



THE COTSWOLD MAGICAL SOCIETY

Rules

(Revised August 2019)

1. SOCIETY NAME

- 1.1. The name of the Society shall be 'The Cotswold Magical Society', hereafter referred to in these Rules as 'the Society'.

2. SOCIETY AIMS

- 2.1. The Society aims to promote practice in the art of magic, to encourage magical invention, and to engender a feeling of goodwill among all members. It will organise events to promote these aims.

3. ADMISSION OF MEMBERS

- 3.1. No persons under the age of 18 years shall be admitted as a member.
- 3.2. Individuals wishing to join the Society shall complete a Membership Application Form and submit it to the Society's Membership Secretary.
- 3.3. All applicants will be interviewed by the Membership Secretary, who will make recommendations to the Committee. If there are no objections, the Membership Secretary has the power to approve and/or reject applications for membership of the Society. In the event of objections being raised to an application, the Committee will make the decision.
- 3.4. Each member of the Society shall agree to conform to the Rules of the Society. Members shall not expose any magical secret in public. Members shall refrain from appropriating the original effects or routines of other magicians (except in circumstances where the owner has given express permission to the member). In the case of any dispute in these matters, the Committee will rule and its decision is final.

4. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

- 4.1. The annual subscription shall be reviewed yearly at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Existing members shall pay the full annual subscription when due. Any new member joining after 1 April shall pay a pro rata proportion of the annual subscription.
- 4.2. Members in receipt of a State Retirement Pension shall pay a reduced rate of the annual subscription as decided at the AGM.
- 4.3. Any member whose annual subscription is two months in arrears shall not be admitted to any further meetings or events until his/her annual subscription has been paid in full. Any member whose membership lapses for 12 months will be deemed to have left the Society and will be considered as a new applicant should they wish to rejoin.
- 4.4. Any member of the Society can propose another member for Honorary Life Membership. The proposal must be made in writing to the Committee, together with a case supporting the proposal. The Committee shall either endorse or reject the proposal. If endorsed, it will be put to the following AGM for ratification by the membership. In the event of Honorary Life Membership being ratified, the President shall inform the individual in writing and will waive payment of all future annual subscriptions for the Member for the

remainder of his/her life. Honorary Life Members will, however, be required to make all other Society payments. All other rules will be the same as for other members.

5. ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT

- 5.1. Management of the Society shall be vested in the Annual General Meeting. The presence of eight members, of whom at least three shall be Committee members, shall constitute a quorum.
- 5.2. The AGM shall be held at the first meeting in March each year.
- 5.3. Resolutions for the AGM shall be in the hands of the Secretary or President at least one month before the meeting.
- 5.4. The Committee may call a Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) of the Society at any time, and shall be required to do so on receiving a representation of not less than 10 members of the Society. An EGM shall be convened within 28 days of receipt of such representation. Notice of such meetings shall be sent to every member at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting, stating the matters to be discussed. No other business shall be transacted at the EGM. The presence of eight members, of whom at least three shall be Committee members, shall constitute a quorum.
- 5.5. These Rules shall only be amended at an AGM or EGM by a majority vote of the members present.
- 5.6. In the event of a dispute over the interpretation of these Rules, the Committee's decision is final.

6. THE COMMITTEE

- 6.1. The Society Committee shall consist of the following posts:
 - President (who shall chair the Committee);
 - Vice-president (the immediate past-president of the Society);
 - Secretary;
 - Treasurer;
 - Membership Secretary;
 - Programme Secretary;
 - Librarian;
 - Editor of the Club Magazine;
 - Web Editor;
 - At least one member without portfolio, but sufficient to ensure a Committee of 10 individuals.
- 6.2. The post of President shall be held for a maximum of two consecutive years.
- 6.3. The Committee shall be elected at the AGM. In the event of positions on the Committee being contested, those Committee members shall be elected by secret ballot.
- 6.4. In the event of any vacancy arising during the year, the Committee may co-opt a member onto the Committee for the remainder of the current year.
- 6.5. The presence of six or more Committee members shall constitute a quorum.

7. MEETINGS

- 7.1. Meetings of the Society shall be held at least once a month, excepting such circumstances which may be decided at the discretion of the Committee.

8. COMPETITIONS

- 8.1. Society competitions may be held annually at the discretion of the Committee.
- 8.2. Competitions shall be open only to fully paid-up members of the Society.
- 8.3. Rules for the competitions will be provided by the competition organisers at least one month prior to the competition.