

Constitution

Sligo Field Club Constitution and Rules

Adopted By The Annual General Meeting 20th. April 1983

Amended 27/3/1985, 10/3/1986, 14/3/1988, 19/4/1991, 31/3/1992,

18/3/1998, 25/3/2000, 5/5/2000 and 22/2/2002

1. The Club shall be called 'The Sligo Field Club'

2. The objectives of the club shall be to promote interest in the environment, both natural and man made, through lectures, guided field trips and any other method considered appropriate. The general areas of interest in the Club are Archaeology, Natural History and the quality of the environment. The Club aims to interest the general public in its objectives and welcomes Members from all walks of life, family membership being particularly encouraged.

3. In the furtherance of these aims it shall be the function of the committee to make arrangements for lectures, reading of papers, seminars, outdoor trips, the recording and protection of field monuments and other activities.

4. A person shall become a member on condition that the annual subscription is paid. The membership fee shall be due on January 1st. A person becoming a new member on or after November 1st. will not be liable to pay membership subscription for the current year and will have no vote until after the Annual General Meeting.

A member who fails to pay the annual subscription by November 1st. in any year shall automatically cease to be a member.

Any lapsed member who fails to rejoin by paying the outstanding arrears within two years shall be struck off the circulation list.

Any class of membership may be withdrawn, for behaviour undermining the objectives of Sligo Field Club, on the instructions of a majority of members in a (postal) vote, provided that two months notice has been given to the member concerned.

5. The membership subscription for the ensuing year shall be fixed at the Annual General Meeting. There shall be six classes of membership

i) Individual membership.

ii) Family membership, which includes only a husband, wife and children.

iii) Student and Concessionary membership,

iv) Honorary Life membership,

v) Institutional membership,

vi) Corporate membership.

Membership Classes (i), (iii) and (iv) shall carry only a single vote and membership classes (ii), (v) and (vi) shall carry a maximum of two votes (there being two individuals present to cast the two votes) at all General Meetings. At committee meetings, officers and members of the committee shall have one vote each, except in the case of Rule 16.

6. The Committee shall consist of a President, Vice President, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, and eight ordinary members elected by a secret ballot. The President shall act as Chairman at General and Committee meetings. The Officers must be members of the Sligo Field Club for at least two years. The ordinary Committee members must be members of the Sligo Field Club for at least one year. In addition to these Officers and Ordinary Committee Members there may be additional ex officio members, viz., Editor(s) and Archivist(s). The Editor(s), for the time being, of Sligo Field Club publications shall be ex officio member(s) of the Committee and, if not already Officer(s) or Committee Member(s), shall have voting rights only in so far as the item under consideration affects Sligo Field Club publications. The Archivist(s), for the time being, of Sligo Field Club shall be ex officio member(s) of the Committee and, if not already Officer(s) or Committee Member(s), shall have voting rights only in so far as the item under consideration affects the Sligo Field Club archives.

7. It shall be the duty of the Committee to transact the general business of the Club on a continuous basis.

8. Five members of the Committee, of which one must be an officer, shall form a quorum at a duly convened Committee Meeting.

9 The Committee shall be elected by the members assembled at the Annual General Meeting which shall be held in January or February. Only those who have indicated to an Officer or Committee Member of the Sligo Field Club their willingness to serve may be accepted as a candidate. Any vacancy on the Committee arising during the year may be filled by co option by the Committee.

10.

1) The President and Vice President shall hold office for two years.

2) The Vice President shall automatically become President after two years.

3) The Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer shall be elected annually.

4) At each Annual General Meeting, if there not be a resigning or retiring ordinary member of the committee, the longest serving ordinary member of the Committee shall retire, and shall not be eligible for re-election at that AGM. Where two Committee members have equal duration of service, having being elected at the same AGM, the matter of longest serving shall be determined by drawing from a hat, the name remaining in the hat to be that of the person to stand down. Subsequent to the election of the Officers, one person, new to the Committee for the year in question and not a retiring Officer, shall be elected to the Committee. Thereafter the remaining places on the Committee shall be filled by election.

5) On alternate years the retiring President shall ex officio become an ordinary member of the Committee and shall so remain for the two years.

11. The Committee may call on any person, whether a member or not, to attend meetings when necessary for a specific purpose. Such persons shall not be deemed to be members of the Committee and shall not have voting rights.

12. Where necessary the Committee may appoint sub committees for specific purposes. Sub committees shall report to the Committee.

13. The accounts of the Club shall be audited annually by a member appointed by the Committee, and shall be presented to the Annual General Meeting.

14.

1) The Committee may at any time call an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club upon giving fourteen days notice, and specifying in the form of a resolution or resolutions the subject or subjects for discussion.

2) An Extraordinary General Meeting shall also be called by the Committee with all convenient speed upon the receipt of written requisition signed by ten members entitled to vote at a General Meeting setting out in the format at (1) the matter(s) for discussion.

15.

1) The Constitution and Rules of the Club can be altered only at the Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting convened for the purpose.

2) Notice of motion of the proposed alterations must be lodged in writing with the Hon. Secretary at least 21 days prior to the Meeting.

16. The presiding Chairman at any General Meeting or meeting of the Committee shall have, in addition to an ordinary vote, a casting vote in the event of an equality of voting, except in the case of an election to or retirement from the Committee when the tie shall be broken by drawing from a hat.

17. The Annual General Meeting on the unanimous recommendation of the Committee arrived at by secret ballot shall have power to confer Honorary Life Membership on persons who have given distinguished service to the Club or to any of its objectives within the county.