

## **Newcastle Camera Club Constitution (Amended at A.G.M. May 2023)**

**CONSTITUTION.** The name of the organisation shall be Newcastle Camera Club, hereinafter referred to as the 'Club'.

**OBJECTIVES.** The club is established to pursue the following objectives:

To enable both amateur and professional members to increase their photographic knowledge, skills and appreciation through lectures , competitions and possible outings.

Be Members of appropriate bodies such as the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain, (P.A.G.B.), and the Midland Counties Photographic Federation,(M.C.P.F.), for the purpose of establishing competition and for the provision of access to accredited judges and lecturers.

Promote equal opportunities for participation in photographic activities by all sections of the community.

### **MEMBERSHIP.**

All members are subject to the constitution of the club and the regulations of the P.A.G.B. and M.C.P.F.

Membership of the club is open to all individuals provided they comply with this Constitution.

No person shall be refused membership on the grounds of race, colour, creed, religion, gender, sexual preference, impairment or disability.

All applications for membership shall be accompanied by the appropriate annual membership fee, which shall be payable on demand.

Each fully paid up member shall be entitled to attend and vote at General or Annual General Meetings.

Fully paid up members may be elected and serve on the club committee.

Club rules will be made available on the club website members section.

Members shall be enrolled in one category only i.e. Intermediate or advanced.

## **Suspension , Refusal or Termination of Membership**

The committee shall be entitled to :

Refuse any application for membership on a permanent basis on the grounds that such membership would be prejudicial to the objectives of the club or if a member/applicant has acted in an inappropriate manner towards members, guest speakers or judges.

For good and sufficient reason to refuse renewal of any existing membership or terminate/ suspend membership provided that the member concerned shall have the right to be heard by the quoruml committee before a final decision is made.

Any member who fails to pay their fees by the date required shall forfeit their right to representation on the management committee and at general meetings, and shall be suspended in taking part in the control of the club until such fees are paid.

Any member under suspension shall be barred from taking part in any competition, exhibition or event under the control of the club. The management committee shall inform the member in writing of any decision to terminate their membership.

Notification of the termination of a membership will be forwarded to the P.A.G.B. and M.C.P.F.

## **GENERAL MEETINGS**

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM shall be held each year at such time and place as determined by the committee at approximately twelve monthly intervals, .

At each AGM the following business shall be conducted:

- Receive and confirm the minutes of the previous AGM,
- Presentation of the club's financial accounts for the year,
- Presentation of the club's projected financial situation for the forthcoming year
- Presentation of the Chairperson's report.
- Election of officers to the committee.
- Any other relevant reports of the officers of the committee.
- Any other business brought before the meeting which has been submitted in writing to the secretary not less than seven days prior to the AGM and any other business deemed relevant by the chairperson.

Notice for an AGM shall be a minimum of 14 days.

A quorum for an AGM shall be 10% of membership.

#### EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING (EGM).

An EGM may be called on the written demand of

33% of the membership,

The Chairperson, or

2/3rds majority of the management committee.

#### **RULES FOR GENERAL MEETINGS**

A minimum of 14 days' notice in writing shall be given to all members , except in the event of an EGM where the notice shall be a minimum of 7 days.

The Chairperson , or in his/her absence a member selected by the meeting will take the Chair.

All members shall register with the Secretary prior to the start of the meeting.

Each member shall have one vote.

All votes shall be determined by a simple majority. In the event of a tied vote, the Chair may exercise a second and casting vote.

The quorum shall be one quarter of those eligible to vote , or 10% members whichever is the smaller.

The secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings and keep a record of all proceedings and resolutions.

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.**

The members of the committee shall be drawn from the membership as defined above.

Candidates shall be elected by a show of hands at the AGM and shall be members of the committee from the conclusion of that AGM until the following AGM.

Uncontested posts may be filled by nomination(s) and election at the AGM.

The secretary shall inform all members a list of all nomination's not less than seven days prior to the AGM.

If any post remains unfilled, or if a new position becomes available, the committee shall have the power to co-opt members on to the committee at any point during the year.

#### **MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.**

The Management Committee shall consist of the following members

Chairperson

Club Secretary

Treasurer

Programme Co-ordinator

Competitions Secretary

Judge Co-ordinator  
External Competition Co-ordinator  
Web Site Co-ordinator  
PDI Co-Ordinator  
Membership Secretary  
Marketing Co-ordinator  
M.C.P..F Representative  
Other General Committee members

All the above shall be entitled to one vote each at General Meetings, except the Chair.

The committee may appoint any sub- committees it may deem necessary to deal with the matters of the club, until the conclusion of the following AGM. The proceedings of any such committee shall be reported to the management committee by a representative elected by that sub- committee.

#### **RULES FOR THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

The Chairperson shall chair the meeting, or in his/her absence one of either the , Secretary or a nominee from the committee in the event of those mentioned being absent.

Not less than seven days notice of any meeting of the committee shall be given by the Secretary, except when:

The date of the meeting had been agreed at the previous committee meeting in which case 48 hours notice shall be given,

In an emergency the Chairperson may call a meeting at four days' notice.

The quorum shall be four of those officers entitled to vote.

All votes shall be determined by a simple majority, in the event of a tied vote, the Chair may exercise a second and casting vote.

Meetings shall be open to all members of the club, one exception being where confidentiality is paramount. e.g. where matters discussed may reflect on the alleged actions and integrity of a member who is under investigation for some misdemeanour which could result in their possible expulsion.

#### **FINANCE.**

The income and property of the club however derived, shall be applied solely towards the objectives of the club as set out above.

The club shall have the power to raise money by means of yearly membership fees and fees raised by mounting special events. Additionally, the club may accept gifts without conditions attached, and apply for grants from awarding bodies.

All monies shall be lodged in a bank account in the name of the club.

The Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary shall be authorised signatories to sign cheques on behalf of the club, of which two signatories shall be needed.

The financial year of the club shall run from 9<sup>th</sup> May to 4<sup>th</sup> April in the financial year 2013-2014 only and revert to April to April thereafter.

#### **AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION**

This constitution may only be amended by a proposal passed by a majority of members present and entitled to vote at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting.

**DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB**

Any resolution to dissolve the club shall only be proposed at a General Meeting and shall be carried by a majority of at least three quarters of the members present and entitled to vote. A specific date for the dissolution shall be included in the resolution, provided that the Secretary has received the terms of the proposed resolution at least thirty days before the meeting at which the resolution is due to be brought forward, and that at least 21 days' notice of the proposed resolution shall be given in writing to all members.

The dissolution shall take effect from the date specified in the resolution and the members of the committee shall be responsible for the winding up of the assets and liabilities of the club.

Any property remaining after the discharge of debts and liabilities of the club shall be given to a charity or charities (or other non-profit making organisation having similar objectives to those of the club for the furtherance of such objects) nominated by the last committee

**DECLARATION** It is hereby certified that this document represents a true and most up to date version of the Constitution of Newcastle Camera Club.

**Signatures**

Chairperson ..... Date.....  
Secretary..... Date.....