

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS CHORAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1904

CONSTITUTION

Amended September 1999
September 2006

1. Title

The name of the Society shall be **The Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society** (hereinafter referred to as "the Society").

2. Aims and Objects

The objects of the Society shall be to educate the public in the arts and sciences, and in particular the art and science of music, by the presentation of concerts and other activities.

3. Membership

The membership of the Society shall be those persons who pay the annual subscription and (in the case of performing members) who provide such evidence of musical ability as the Committee may from time to time require.

4. President, Patrons and Vice-Presidents

The Society may invite any suitable persons to be its President and as many persons as it thinks fit to be Patrons or Vice-Presidents.

5. Officers and Committee

The management of the Society shall be vested in a Committee consisting of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, General Secretary, Orchestra Manager, Treasurer, Librarian, Registrar, Publicity Officer and Minutes Secretary (herein collectively referred to as "the Officers") the National Federation of Music Societies representative and not more than eight other members..

The Officers, the National Federation of Music Societies representative and other Committee members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting by and out of the Society's members. Other Committee members may serve for not more than three consecutive years and shall not be eligible for re-election until one full year has passed.

The Committee shall have the power to fill any casual vacancy among the Officers, the National Federation of Music Societies representative and other Committee members. Anyone so appointed shall hold the office only until the next following Annual General Meeting but shall then be eligible for election.

The Committee shall have the power to co-opt members or other persons to the Committee for a special purpose.

A quorum for a Committee meeting shall be six, of whom at least three shall be elected members.

6. Management

All the arrangements for rehearsals and concerts and control of expenditure and finance shall be in the hands of the Committee.

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The Chairman, General Secretary, Orchestra Manager and Treasurer, acting jointly, shall be empowered to take decisions on behalf of the Society when required by any emergency, but such decisions shall be subject to ratification by the Committee at its next meeting.

7. Subscriptions

An annual subscription shall be payable in advance by 1st October each year. The amount shall be determined at an Annual General Meeting. In addition to the annual subscription members shall provide copies of music selected for the study, rehearsal and performance and shall reimburse the Society for the loss of any hired or loaned copies.

8. Finance

The financial year of the Society shall end on 30th April each year.

A banking account shall be opened in the name of the Society and cheques shall be signed by any two Officers of the Society.

The Society may receive donations, grants in aid, or financial guarantees. Tickets for all or any of its concerts and other events may be offered for sale to the public.

The income and property of the Society, whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards promoting the objects of the Society as set forth above and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred either directly or indirectly to any member or members of the Society, except in payment of legitimate expenses incurred on behalf of the Society.

In the event of the winding-up or dissolution of the Society any remaining assets after all liabilities have been discharged shall not be paid or transferred to any member or members of the Society but shall be transferred to a charitable organisation whose objects are similar to those of the Society and whose rules preclude the distribution of income and assets among its members.

9. General Meeting

Within six months of the end of the each financial year the members shall be summoned to an Annual General meeting of which at least fourteen days' notice in writing shall have been given. The financial accounts shall be audited and submitted to the members at an Annual General Meeting.

The Committee may, at any time, or shall, on a written request signed by not fewer than ten members, call an extraordinary general meeting of the members, the quorum for which shall consist of one-fifth of the members of the Society.

10. Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting, provided that at least fourteen days' notice of the proposed amendment has been sent in writing to all members and provided also that nothing herein contained shall authorise any amendment which shall have the effect of the Society ceasing to be a charity.