

NOTTINGHAM SOCIETY OF ARTISTS

CONSTITUTION

1.) NAME

The Society shall be called the “Nottingham Society of Artists”.

2.) OBJECTS

To bring together for mutual help and inspiration, artists and others interested in the Fine Arts, and to allow those Trust members who have demonstrated sufficient proficiency, and who wish to do so, to exhibit in the NSA exhibitions, initially as Affiliate members, and to aspire to progress to Associate and Fellow status.

3.) CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

The Society shall have the following classes of membership (collectively hereinafter referred to as ‘Members’).

Affiliates

Associates

Fellows

Members Emeriti

NB. New members join the NSA trust as Trust Members and are NOT eligible to exhibit in the NSA Exhibitions.

4.) ELECTION OF (N.S.A. EXHIBITING) MEMBERS

a) AFFILIATE MEMBERS

To be considered for Affiliate Membership three recent works of art must be submitted together with a portfolio of work or a sketch book. Paintings should be framed and well-presented and must be the applicant’s own, unaided work and must not have been copied from any published source. Election shall require not less than two-thirds of the votes of members present and voting.

b) ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Affiliate Members may be elected to become Associate Members by the Fellows upon receipt of a recommendation from the Council. The Council’s recommendation will be based upon the work on view in the Affiliates Exhibition, where it is expected that three works will be on show.

c) FELLOWS

Fellows shall be elected from Associates after being proposed and seconded by 3 existing Fellows and receiving not less than two-thirds of the votes cast by ballot (including postal votes) at a Meeting of Fellows. At present the number of Fellows is restricted to 55 members.

d) EMERITI

A Fellow who is unable to participate fully in the work and activities of the Society may be elected a Member Emeritus after being proposed and seconded by existing Fellows and receiving not less than two-thirds of the votes cast by ballot at a Meeting of Fellows at which not less than twenty-one Fellows are present. Members Emeriti shall retain all the rights and

privileges of a Fellow except that they shall have no voting rights and neither shall they count towards the limit of fifty-five.

The minimum number of members for a quorum at these meetings is 21.

5. OFFICERS

The Officers of the Society should be elected at each Annual General meeting and shall comprise:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary

The Officers should be proposed and seconded by members in writing not less than 14 days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting. If no nominations are received for any Office, then the Council may make a nomination.

All Officers shall be eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting. Usually the President shall serve for two years, but may be opposed after one year if an alternative candidate is proposed and seconded no less than 14 days before the Annual General Meeting. However, the President may not be elected for more than three years in succession. If no nominations are received for the position of President then the Council may make a nomination for Acting President until the next Annual General Meeting. The President may not introduce any changes to the structure of the Society without the approval of the Council.

There are only 10 elected members of the Council, plus (for one year only) the Past President.

6.) THE COUNCIL

The Council shall comprise the Officers of the Society, together with two fellows, two associates and two affiliates proposed and seconded in writing not less than 14 days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting. If no nomination is received for any representative then the Council may make a nomination.

No member absent from the Annual General Meeting may be elected as an Officer or as a member of the Council without his/her prior consent being given in writing to the proposer and seconder.

The business of the Society shall be conducted by the Council during the interval between Annual General Meetings. The Council shall have the power to co-opt members for such period as is desirable to facilitate the conduct of the Society, but any such co-option shall cease at the conclusion of the following Annual General Meeting, but may be renewed afterwards. Similarly, the Council shall also have the power to set up any Sub-Committee for any specific purpose, provided that such a Sub-Committee functions in an advisory capacity only, unless specifically given power to act by the Council.

Members may attend the Council meetings as observers only and may not vote.

The Quorum at any Council Meeting shall be six.

7.) TERM OF OFFICE

All persons elected to Office, or to the Council, shall be deemed to be so elected until the conclusion of the next following Annual General Meeting.

8.) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held in the month of May in each year at a date and time fixed at the previous Annual General Meeting and shall conduct the following business-

- a) To receive a Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for the preceding financial year
- b) To carry out the elections previously mentioned
- c) To decide upon any Resolution submitted to the meeting, provided that any member wishing to submit a resolution at the Annual General Meeting shall give notice to the Secretary in writing not later than 21 days prior to the date fixed for that Annual General Meeting

9.) EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called at any time by the Council for any purpose, upon the request in writing of any 20 members, or one-fifth of the total membership entitled to vote (whichever shall be the less), stating the purpose for which the meeting is requested.

10.) CONVENING GENERAL MEETINGS

At least 10 days before the Annual General Meeting or any Extraordinary General Meeting, a notice of such a meeting and of the business to be transacted shall be displayed in the premises of the Society. No business other than that of which notice has been given shall be brought forward at such a meeting.

11.) PROCEEDINGS OF GENERAL MEETINGS

At all General Meetings of the Society the Chair shall be taken by the President, or in his/her absence the Vice-President, or in his/her absence a member appointed by the Council. Every member present shall be entitled to one vote upon every motion. In the event of a tied vote, then the Chair shall have a second, or casting vote. If it thinks fit, then the Council shall be empowered to allow members unable to be present to vote by proxy or in writing upon any issue on which it considers the whole membership should have the opportunity to vote. The Quorum at any General Meeting shall be twenty-five.

12.) EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

Any member shall be liable to expulsion from the Society for conduct deemed likely to bring discredit upon, or to subvert the interest of the Society. If members have reason to complain about the behaviour of another member or group of members then they may make a representation to the Council. The Council may at its discretion, upon a vote of two-thirds of the members present issue a warning to the aforesaid member or members. If the warning is ignored, then the Council shall empower the Secretary to convene an Extraordinary General Meeting and members may vote to expel the member or members with a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

13.) VOTING

Except where otherwise provided, voting at all meetings of the Society, its Council and Sub-Committees and meetings of Classes of Membership shall be by a simple majority of the members present and voting. In the event of a tie, then the Chairman shall have a second, or casting vote.

Revised May 2012.