

# **HILLEND CAMERA CLUB**

## **CONSTITUTION AND RULES**

**TITLE:** The Club shall be known as “The Hillend Camera Club”

**OBJECT:** The object of the Club shall be the practice and encouragement of the art of photography in all its branches.

**MEMBERSHIP:** The club shall consist of Ordinary Members, Junior Members, Carers and Honorary Members. Persons wishing to become members shall pay one year’s subscription after attending a maximum of three sessions as a trial or by taking part in the Facebook group for three weeks.

- Ordinary members will be those over 16 who will have full voting rights
- Junior members will be those under the age of 16 who need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian who is an ordinary member.
- Carers will be regarded as full members whilst supporting an Ordinary Member needing to be accompanied and supported.
- Honorary Members are ordinary members deemed by the AGM as worthy of a free lifetime membership due to their commitment and service to the club.

The club will maintain an inclusive setting where it is accepted that some will be more capable than others. The club welcomes members with special needs and those from LGBT and BME communities.

The Committee reserves the right to refuse membership on any grounds it deems to be appropriate.

### **TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

A member may be expelled or asked to resign from the Club at the decision of the Committee. The Committee can request a member to appear before it, provided that where any accusation or charge is made the member shall be given full and reasonable opportunity to put forward a defense and bring witnesses at a later meeting. Any member expelled or asked to resign shall have the right to appeal to a Special General Meeting called for the purpose.

All Committee Proceedings and those of any Special General Meeting called to discuss termination shall be treated as privileged and confidential.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:** The annual subscriptions shall be decided by the Committee. Subscriptions shall be due on 1<sup>st</sup> August each year and be paid within 28 days. Free membership may be granted for Junior Members and Carers who fit the criteria above at the discretion of the committee.

There may also be a small weekly entrance fee set by the committee to help with venue costs.

**MANAGEMENT:** The business of the club shall be managed by a Committee consisting of the following Officers:-

- President
- Vice-president
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Competitions Secretary
- Three Members of Committee.

They shall be elected at the AGM, by ballot of the total members present; The Committee shall have power to fill any casual vacancy in their number.

The Committee will appoint a Technical Director who will oversee mentoring and session planning. The Technical Director will be an ex-official member of the Committee.

**COMMITTEE:** The Committee shall have the power to make such regulations consistent with the Constitution, as may from time to time be deemed necessary, and shall be empowered to appoint any committee requisite for the conducting of its business. For all Committee meetings, four shall form a quorum. The President and Technical Director shall be, ex officio, members of all committees.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:** The financial year of the Association shall close on 31<sup>st</sup> July and the AGM shall be held during August, when reports on the year's work shall be given. The quorum for the AGM shall be six.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** The Secretary, in conjunction with the President, shall call a Committee meeting at any time if so requested in writing by three ordinary members of the Association.

**VOTING:** At any meeting of the Committee or AGM, in the event of equality in voting on any matter other than the alteration of the rules, the Chairman of the meeting (normally the President) shall have a second or casting vote.

**ALTERATIONS:** The Constitution shall not be altered or added to except by the votes of a majority of members present at an AGM or an EGM, due notice of which must have been given to all members. Written notice of the proposed alteration or addition must be given to the Secretary two weeks previous to the meeting.

**FUNDS:** The funds of the Association shall be applied solely to its stated objects. No member of the Association shall receive payment for their services except legitimate expenses incurred in its work and in the event of dissolution; the remaining funds shall be devoted to similar objects to those of the Association or to other purposes approved by H M Commissioners of Customs and Excise.

**EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING:** An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be held on application in writing by three Ordinary Members.

**Amended at AGM 8<sup>th</sup> Aug 2024**