

# HALIFAX & DISTRICT ORGANISTS' ASSOCIATION

## CONSTITUTION

Revised 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024

1. The name of the association shall be "Halifax & District Organists' Association". The Association shall be affiliated to the Incorporated Association of Organists.
2. The objects of the Association shall be to advance the education of the public in the study of the art of music with special reference to the liturgical and organ music. To facilitate the achievement of such objects, the Association may arrange and present:
  - a) public lectures, discussions and debates on this subject;
  - b) public demonstrations of instruments;
  - c) public demonstrations of music for organ and voices;
  - d) open competitions for play, singing, and composition of liturgical and organ music;
  - e) public meetings to facilitate the exchange of information and views with other organisations and persons concerned with the composition, interpretation, presentation, teaching or publication of liturgical or organ music;
  - f) advice to performers, teachers, students, churchmen or other members of the public on any matter concerned with improvement of standards of composition or performance of liturgical or organ music.

The Association may also do such other lawful things as are necessary or desirable for the attainment of the objects.

3. Membership of the Association shall be open without restriction to any member of the public who is interested in organ, choral or any other kind of music. Membership shall become effective on payment of the first year's annual subscription.

4. The proceedings of the Association shall be open to members of the public ( not being members of the Association ) on payment of such fee as the Association shall from time to time determine.
5. Each member shall pay a minimum annual subscription of such an amount as shall from time to time be determined at a General Meeting of the Association. This subscription shall fall due on the 31<sup>st</sup> of January, or when notified, in each year; provided that any members joining after 31<sup>st</sup> July in any year shall pay a reduced subscription as the Association shall determine for the period up to 31<sup>st</sup> January in the following year.
6. All applications for membership, together with the subscription for the current session, shall be addressed to the Membership Secretary.
7. Any member whose subscription has been not paid within three months of the date on which it fell due shall cease to be a member of the Association but may be readmitted to membership on payment of a further subscription.
8. Persons who are under the age of eighteen years or are full-time students may be admitted to membership of the Association of payment of such a reduced rate as the Association may determine. Any member so accepted shall pay the full annual subscription for the year in which he or she attains the age of eighteen or ceases to be a full time student.
9. The Committee shall have the power to recommend to the Association election of honorary life members.
10. There shall be an Annual General Meeting held no later than 30<sup>th</sup> June, or such other monthly Meetings as the Committee shall determine.
11. The Committee
  - a) The business of the Association shall be managed by a Committee which shall consist of
    - i. the President
    - ii. the immediate past-President
    - iii. the Vice-President

- iv. the Honorary Secretary
- v. the Honorary Treasurer

vi) the Webmaster

vii) the Recruitment Officer

( all *ex-officio* and who must all be at least eighteen years of age)

- viii). four ordinary members who shall be elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting and of whom two shall retire annually by rotation.
- b) Whenever any ordinary member of the Committee shall be elected President, Vice-President, Honorary Secretary or Honorary Treasurer his or her place shall immediately become vacant, and the Annual General Meeting shall elect another member of the Association in his or her stead until such time as he or she (the original member) would have been due to retire by rotation.
- c) At any meeting of the Committee, four shall form a quorum.
- d) Any vacancy on the Committee occurring during the year shall be filled by the committee electing another member of the Association to act until the original holder would have been due to retire by rotation. Retiring ordinary members of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election.
- e) The President shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting to serve for one year and may be invited by the Committee with his or her agreement to serve a further year subject to a maximum tenure of three years. A Vice-President shall be elected to serve until the retirement of the President and to succeed him or her in that office. On retirement from Office, the President shall not be eligible for re-election for the space of one year.
- f) The Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer, who are eligible for re-election to their respective offices, are to be elected annually.

- g) The Committee shall appoint a Membership Secretary who must be a member of the Association but need not be a member of the Committee.
- h) An Honorary Auditor shall also be elected annually to annually audit the Association's accounts at the end of the fiscal year. This also allows the Association to conform to the wishes of the Charity Commission.
- i) All members of the Association shall be entitled to attend meetings of the Committee, but only members of the Committee shall be entitled to vote.

12. Election of Officers

- a) Election of Officers shall take place at the Annual general Meeting.
- b) Nominations shall be in the hands of the Secretary not less than five clear days before the meeting.
- c) A member may be nominated either by resolution of the Committee or being proposed and seconded by members of the Association.
- d) Nominations from the floor of the meeting may be made only if insufficient nominations have been received in accordance with (b) above.
- e) In the event of there being more nominations than vacancies, the Secretary shall organise a ballot.

13. Any member of the Committee absent from two consecutive meetings without sending adequate reason to the Secretary shall cease to be a member of the Committee.

14. The Committee shall draw up a syllabus of meetings to include :

- a) at least one meeting per session of a non-musical nature;
- b) an organ recital open to the public.

- c) A collection shall be taken in aid of the I.A.O. Benevolent Fund at one meeting each session.
- 15. Members shall immediately notify the Membership Secretary of any change in their address.
- 16. The Committee
  - a) shall meet at least twice a year;
  - b) may at their discretion require the resignation of any member whose conduct is deemed to bring the Association into disrepute, such a member not to be readmitted to membership without the consent of the Committee;
  - c) may co-opt additional members to their number.
- 17. Any matter arising that is not dealt with in these rules may be resolved by the Committee or Officers acting independently as necessary.
- 18. The income or property of the Association shall be applied solely to the promotion of the objects in paragraph 2 and no payment or transfer of such income or property shall be made to or for the benefit of any member of the Association. Provided that nothing shall prevent payment in good faith by the Association of reasonable and proper remuneration of any member of the Association not being a member of the Committee for services rendered to the Association, or to any of its Officers of out of pocket expenses.
- 19. If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Association there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to nor distributed among the members of the Association, but shall be given or transferred to some other charitable institution having objects similar to the objects of the Association.
- 20. These rules shall not be altered nor added to except by resolution at a General Meeting of which at least 21 days' notice shall be given to the members, and no alteration shall be made which would cause the Association to cease to be a charity at law.
- 21. Any member of the Association is entitled to demand and receive a copy of these Rules.