

CARNON DOWNS DRAMA GROUP

RULES

1. THE Society shall be called the “Carnon Downs Drama Group”.

Objects:

2. “THE object of the Society is to educate the public in the dramatic arts and to further the development of public appreciation and taste in the said arts [to assist and further such charitable purposes as the Committee shall from time to time determine]; and in furtherance of this object but not otherwise the Society through its management committee shall have the following powers:
- (a) To promote plays, dramas, comedies, musicals and other dramatic works of educative value.
 - (b) To purchase obtain and acquire interest in the copyright of or the right to perform or show any such dramatic or musical works.
 - (c) To purchase or otherwise acquire plant, machinery, furniture, fixtures, fittings, scenery and all other necessary effects.
 - (d) To raise funds and invite and receive contributions from any person or persons whatsoever by way of subscription, donation and otherwise; provided that the Society shall not undertake any permanent trading activities in raising funds.
 - (e) To do all such other things as shall further the objects of the Society.”

Constitution:

3. THE Society shall consist of acting and non-acting Members, and may also include as Life Members such other persons as shall have rendered special services to the Society.

Management:

4. THE Society shall be managed by a Committee consisting of the following Officers, namely: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary and eight Members / non-acting Members.

Eligibility for Membership:

5. MEMBERSHIP shall be open to all those having sympathy with the objects of the Society and desiring actively to further it and to pay the annual subscription prescribed by the Rules. Adult Members are determined as those 18 years and over; children and students are those between 7 – 17 years inclusive.

Expulsion of Members:

6. (a) ANY member of the Society who in the opinion of the Committee confirmed by an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society shall be guilty by his / her actions of misusing the privileges of the Society or of otherwise bringing the Society into contempt or disrepute may be suspended or expelled.
- (b) THE Committee may, by a unanimous vote, remove from the list of Members the name of any acting Member who has persistently neglected the work undertaken by the Society and the name of any member whose conduct they consider likely to endanger the welfare of the Society.

Subscriptions:

7. THE current annual subscription to the Society is as follows:

Acting or Non-acting Members	Adults	£20.00	each
Acting or Non-acting Members	First Child/Student	£15.00	each
Acting or Non-acting members	Subsequent Children/Students	£10.00	each

Subscriptions for all members shall be determined at each AGM. Any agreed adjustment will take effect at the following AGM. Life Members will be exempt from Membership Fees.

Payment of Subscriptions:

8. Annual subscriptions shall become due and be paid to the Treasurer on joining the Society and all subsequent subscriptions shall become due at the AGM in each year and shall be paid to the Treasurer not later than 30th April in that year.

Life Members:

9. LIFE Members may, on the nomination and recommendation of the Committee only, be elected on such terms as the members of the Society at an AGM may decide.

Finance:

10. (a) THE funds of the Society shall be applied solely to the stated objects of the Society.
- (b) NO members of the Society shall receive payment directly or indirectly for services to the Society or for other than legitimate expenses incurred in its work.

Financial Year

11. THE financial year of the Society shall commence on 1st March and an annual profit and loss account and balance sheet shall be prepared within two calendar months after 28th February in each year.

Non-Payment of Subscriptions:

12. THE Committee shall have power by ordinary resolution to suspend any Member whose subscription remains unpaid after 30th April in any year from exercising all or any of the privileges of membership until his / her subscription is paid.

Annual General Meeting:

13. THE Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held in the month of April when the Report of the Committee and accounts for the past year, duly audited, shall be presented. The Officers, other members of Committee and an Auditor for the ensuing year, and the Life Members, if any elected, and all general business transacted.

Extraordinary General Meeting:

14. AN Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society may be called at any time at the discretion of the Committee and shall be called within 21 days after the receipt by the Secretary of a requisition in writing to that effect signed by at least 12 acting / non-acting members. Every requisition shall specify the business for which the Meeting is to be convened and no other business shall be transacted at such Meeting.

Quorum at General Meeting:

15. NO business other than the formal adjournment of the Meeting shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum be present and such quorum shall consist of not less than 10 persons of the membership entitled to vote.

Resolution at General Meeting:

16. UNLESS otherwise provided by these Rules all resolutions brought forward at a General Meeting shall be decided by a bare majority of the votes properly recorded at such Meeting and in the case of an equality of votes the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

Retirement of Committee Members (Including Officers) and Auditor:

17. THE Committee (including the Officers) and the Auditor shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election. The Chairperson to serve no longer than 3 consecutive years. The names of the candidates for these positions shall be sent to the Secretary in writing at least 14 days before the Annual General Meeting and, if more names are proposed than the number required to fill the vacancies and sufficient are not withdrawn at or before such Meeting, the election shall be by ballot. If all the before-mentioned positions shall not be filled by such Meeting or any casual vacancy shall thereafter occur, the same shall be filled by the remaining members of the Committee. No person can be made eligible to serve on the Committee until he / she has been a Member of the Society for a minimum of 6 months.

Notice of General Meeting:

18. A printed notice of every General Meeting accompanied in the case of the Annual General Meeting by the Statement of Accounts for the past year and particulars of nominations for the Committee (including any Officers) and Auditor and of any proposal to elect a Life Member shall be sent to each member at least 7 days prior to the day fixed for such Meeting.

Appointment of Sub-Committee:

19. THE Committee shall have the power to appoint Sub-Committees, to delegate such Sub-Committees all or any of its powers and shall continue to hold office until the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting at which its successors are elected.

Selection of Cast:

20. THE cast for any production shall be selected by the Director. Members of the Committee may assist in an advisory capacity.

Obligations of Acting Members:

21. ACTING Members shall to the best of their ability play the parts assigned to them, whether principal or chorus and obey the directions given at all rehearsals and performances.

Selection of Works:

22. THE Committee shall select the works to be from time to time produced by the Society.

Production Money:

23. ALL moneys due from Members in connection with the production and performance of any work shall be accounted for, and paid to the Treasurer immediately.

Recovery of Money due to Society:

24. ALL moneys due and owing to the Society, including Subscriptions of Members, shall be recoverable at law in the name of the Secretary.

Meetings of Committee:

25. THE first Meeting of the Committee shall be called by the Secretary and shall be held within 21 days after the Annual General Meeting. All subsequent Meetings of the Committee shall be called by the Secretary in accordance with any resolution to that effect passed by the Committee and failing any such resolution at the discretion of the Chairperson and Secretary. 5 shall form a Quorum.

Committee's Powers:

26. THE Committee shall have power to decide any questions arising out of these Rules and all other matters connected with the Society (other than and except those which can be dealt with only by the Society in General Meeting) and make and maintain and publish all necessary orders, regulations and bye-laws in connection therewith.

Dissolution of Society:

27. THE Society shall be dissolved only by resolution passed by a majority of at least five-sixths of the Members present and voting at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose of considering such dissolution. In the event of dissolution any balance of cash remaining in hand after the realisation of assets and payment of debts shall not be distributed among the members of the Society but shall be applied for such charitable purposes similar to those of the Society or be paid, distributed or transferred to such charitable institutions or institution having objects similar to the objects of the Society as to the Committee with the consent of the Meeting shall determine.

Alteration to Rules:

28. (a) NO alteration of these Rules shall be made except at a General Meeting nor unless 21 days prior to such a meeting a written notice of the proposed alteration or of one substantially to the like effect shall have been given to the Secretary who shall give 14 days notice thereof to the members and the resolution embodying such proposed alteration shall be carried by a majority of at least two thirds of the votes recorded thereon at the Meeting.
- (b) NO alteration may be made to Rules 2, 27 and 28 without the approval of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales or other authority having charitable jurisdiction from time to time.