

THE ARDBRAE DANCERS OF OTTAWA

CONSTITUTION

Article 1. Name

The name of this organization shall be "The Ardbrae Dancers of Ottawa", hereinafter referred to as "The Association".

Article 2. Objects

The objects of the Association shall be in affiliation with the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society:

- (a) To preserve, further and develop the practice of traditional Scottish Country Dancing;
- (b) To provide instruction in the practice of Scottish Country Dancing;
- (c) Generally, to do such other things as are considered by the Association to be incidental or conducive to the attainment of either of the foregoing objects and to accomplish these objects in an enjoyable and friendly social environment.

Article 3. Membership

1. Membership in the Association shall be open to all persons who have attained the statutory age of majority and who are interested in the objects of the Association and shall be contingent upon payment of the appropriate fee in accordance with the By-Laws
2. The Association may accord privileges to Junior Associates as it sees fit.
3. The Association may grant honorary memberships to any person interested in the objects of the Association and likely to further its interests.

Article 4. Group Structure

1. The membership of the Association shall be organized in component Groups.
2. The function of a Group is to further the objects of the Association by arranging for classes of instruction and for social dancing in its particular locality.

Article 5. Executive

The Executive of the Association shall consist of the following elected officers: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

Article 6. Term of Office

The term of executive officers shall be one year. Executive officers may be nominated and elected for a second or further term in any single office. Following a second year in the office of Chairman a member shall not be eligible for nomination in the next two subsequent years.

Article 7. Council

The Council shall consist of the Executive, one representative elected by each Group and additional members with capabilities for furthering the objects of the Association.

Article 8. Elections

Election of the Executive and to Council shall take place at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Association. A Nominating Committee shall present a slate and the election shall be conducted in accordance with the By-Laws.

Article 9. Nominations

1. There shall be a nominating committee consisting of the immediate past Chairman and two additional members. One of the latter shall serve as chairman. The nominating committee shall be appointed by the Executive not less than two months prior to the date set for the AGM.
2. Nominations in addition to the slate presented by the Nominating Committee may be made by any member, when supported by a seconder and when the candidate has indicated willingness to serve.

Article 10. General Meetings

1. A General Meeting shall be held once a year. The date for the AGM shall be set by the Executive.
2. At any other time an extraordinary General Meeting shall be called by the Executive if and when instructed by Council.
3. Notice of a General Meeting shall be given not less than two weeks prior to the date set.

Article 11. Quorum

A quorum at a General Meeting shall be determined in accordance with the By-Laws.

Article 12. Procedure

All matters of procedure not prescribed by the constitution or By-Laws shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

Article 13. Audit

The accounts of the Association shall be audited annually in accordance with the By-Laws and a report shall be presented to the AGM.

Article 14. By-Laws

Pursuant to this article By-Laws may be enacted or amended at a General Meeting by a simple majority of the members present, **provided** that notice of motion is given with the notice of meeting; otherwise a two-thirds majority of the members present is required. By-Laws shall be pursuant to an article of this Constitution. No By-Law shall be incompatible with any provision of the Constitution.

Article 15. Amendment of the Constitution

Amendments to the Constitution may be made at a General Meeting by a two-thirds majority of the members present, **provided** that notice of the motion has been given to Council at least three months prior to the General Meeting.

Article 16. Disbandment

Disbandment of the Association shall require a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in a postal poll of all members. In the event of a decision to disband, the Association shall follow the direction of a special committee of Council appointed for the purpose, following legal procedures with respect to the disposition of assets and financial accountability.