

THE SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH IN REHABILITATION

CONSTITUTION ADOPTED 1979
REVISED 1991, 2004, 2006, 2014, 2017

Comment [AB1]: Proposed changes for AGM/postal vote are in yellow highlighting

The SRR is a registered charity {insert number}

1. Name/Trustees

The name of the Society shall be called the Society for Research in Rehabilitation.
The Trustees are the SRR honorary officers.

2. Object

- (i) The object of the Society shall be to advance education and research into all aspects of the rehabilitation of people **with disabilities** and to disseminate the useful results of such research for public benefit.
- (ii) In furtherance of the above object, but not further, the Society shall have the following powers:
 - a) purchase, take on lease or in exchange, receive by way of gift, grant or otherwise, Hire or in any other manner acquire any real or personal property and any rights or privileges which the Society may think necessary for the promotion of its object, and to construct, maintain and alter any buildings or erections necessary for the work of the society.
 - b) Subject to such consents as may be required by law, sell, let, mortgage, dispose of or turn to account all or any of the property or assets of the Society as may be thought necessary with a view to the promotion of its object.
 - c) Subject to such consents as may be required by law, borrow or raised money for the purpose of the Society on such items and on such security as may be thought fit.
 - d) Invest the monies of the Society not immediately required for its purposes in or upon such investments, securities or property as may be determined by the Society.
 - e) The Society shall do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the attainment of the above object

3. Membership

- (i) Membership of the Society shall be open to all professionally qualified persons involved in research and concerned with the objects of the Society. *Council shall have the power to approve the nomination for membership of others whose research in rehabilitation they consider contributing to the objects of the Society.*
- (ii) Membership of the Society shall be divided into the two principal classes:
 - a) Honorary Members, elected by the Society as a mark of respect in recognition of distinguished contributions to further the object of the Society.

Honorary Members shall be entitled to attend all meetings and other activities of the Society but shall not have the right to vote at business meetings or to receive particular benefits secured by subscribing to the Society.

- b) Subscribing Members, for whom the general qualifications, privileges and subscriptions shall be determined by the Society's By-Laws. Subscribing Members shall be divided into **Two** categories.

Full Members

Associate Members

- (iii) Candidates for membership shall apply in writing and require the approval of the nominations by Council. Its decision can be overruled only by the passing of a formal resolution at a business meeting of the Society in accordance with 5(iii) of this constitution.
- (iv) **Candidates for membership shall be approved by council and their names published at the next business meeting of the Society.**
- (v) **Subscribing members who are in arrears shall be warned by the Honorary Treasurer that unless their subscriptions are paid forthwith the privileges of membership shall be withdrawn. A Subscribing Member who is more than twelve months in arrears and has been duly notified thereof by the Honorary Treasurer shall, unless immediate payment is made, cease to be a Member of the Society. Subscribing Membership may be restored at the discretion of the treasurer on full payment of arrears of subscription.**

4. Scientific Meetings

- (i) An annual Scientific Meeting shall normally be held in the month of November, December or January each year.
- (ii) Other Scientific Meetings shall be held at the discretion of the Council, may be arranged in conjunction with other organisations and may be held in countries other than the United Kingdom.
- (iii) The business transacted at Scientific Meetings shall consist of scientific communications and/or clinical or other demonstrations. The dates of all Scientific meetings for the ensuing year shall be notified to all Members of the Annual Scientific Meeting. Formal notice of each Scientific Meeting together with a programme for the meeting shall be sent to all Subscribing Members at least fourteen days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

5. Business Meetings

- (i) An Annual General Meeting shall be held on the occasion of the Annual Scientific Meeting and the business to be transacted shall include:
 - (a) Consideration of reports from the Council and the Honorary Treasurer
 - (b) Election of Members
 - (c) Election of Officers and Members of the Council
 - (d) Election of Auditors

- (ii) An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened by the President whenever he or she thinks fit and by the Honorary Secretary if so required within one month from the receipt of a requisition in writing by not less than twenty Full Members stating the purpose for which an Extraordinary General Meeting is being requisitioned.
- (iii) Subscribing Members may move formal resolutions at any business meeting, including nomination for membership of persons whose nomination was not approved by the Council, provided that not less than four weeks before the due date of the meeting they give due notice in writing thereof to the Honorary Secretary and at the same time submit a copy of such resolution.
- (iv) Formal notice of, and an agenda paper for each Business Meeting shall be sent to all members at least fourteen days before the scheduled date of the meeting.
- (v) **The quorum for a business meeting shall be at least 25 full members present in person.** Subject to Article 10 hereof, matters shall be determined by a simple majority on a show of hands unless a poll is demanded by the Chairman of the meeting or by at least three Full Members present in person. A poll shall be taken in such a manner as the Chairman may direct. A casting vote may be exercised by the Chairman of the meeting.

