



The Taborers Society

Constitution

1. Name and Terminology

The organisation shall be known as "The Taborers Society" (hereinafter referred to as the Society).

Terms

Taborer - One who plays the **Pipe** and **Tabor**.

Pipe and Tabor - A combination of two instruments, the **Pipe** and the **Tabor**, played by one person at the same time. This term to include all instruments of this family throughout the world.

The Pipe - A fipple flute played using the fingers of one hand, and often using overtones to extend the range.

The Tabor - A drum, usually carried from the arm or shoulder and played with the other hand.

Taboring - The act of playing Pipe and Tabor. This may also include the playing of **Pipe** and percussion instruments other than the **Tabor**, e.g. triangle, string drum.

2. Aims

The principle aim of the Society is:

To promote the Pipe and Tabor and Taboring.

Supporting aims:-

- to organise events that will support the principle aim, e.g. festivals, workshops;
- to educate members of the general public and increase understanding of the instruments, their historical relevance, and repertoire;
- to encourage more people to take up playing the Pipe and Tabor;
- to encourage excellence in Taboring and Pipe and Tabor making;
- to advance knowledge in all aspects of the instruments, their manufacture and design;
- to encourage and facilitate the publication of Pipe and Tabor related material and research;
- to encourage the future development of the Pipe and Tabor and its repertoire;
- to encourage communication with, and give support to, societies with related interests, e.g. those concerned with Morris, Early Dance and historical instruments;
- to develop international co-operation between musicians, organisations, events and academics to further the aims of the Society;
- to represent the cause of Taboring and Taborers where appropriate;
- To make available Pipe and Tabor related products, recordings, merchandise, etc.

3. Membership

The membership of the Society shall be open to all, on payment of the current annual membership subscription.

4. Scope and Benefit

- The Society will have an international **Scope**, seeking participation and membership amongst Taborers worldwide.
- The main **Beneficiaries** are the members of the Society.
- **Other Beneficiaries** of the activities of the Society include members of the general public, other Taborers, and those interested in the Pipe and Tabor, and the music thereof.

5. The Managing Committee

The Managing Committee of the Society (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) shall consist of:

- **Chairperson**
- **Honorary Secretary**
- **Honorary Treasurer**
- At least 1 and up to 6 **other members**

A quorum shall be deemed to be when 4 members of the Committee are present (including by conference call or similar link). The Chairperson shall have the same voting rights as any other member of the Committee, in addition to which he or she will have a casting vote in the event of a tie.

If any member of the Committee resigns or is unable to continue for other reasons the Committee shall have the power to co-opt another member of the Society who will hold the post until the next AGM.

The Committee has powers to co-opt additional members as necessary to meet the changing needs of the Society.

6. Duties of the Committee Members

It is the duty of the

- **Chairperson** to chair meetings of the Committee and organise the running of official meetings and balloting.
- **Honorary Secretary** to record a summary of Committee meetings and Society meetings in the Society minutes.
- **Honorary Treasurer** to keep an up to date account of the Society's financial transactions and that this shall be made available to any member of the Society for inspection on request.
- **The Other Members** of the Committee will be assigned roles as necessary.

7. Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting shall be held every year at which the election of the Committee shall be held.

All members will be notified of the date at least 3 months in advance.

Names and agreement of candidates shall be submitted to the Honorary Secretary by 4 weeks before the AGM and then a secret ballot shall be held at the AGM for contested posts, the results being declared by the retiring Chairperson.

8. Voting

Each full member shall be entitled to one vote which may be cast in person, by post, electronically, or by proxy.

Motions subject to a vote, when known in advance, will be notified to members no later than 4 weeks before the meeting.

Postal and electronic votes must arrive with the Hon. Secretary by the day before the meeting.

9. Accounts

- A current account shall be kept in the name of "The Taborers Society".
- Access to account finances shall be by cheque signed by the Hon. Treasurer. Other Committee members, nominated by the Committee, will be registered with the bank as additional cheque signatories.
- A float of petty cash, the limit to be agreed by the AGM, may be held by the Treasurer or another officer, as deemed necessary by the Committee.
- Reimbursement of agreed expenses will be on production of receipts.
- Accounts of the Society's finances shall be submitted annually for scrutiny by a person who shall not be a member of the Society, prior to presentation at the AGM.

10. Membership Fees

The Managing Committee will propose the level of membership fees for the coming year for the AGM to endorse or amend.

11. Remaining Funds

Should the Society cease to function, all remaining finances, after all valid claims have been met, shall be donated to a similar organisation or charity as agreed by the remaining interested members.

12. Changes to the Constitution and Committee

The Constitution and Committee may only be changed at an AGM or EGM at which time the meeting shall be considered to have a quorum when not fewer than 5 members are participating (including proxy, postal and electronic votes). Proposals to change the Constitution or Committee shall require at least two thirds of the votes received to be in favour to pass.

All other voting at an AGM or EGM shall be by simple majority. In the event of a tie the Chairperson shall have the casting vote.

13. Extraordinary General Meeting

A written petition to the secretary, of at least 10 members of the Society, shall cause the convening of an Extraordinary General Meeting, (EGM) to take place at a date and venue to be decided by the Committee and no later than three months after receipt of the petition.

26th November 2005