's Fees paid.
- h) Complaints, which must be in writing, relating to the operation of the Society or the behaviour of its Members will initially be dealt with by the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary. Any member who may be the subject of complaint shall have a right of appeal as in e) above.
- i) Any Officer or Committee Member who is the subject of an allegation or complaint cannot participate in any deliberations regarding the matter. His or her place on any investigation or appeal sub-committee is to be filled by another Officer or Committee Member selected for the purpose by the remainder of the Officers and Committee.

#### 4. OFFICERS

The Officers of the Society shall be the Chairman, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

#### 5. COMMITTEE

- a) The Committee shall consist of the Society's Officers, the Vice-Chairman, the Programme Secretary, the Competition Secretary(s), the Western Area Representative, and up to four other Members all to be elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee shall have power to co-opt Members to their Committee not exceeding two in number.
- b) All Committee Members are eligible for re-election each year, except the Chairman, who shall be eligible to serve for normally two years and a maximum of three years. The retiring Chairman may, however be elected to the Committee but in any case shall be deemed an ex-officio Member of the Committee the succeeding year.
- c) On the retirement of the Chairman, for whatever reason, the Vice Chairman will take over the role subject to any successful challenge by way of election at either the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting.
- d) The Committee shall control, direct, and be responsible for the affairs of the Society. The Secretary shall keep proper Minutes of all meetings and conduct the correspondence of the Society. The Treasurer shall keep proper books of account and control the funds for the Society, collect subscriptions and monies due and defray all expenses.
- e) The Committee shall have the power to approve sub-groups of the Society for specific purposes or interests. Any proposal to establish a sub-group must be in writing and comprise a clear statement of the aims, objectives and governance procedures for the sub-group. The Committee shall also have the power to disband any sub-group should it fail in any way to meet its agreed purpose.

#### 6. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- a) The scale of annual subscriptions to the Society shall be fixed for the following year at the Annual General Meeting and shall become due and payable on the first club night of the Winter session.
- b) A member joining the Society after 1 January in any year shall pay a reduced subscription at the discretion of the Committee.

7. Life Members are exempted from paying the Society's annual subscription

## 8. FINANCE

- a) An account shall be opened in the Society's name at a Bank or Building Society.
- b) Any cheques issued from the club account and any other written authorisations shall be signed by any two Officers or Members of the Committee.
- c) For the purposes of internet/electronic banking, access to the bank account be delegated to one person.
- d) The financial year of the Society shall end on 31 March each year.
- e) The annual statements of Income and Expenditure and a Balance Sheet shall be verified and presented to the Annual General Meeting in each year.
- f) A statement showing the current financial position shall be presented at each Committee meeting.

## 9. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- a) The Annual General Meeting shall be held each year in April to which members shall be summoned by giving at least fourteen days notice at a weekly Club meeting.
- b) A quorum at an Annual General Meeting shall be one third of the membership.
- c) Any resolution to be moved at the Annual General Meeting must be signed by a proposer and seconder and given to the Secretary at least twenty one days before the meeting is due.

## 10. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

- a) Extraordinary General Meetings may be convened by the Secretary, if so directed by the Committee, on a requisition signed by at least six Society members, stating the object and sent to the Secretary at least twenty one days before the meeting.
- b) At least fourteen days notice of the convening of an Extraordinary General Meeting must be sent in writing to all Society members prior to the meeting.
- c) A quorum at an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be one third of the membership.

## 11. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION, COMPETITION RULES & PROPOSALS FOR DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY

- a) A two thirds majority of the members present at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting may agree to amend the Constitution or the Competition Rules of the Society or agree to dissolve the Society.
- b) At least fourteen days notice of the proposals to amend the Constitution or dissolve the Society must be sent in writing to all Society members prior to the meeting.

- c) At least fourteen days prior notice of the proposals to amend the Competition Rules must be given to Society members at a weekly Club meeting.
- d) In the event of the Society being wound up, all equipment and funds belonging to the Society shall be disposed of or distributed in accordance with the majority decision of the fully paid-up members of the Society at that time, after all debts and liabilities of the Society have been paid.