

Ferrier Operatic Society

Written Constitution

1. The name of the Society shall be 'Ferrier Operatic Society'.
2. The object of the Society shall be to perform musical arts to the highest possible standard.
3. Membership of the Society shall be open to any person who upholds and supports the objects of the Society. Membership is subject to:
 - i) Payment of subs
 - ii) There being a vacancy
 - iii) Successful completion of audition, if required
4. Subs to be decided by the Committee to comprise of:
 - i) Annual membership fee
 - ii) Fees for performances
5. An Annual General Meeting will be held every year, at which an interested Person shall be invited to be President for the year, and the President may take the chair at such Annual General Meeting or at any Extraordinary General Meeting.
6. The Society will be managed by a Committee who will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting and consist of Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and three other members. Additional members may be co-opted by the Committee as necessary.
7. The Musical Director and Producer along with other members of the Production Team will be appointed by the Committee for each production.
8. Members wishing to take part in the performances will be expected to attend a reasonable number of rehearsals and give an acceptable commitment to the Production and the Committee reserve the right to ask anyone failing in this, without sound reason, to stand down from this Production.
9. Future productions and venues will be decided by the Committee. Suggestions for these from any Society member will be considered.
10. Principal parts for major productions will be decided by open audition in front of the Society in accordance with the Audition Guidelines (written separately).
11. Members shall be given 14 days notice of the Annual General Meeting of the Society when reports and accounts will be presented, officers will be elected and auditor appointed.
12. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called at the request of any six members. Such a request shall be made in writing to the Secretary at least three weeks in advance of the proposed date and shall include the reason for the request.
13. Dissolution of the Society

i) If, at any General Meeting of the Society, a resolution is passed calling for the dissolution of the Society, the Secretary shall immediately convene a Special General Meeting to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution. If, at that Special General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two-thirds of the Members present, the Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets of the Society in order to discharge all debts and liabilities of the Society.

ii) Any surplus remaining after all liabilities and debts have been discharged shall at the committee's discretion be divided between other amateur operatic society regularly performing locally for a period of 3 years. If there should be no suitable societies then the surplus shall be donated to one or more suitable music charities as the committee shall deem suitable.

iii) Should the sum raised in realising the Society's assets not be sufficient to meet its liabilities and debts, then the shortfall shall be raised from the current full members of the society.

14. The above rules (apart from item 13) can be amended at a General meeting (Annual or Extraordinary) by a simple majority of those attending.

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Patricia Perks and Lesley Corti, Joint Chair

Accepted and Signed on behalf of the Ferrier

Operatic Society

Original Constitution made in October 1973

Revised in January 2005

Revised in August 2025