

RULES OF THE CLUB.

1. Election of new Members. Every candidate for election to membership shall be proposed and seconded in writing by two members or associate members of the Club and particulars of any such proposal shall be furnished to the members of the Committee before the Meeting at which such proposal is to be considered. Election shall be by a majority of the votes at any duly constituted Committee Meeting.

With effect from 1 January 2017 persons will only be considered for full membership if they have been an Associate member (See paragraph 5) for in excess of 12 months AND have renewed their membership after the initial period of joining. All associate club members will automatically be considered for election to full membership when this condition is satisfied. In accordance with Article 4 and 8(c) the committee may choose not to elect or to expel the individual without giving any reason.

2. Life Members. A member of the Club may commute all future subscriptions and become a life member by payment of a sum of fifteen times the full town annual subscription rate in force at the time¹. In the event of a life member ceasing to be a member under any of the provisions of the Articles of Association of the Model Railway Club Ltd.,¹⁰ no part of the sum paid for life membership shall be returnable except at the discretion of the Committee.

3.² Subscriptions. The annual subscription shall be payable in advance. The subscriptions for all classes of membership and period of time they run for, will be decided by the committee in advance of renewal or new memberships taking place. The current rates are shown as an appendix to these rules.

4. Resignation. Any member intending to resign from the Club shall give notice in writing to the Secretary on or before the Thirty first December in any year, otherwise he shall be liable for the subscription for the next year following.

5. Associate members.³ All classes of Associate Membership are not entitled to vote at a general meeting nor to contribute to nor be entitled to a share of the net assets of the company on a winding up. Any person may be admitted as an associate member on the following terms and conditions:—

(a) **Honorary Members.** Honorary membership may be conferred by the Committee as a mark of recognition or distinction.

(b) **Junior Members.** Persons over the age of twelve years and under the age of eighteen years upon their being proposed and seconded in the usual manner, may be elected by the Committee as Junior members.

(c) **Supporter Members.** Supporter membership may be conferred by the Committee in recognition of their role. Normally supporter members must be linked to a full member of the club. Supporter members only receive access to the club in the company of a full member and are not entitled to any other rights as club members.

(d) **Club Members.** Persons who have applied to join the Club either by written or electronic means but are not yet eligible to be elected as full members under Rule 1. Normally members in this class

¹ AGM 6 Dec 2007

² AGM 2 Dec 2010 superseded by AGM 4 Dec 2014

³ AGM 2 Dec 2010

will be elected to full members at the elapse of the appropriate time as specified in Rule 1. Members in this class shall be in this class shall be fully entitled to use the Club on similar terms to Full Elected members except that they do not have any voting rights at the AGM and will neither contribute to nor be entitled to a share of the net assets of the company on a winding up.

6. Visitors. Any member or associate member shall be at liberty to introduce a visitor, provided that such visitors is not a person who has been expelled from the Club or refused admission thereto by the Committee. No person may be introduced as a visitor more than three times in one year.

7. Bye-Laws. The Committee may make bye-laws and regulations as to the use of the Club tracks, and as to any other matters in the interest of or for the carrying on and conduct of the Club.

7(A). ⁴That where the Model Railway Club (MRC) is represented by a display of members models at an exhibition staged by another Club, the display shall be transported, set up and dismantled by members of the MRC appointed for the purpose by the Officers, and that travelling and reasonable out of pocket expenses of such members shall be met from club funds. These cost may be recoverable from the other club and due notice of such should be notified to the Treasurer.

8. President⁵. The Committee may appoint as a mark of great recognition or distinction one member or honorary member to be President. He or she shall not be deemed to be an honorary officer of the Club within the meaning of Article 10 of the Articles of Association. There may only be one President at any one time and the position need not be filled.

9. President and Vice-Presidents¹⁹. The incumbents in these appointments hold them at the absolute discretion of the Committee.

10. Code of Conduct. All members of the club are expected to behave reasonably at all times to all other club members and when representing the MRC to any third party. This will include:-

- (a) At no time will any member or the Club as a whole discriminate against anyone on the grounds of age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or disability
- (b) No member shall be rude or insulting to any other members, be intoxicated or violent on club premises. When representing the club externally this clause is extended to apply to all members of the public, including other modelers, the member may have contact with.
- (c) All members will comply with the MRC policy regarding Children and Vulnerable Adults at all times.
- (d) In the event of a complaint being made the committee may start an investigation if it feels appropriate and may take evidence from members and/or third parties as necessary. The committee, or any member thereof, may start an complaint directly if they observe a member not acting in accordance with this code of conduct. The committee may then decide on what action to take, which may include expulsion as set out in Article 8(c). The committee has the power to set a detailed complaints procedure which can be applied as appropriate.

⁴ Committee 12 May 1955

⁵ Notice given in the Bulletin 369, was not formally minuted but amended by letter from the ex-chair Richard Elwen and retained with the minutes. The changes were carried unanimously.