



The Pleasure Folk Amateur Musical Society  
incorporating  
The Ormskirk Operatic And Dramatic Society

Affiliated to National Operatic and Dramatic Association



1. This constitution made in 2010 revokes all previous constitutions.
2. TITLE. The Society shall be called “The Pleasure Folk Amateur Musical Society”. Acknowledgement of the incorporation of “Ormskirk Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society” shall be made on all notices and printed matter.
3. OBJECT. The object of the Society is to provide a recreational, educational and vocational platform for those interested in the performing arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts.  
Membership of the Society shall consist of acting, non - acting and Life members – such persons having rendered special services to the Society.
4. MANAGEMENT. The Society shall be managed by a committee consisting of the following officers: chairman, vice-chairman, treasurer, secretary, ticket secretary plus up to seven members.
5. ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP.
  - (a). Membership shall be open to all who empathise with the objects of the Society by making application to the Secretary. Applicants may be required to demonstrate their acting and musical ability.
  - (b). Children - Licences to perform – Every child up to age of 17 who takes part in a show must have a Licence to perform issued by a local authority. The necessary forms will be provided and must be completed within four weeks of the first rehearsal, and passed to the individual appointed by the committee to control Licences. Failure to provide all the information requested will result in the child being removed from the production.
6. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS. Any member, who in the opinion of the committee shall be guilty of misusing the privileges of the Society or of otherwise bringing the Society into disrepute, may be suspended or expelled from the Society.
7. SUBSCRIPTIONS. The annual subscription shall be agreed by the committee and implemented at the annual general meeting. Honorary membership may be granted annually at the direction of the committee. Annual subscriptions shall become due on 1<sup>st</sup> January in each year and shall be paid to the Treasurer no later than 28 days after the annual general meeting.
8. SHOW FEES. A fee shall be paid by all acting members participating in a show. This fee will be agreed at the annual general meeting. Show fees become due at the first rehearsal and are payable no later than one calendar month before the production.
9. FINANCE.
  - (a) The funds of the Society shall be applied solely to the stated objects of the Society.
  - (b) The funds shall be deposited with a financial institution selected by the Treasurer and agreed by the committee and implemented at the annual general meeting. Withdrawals shall require two signatories.

(c) No member of the Society shall receive payment directly or indirectly for services to the Society other than legitimate expenses incurred in its work.

10. FINANCIAL YEAR. The financial year of the Society shall commence on 1<sup>st</sup> January.

11. NON-PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS. The committee shall have the power to suspend any member whose subscriptions remain un-paid when due.

12. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. The annual general meeting of the Society shall be held early in the financial year, when the report of the committee and audited accounts for the past year shall be presented, together with election of officers, committee members, an auditor, and Life members if any, and all general business transacted.

13. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING. An extraordinary general meeting may be called at any time, either at the discretion of the committee, or upon receipt of the Secretary of a requisition in writing to that effect giving 21 days notice and signed by at least 12 members. Every such requisition shall specify the business for which the meeting is to be convened and no other business shall be transacted at such meeting.

14. QUORUM AT GENERAL MEETING. No business other than the formal adjournment of the meeting shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum of 25% of the committee and 25% of the membership is present.

15. RESOLUTION AT GENERAL MEETING. Unless otherwise provided by these rules all resolutions brought forward at a general meeting shall be decided by a bare majority of the votes properly recorded at such meeting and in the case of an equality of votes, the chairman shall have a second and casting vote.

16. RETIREMENT OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE. Committee members will serve for a maximum period of three years, at the end of which they are eligible for re-election. Thereby, one third of the committee is elected annually. Anyone wishing to be considered for election must notify the secretary of their interest at least 14 days before the annual general meeting.

17. NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING. A printed notice of every general meeting accompanied in the case of the annual general meeting by a statement of the audited accounts for the past year and particulars of nominations for the committee (including the officers) and auditor and of any proposals to elect a Life Member shall be displayed at least 7 days prior to the day fixed for such meeting.

18. APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEE. The committee shall appoint sub-committees as required and delegate all or any of its powers. Sub-committees shall hold office not beyond the tenure of the committee.

19. SELECTION OF CAST.

(a) The cast for any production shall be elected by audition and or casting session by the committee or by a selection sub-committee. This committee shall consist of the Musical Director, Producer/Director, Choreographer and two other persons. A majority decision must be agreed by the selected committee before offering parts.

(b) If casting from within the Society is not possible, the Society may advertise or seek casting from outside the Society. Anyone so engaged will automatically become a member. Membership and show fees will be at the discretion of the committee.

20. REVISION OF CAST. The committee shall have the power to revise the cast if any acting member to whom a character has been assigned shall, in its opinion and after consultation with the Producer/Director, prove unsuitable for the part.

21. CONTROL OF REHEARSALS. The Musical Director shall control all musical rehearsals and the Producer/Director shall control stage rehearsals. Regular attendance of acting members to rehearsals

is obligatory. It is the responsibility of individuals to contact the Musical Director or Producer/Director if they are unable to attend.

22. SELECTION OF WORKS. The committee shall select the works to be performed.

23. PRODUCTION MONEY. All money due from members in connection with the production and performance of any work, shall be accounted for, and paid to treasurer/ticket secretary, within 21 days after the conclusion of the final performance.

24. MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE. Committee meetings shall be called by the secretary at regular intervals upon resolution to that effect by the committee or at the direction of the chairman and secretary. Five or more members shall be a quorum.

25. RECOVERY OF MONEY OWED DUE TO THE SOCIETY. All monies due and owing to the Society, including the Subscriptions of Members and Show Fees, shall be recoverable at law in the name of the Society. Similarly, all committee members accept unlimited, joint and several liabilities for the debts of the Society.

26. COMMITTEE POWERS. The committee shall have the powers to interpret these rules and all other matters connected with the Society (other than those which can only be dealt with by the Society in General Meeting) and make and maintain and publish all necessary orders, regulations and by-laws.

27. DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY. The Society shall only be dissolved by resolution passed by a majority of at least five sixths of the members present and voting at a General Meeting convened for the purpose of considering such dissolution. In the event of dissolution any balance of cash remaining in hand after realisation of assets and payments of debts, shall be applied as determined by the meeting for such charitable purposes similar to those of the Society.

28. ALTERATION OF RULES. Alteration of these rules can only be made with the consent of the full committee. Notice of any changes will be notified in writing to the Society with 14 days.

These rules were agreed at an Annual General Meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2010

Signed by Chairman.. *Liz Wainwright* .....