



THE COTSWOLD MAGICAL SOCIETY

Rules

(Revised March 2016)

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 the art of magic, to encourage magical inventions, and to engender a feeling of goodwill among all members. It will organise meetings, lectures, conferences, competitions, etc. to promote that aim.

3. ADMISSION OF MEMBERS

- 3.1. Amateur and professional conjurers shall be eligible for membership. Individuals wishing to join the Society shall complete a Membership Application Form and shall be eligible for election on receipt of said form.
- 3.2. All applicants wishing to join the society shall be interviewed by the Membership Secretary, who will make recommendations to the Committee. The Membership Secretary has full power to approve applications for membership if six or more of the Committee deems the application acceptable and upon receipt of the appropriate annual subscription fee.
- 3.3. Each member of the Society shall agree to conform to the rules of the Society, and shall not expose upon platform or any public meeting place any trick or magical secret, and shall refrain, under power of expulsion from the society, 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 on this matter, the Committee's decision shall be final.
- 3.4. Any member who is two months in arrears shall automatically cease to be a member, but at the discretion of the Committee shall be re-admitted to the Society on the payment of a re-admittance fee with their subscription.
- 3.5. No persons under the age of 18 years shall be elected as a Full Member.

4. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

- 4.1. The annual subscription shall be reviewed yearly at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Any member joining after 1st 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.

5. ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT

- 5.1. Management of the Society shall be vested in the Annual General Meeting. The presence of three Committee Members and five Full Members shall constitute a quorum.

- 5.2. The AGM shall be held on a date close to the anniversary of the Society's formation, the date publicised to members at least one month prior to the meeting.
- 5.3. Resolutions for the AGM shall be in the hands of the Secretary at least one month before the meeting.
- 5.4. The Committee may call a Special General Meeting (SGM) of the Society at any time, and shall be required to do so on receiving a representation of not less than 10 Full Members. An SGM 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 SGM. The presence of three Committee Members and five Full Members shall constitute a quorum.
- 5.5. These Rules shall only be amended at an AGM or SGM by a majority vote of the Full 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:
 - 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, *The Devil's Chimney*;
 - Web Editor;
 - Two members without portfolio.
- 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 shall 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.