

# THE BOOK SOCIETY

## CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. The Society shall be called The Book Society.
2. The object of the Society shall be:  
*To promote, share and extend knowledge to all those concerned in the creation, production and distribution of books and to discuss and initiate developments for the good of the book trade.*
3. Membership is limited to those concerned with the creation, production and distribution of books, and consists of a) London Members, b) International & Country Members, c) Honorary Members (see 15). International & Country Members are defined as those Members whose residential address is outside the Greater London area.
4. The Officers of the Society consist of a Chair, a Vice-Chair, an Honorary Treasurer and an Honorary Secretary who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Society. The Officers retire annually and are eligible for re-election.
5. The management of the affairs of the Society rests with the Officers and an Executive Committee (collectively "the Committee") not exceeding ten. Five Committee members shall form a quorum for Committee meetings. Two members of the Committee shall retire annually by rotation and their places filled by election at the Annual General Meeting. If any sub-committee be appointed, it shall elect its own Chair. All decisions of any sub-committee must be ratified by the Committee.
6. A President will be appointed to promote the Society, provide guidance to the Chair and oversee governance of the Society. The President is not a member of the Committee and the term of office is limited to a single five year term. Nominations for President can be made by any Member to the Committee and must be supported by one other Member. The Committee will consider all nominations and decide the candidate(s) whose name(s) should be proposed for election by a written ballot of all Members.
7. The financial year of the Society begins on 1 January and ends on 31 December.
8. The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 30 June, at which an annual report and financial statement shall be presented.
9. The Annual Subscription shall be an amount determined from time to time by the Committee.
10. Subscriptions are payable on the first day of January in each year. The Committee reserves the right to terminate the membership of those Members whose subscription is unpaid at 30 June.
11. Membership of the Society is not to exceed 300, excluding Honorary Members.
12. Membership is by Committee invitation only. Any Member may propose candidates for election. Nominations must be seconded by another Member and submitted to the Committee for consideration. The Committee may reject any nominations in its sole discretion.
13. When vacancies in membership occur the Committee shall invite suitable candidates to become members of the Society.
14. London Members are expected to attend at least three Ordinary Meetings of the Society during each calendar year; International & Country Members are expected to attend at least one. The Committee reserves the right to terminate the membership of any Member whose absence exceeds these requirements
15. Members may apply to the Committee for Honorary Membership at any time post retirement and the Committee has the sole discretion to bestow Honorary Membership. Honorary Members pay no subscription and do not have voting rights, but are welcome to continue to attend dinners and bring one guest, whenever they wish.
16. The Honorary Secretary is required to give effect to the decisions of the Society and to keep minutes of the business transacted at meetings.
17. Save as notified by the Committee, Members may invite one guest to attend each ordinary dinner-meetings, provided that the same guest may not attend more than three dinner-meetings in any calendar year.
18. Alterations in the Constitution and Rules can be made only at a meeting of Members called for that purpose. Alterations can be proposed by any Member and must be supported by not less than two other Members. All proposed alterations must be lodged with the Honorary Secretary not less than 21 days prior to the date of the meeting and must be communicated by the Committee to all Members not less than 14 days prior to the date of the meeting. A majority of two-thirds of those present plus those having voted by email, letter or proxy is required for the alteration of any clause in the Constitution and Rules.

*As amended and approved by Members in Special Meetings, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 1949, June 1<sup>st</sup> 1967, April 5<sup>th</sup> 1984, October 10<sup>th</sup> 1996, 8<sup>th</sup> April 1999 & 4<sup>th</sup> April 2002, 8 May & 4 September 2008, December 4<sup>th</sup> 2014, September 10<sup>th</sup> 2015*

CERTIFYING TO BE A TRUE COPY



HONORARY TREASURER  
6 JANUARY 2016

UPDATED 10/9/15