6. Council

- (i) The governing body of the Society (the Council) should reflect the multiprofessional nature of the Society. The Council shall consist of the President, President-elect, immediate past President, Honorary Treasurer, Senior and Junior Honorary Secretaries, immediate past Secretary, **Public Relations Officer** and six ordinary members **including the BSRM representative.**
- ~~(ii)~~ One third of the Ordinary Members of the Council shall retire each year. Only Full Members of the Society shall be eligible for election to the Council and nomination shall require the support of two Full Members. The members of the Council shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Society and shall assume their duties immediately after the conclusion of the meeting at which they are elected. The period of office of Ordinary Members of the Council shall be limited to three years, but without prejudice to their eligibility for Honorary office within or immediately after such a period. ~~Up to expiration of such term, a Member shall not be eligible to serve as an Ordinary Member of the Council for one year.~~
- (iii) The Council shall be responsible for deciding the arrangement for all meetings and other business of the Society. Five Members shall form a quorum. The council shall have the power to co-opt and set up subcommittees, and to determine the Society's representation on other bodies.
- (iv) The Council shall usually meet on every occasion that a meeting of the Society is held, and on such other occasions as they or the President consider may be necessary.
- (v) Members of the Council (including Honorary Officers) due to retire after the next Annual General Meeting shall be notified to Members with the formal notice of

the meeting. On receipt of such notice any Full Member of the Society may propose candidate(s) by sending in writing the name(s) of the candidate(s) supported by the endorsement of another Full Members and the consent of the candidate(s) to the Honorary Secretary to arrive in his hands not later than the day preceding the Annual General Meeting.

- (vi) If candidates are nominated in excess of the number of vacancies available, voting shall take place at the Annual General Meeting and the candidates securing the largest number of votes shall be elected to the vacancies that exist.

7. Honorary Officers

- (i) The honorary Officers of the Society shall be President, President-elect, Honorary Treasurer, Senior Honorary Secretary, Junior Honorary Secretary and Public Relations Officer (PRO).
- (ii) Only Full Members shall be eligible for election to Honorary Office and nominations for office shall require the support of two Full Members.
- (iii) **President:** A President-elect shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting once every two years. After holding this office for two years the member so elected shall succeed to the office of President which appointment shall also be held for two years. The member shall continue to serve on the Council as immediate past President for a further two years and thereafter shall **not** be eligible for re-election to this office.
- (iv) **Honorary Treasurer:** The Honorary Treasurer shall serve for four years and shall be responsible for directing the Society's financial transactions and maintaining a list of members. All cheques shall be signed by the Honorary Treasurer or person authorised by the Council.
- (v) **Honorary Secretaries:** A Junior Honorary Secretary shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting once every two years. After holding this office for two years the member so elected shall succeed to be Senior Honorary Secretary which office shall also be held for two years. The Member shall continue to service on the Council as immediate past Secretary for a further two years.
- (vi) **Public Relations Officer (PRO):** A PRO shall be elected at an Annual General once every two years and shall be responsible for publicising and promoting the Society using methods such as social media, the SRR Website and other channels of publicity.
- (vii) In the event of an Officer being unable to complete his term of office his duties shall be assumed until the next Annual General Meeting by his designated successor or by such other Member of the Council, failing whom a Full Member of the Society, as the Council shall nominate.

8. General

- (i) The society's business shall be conducted in, and the Accounts shall be made up to a year ending 31 March each year.
- (ii) The income and property of the Society shall be supplied solely towards the promotion of the object of the Society as set forth in this Constitution, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of

dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the Members of the Society, provided that nothing shall prevent payment in good faith of reasonable and proper remuneration of out-of-pocket expenses to any Honorary Officer or servant of the Society in return for any services actually rendered to the Society, nor prevent payment of interest at a rate not exceeding 5 per cent per annum above Bank Base Rate on money lent, or reasonable and proper rent for premises let, by any member of the Society.

- (iii) The Society's Accounts shall be independently inspected each year by an Auditor elected at the Annual General Meeting. The inspected accounts shall be published with the Society's Annual Report and Statement of Accounts.

9. Affiliation

The council shall have the power to see and accept the affiliation of or the amalgamation with, other organisations and to affiliate the Society to other organisations, provided that by such acts the Society shall not cease to be a charity.

10. Constitution

- (i) The Council shall have the power to make, vary and repeal Bye-Laws and Regulations for the conduct of the general affairs of the Society, its officers and servants, and for the despatch of the business of the Society, but so that no such Bye-Laws or Regulations shall be of effect in so far as they are inconsistent with or repugnant to the provision of this Constitution.
- (ii) Notice of any proposal to amend or alter this Constitution must be sent to the Honorary Secretary not less than eight weeks before the next ensuing Annual General Meeting. Such proposals shall be circulated to all Members and will appear on the Agenda of the said meeting in the form of a motion. The quorum for amendments to the Constitution shall be **20%** of all Full Members present in person, and the proposed amendment shall require the support of two thirds of the Full Members present to be passed.
- (iii) If a quorum shall not be present, the Council shall be empowered to conduct a postal **or electronic** ballot on the motion, and in these circumstances the proposed amendment shall require the support of two thirds of the votes cast and received by the Honorary Secretary by a date to be specified on the notice of the ballot. Provided always that no alteration be made to Clause 2, Clause 10 (iii) of this clause without the prior approval of the Charity Commissioners and no alteration shall be made which would cause the Society to cease to be a charity at law.
- (iv) The Society may at any time by a resolution passed in General Meeting in the accordance with the same terms in Article 10 (ii) be wound up and dissolved and all assets remaining after payment of all just debts should be paid or transferred to some other charitable institution or institutions having objects similarly to the Society and, if effect cannot be given to the same then for some other charitable purpose.