

RULES / GOVERNING DOCUMENT

These rules replace Rules adopted in 1988 and amended in 2003, 2007 and 2019.

Approved at the Annual General Meeting of the Society on 2nd July 2024

Rule 1 NAME

The Society shall be called the King Edward Musical Society of Macclesfield.

Rule 2 OBJECTS

The objects of the Society are to present and study music of the highest quality, aiming at a high standard of performance both vocal and instrumental. These objects will be carried out through the presentation of public concert performances and recitals and by such other ways as determined by the Society through the Committee as are charitable in law.

Rule 3 CONSTITUTION

An Annual General Meeting shall be held on a convenient date after the end of the financial year but before 31st July.

Not less than 7 days' notice of any General Meeting of the Society shall be given: such notice being by email or, for those for whom this is not an option, by phone or in person.

The officers of the Society shall consist of Chair, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and Publicity Officer.

The Committee may, at its discretion, create sub-committees to assist in the running of the Society, each of which will be convened and chaired by a member of the Committee. Sub-committee composition is at the discretion of the Committee and sub-committee Chair; sub-committee members need not be members of the Committee. Such sub-committees shall report back to the Committee.

The Committee shall consist (ex officio) of the Chair, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Publicity Officer and the chair of each section sub-committee. These committee members shall be the trustees of The Society. In addition, the Contemporary Ensemble will be asked to nominate a representative. Each section sub-committee will also be asked to provide one additional member for the Committee.

The officers and sub-committee chairs will be elected by the members at an Annual General Meeting for a term of three years but can be re-elected at the AGM at which they retire.

The Committee may appoint a President of the Society.

The Committee has the power to co-opt additional members of the Society as members of the Committee.

Musical Directors will be expected to attend the annual KEMS Programme Committee meeting and the Annual General Meeting.

All Members of the Committee or a sub-committee shall be entitled to one vote at any meeting at which they are present, but the Musical Director(s) shall not be entitled to vote. In the event of a tie, the Chair of the meeting in question shall have a casting vote. The quorum for a meeting of the Committee will be 5.

Rule 4 MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Society shall be open to all, subject to such audition (if any) as may from time to time be prescribed by the Committee with the concurrence of the Musical Directors.

The members of the Society shall be those who pay the annual subscription at the appropriate rate or rates as determined by the Society in General Meeting, all subscriptions being payable at such times and by such instalments as the Committee may from time to time determine.

Rule 5 SUBSCRIPTIONS

The subscription will be recommended annually by the Committee and determined by a show of hands of those Members who are present at the Annual General Meeting.

No reduction shall be made for any member who leaves the society during the season or does not take part in all its concerts. A reduction for full members joining during the season shall be at the discretion of the Treasurer.

Rule 6 FINANCE

The financial year of the Society shall end on 31st May or on such other date (not more than 3 months before or after 31st May) as may be decided upon from time to time by the Committee. A statement of accounts duly certified by an Independent Examiner (as required by the Charities Commission) shall be presented at the Annual General Meeting. The Independent Examiner shall be appointed by the Committee.

The Society may receive donations, grants in aid or financial guarantees and the Committee shall have power to issue tickets for the Society's concerts at reduced prices to its members and others.

The income and property of the Society, whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Society as set forth in its Rules, and no proportion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly, by way of dividend, bonus or by payment of a professional fee to any member of the Society except in payment of legitimate expenses incurred on behalf of the Society.

On the winding up of the Society any remaining assets shall be handed over to a Society or Association having similar aims and objects.

Rule 7 MATTERS NOT COVERED BY THESE RULES

Any matters not covered by these Rules shall be dealt with by the Committee.

Rule 8 AMENDMENT OF RULES

These Rules shall only be altered or added to at the Annual General Meeting of the Society or at a Special General Meeting of which not less than 14 days' notice has been given to at least 90% of all Members, provided that nothing contained herein shall authorise any amendment which shall have the effect of the Society ceasing to be a charity.

Members may request a Special General Meeting of the Society and this shall be acted upon by the Committee only if supported by the signatures of not less than 10% of the Members of the Society at that time. The request must be made to the Secretary at least 14 days before the proposed meeting takes place. It is not permissible to request a Special General Meeting to be held within 14 days of the Annual General Meeting.

In the case of both the Annual General Meeting and any Special General Meetings, the quorum is ten members.