

Scottish Machine Knitters Association

Constitution

1 The Association shall be called the "SCOTTISH MACHINE KNITTERS ASSOCIATION" hereinafter referred to as "THE ASSOCIATION".

2 Aims:

- (a) to raise and maintain the highest standard of workmanship
- (b) to promote the craft and inform through exhibitions, courses, demonstrations, publications or any other media.
- (c) to maintain a register of members.

3 **Membership:** Full membership is available to all machine knitters living in Scotland. Associate Membership is open to any machine knitter living outwith Scotland. All members share the same privileges and benefits but only full members may vote at general meetings or seek election to the Scottish Machine Knitters Association Committee.

4 Management:

(a) The Management shall be vested in an Executive Committee, consisting of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Show Secretary, Web Site Manager, Newsletter Editor, Photocopier, and a Representative from each of the designated areas.

(b) **Executive Committee Meetings.** The quorum shall be not less than five members but must include two office bearers.

(c) Each member shall have one vote and the Chairperson shall have the casting vote.

(d) The Committee may also co-opt members to give specialist assistance whenever such occasion may arise.

(e) The Committee may fill vacancies among Office Bearers and co-opted members to the Committee to bring the number up to that authorised. Such co-opted members shall serve until the next AGM when they may seek election.

(f) If the Area Representative cannot attend a committee meeting the Area may delegate someone to attend instead. The delegate may only vote on issues concerned with their Area.

(g) Any Committee Member failing to attend at least 50% of Committee Meetings is deemed to have demitted office. This will then be agreed by the rest of the Committee.

5 Annual General Meeting:

(a) The AGM shall be held in May/June.

(b) Nomination of Office Bearers shall be open to full members only and nominees for Chairperson to have had a minimum of one year's experience on Association's Committee.

(c) All nominations must be proposed and seconded, and the consent of the nominee obtained. Each member may propose one and second another candidate only. All nominations must be lodged with the Secretary at least EIGHT (8) weeks prior to the AGM. If Committee vacancies still exist and no valid proposals have been lodged prior to the AGM, then proposals will be taken from the floor.

(d) Office Bearers, Committee and area representatives shall stand for a maximum of three years. The positions of Treasurer and Website Manager are honorary positions and will not come up for re-election every 3 years. Area representatives to retire after three years but may stand for a further 3 years (maximum 6 years). Thereafter they must retire for one year before seeking re-election for the same post. If no one is willing to fill a vacancy, then members at AGM should be asked whether or not they agree to that Committee member continuing until the next AGM.

Voting

(a) Each full member will have a single vote. The vote may be used in person or by post. The postal vote to be lodged with the Secretary no later than TEN (10) days prior to the AGM.

(b) If more than one proposal is received for the same position the Committee shall arrange for a non-member to attend the AGM. Votes will be counted by this Independent Authority at the AGM.

6 An Extraordinary General Meeting

An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called by the Committee within 28 days from receipt of a written request by at least 10% of the membership, stating the business to be discussed.

7 Finance

(a) Members to pay annual Subscription, the amount to be determined at the AGM. "Which shall become due following the AGM and paid not later than the end of August after which membership will deem to have lapsed".

(b) All moneys shall be deposited in a bank to be approved by the Committee in the name of "Scottish Machine Knitters Association".

(c) All cheques or withdrawals shall require two signatures of those on the Bank Mandate. Withdrawals of more than £500 must have the approval of the Committee.

(d) All moneys raised for the Association shall be applied to further its aims and for no other purpose other than those agreed at an AGM.

(e) The financial year shall terminate on 31 March each year prior to the AGM.

(f) Audited accounts prepared by an Independent Auditor shall be presented by the Treasurer at the AGM.

Dissolution of the Association

In the event of dissolution of the Association all remaining assets will be realised in a manner decided by those members present at an Extraordinary General Meeting. Should the Association be declared insolvent, the maximum liability of each member shall not exceed One Pound (£1).

8 Amendments to the Constitution

(a) Proposals for alterations, amendments or additions to this Constitution must be submitted to the Secretary in writing, not less than 28 days prior to the Annual General Meeting, and be proposed by not less than eleven members of the Association.

(b) Any Alterations to the Constitution shall be decided by two-thirds majority of the votes at the AGM

This Constitution was agreed at the Annual General Meeting of the Scottish Machine Knitters Association held on Friday, 27 May 2011 at the Parklands Centre, Alva.

Signed: P. Fountain

Print name: PATRICIA FOUNTAIN

Chair

Dated: 27. 05. 11

Signed: Bertha Rudden

Print name: BERTHA RUDDEN

Secretary

Dated: 27. 05. 11