

Constitution of Maidstone Film Society

Name: The name of the society is Maidstone Film Society (MFS)

Objects: The objects of MFS are to create and encourage an interest in all matters pertaining to film and allied visual techniques as an art and entertainment. In furtherance of this object MFS may show films including those of an artistic, cultural or scientific nature and to promote the study and appreciation of films by means including discussions, lectures and exhibitions.

Membership:

1. Annual membership of the MFS shall be open to anyone over the age of 16 on completion of the application form and payment of the annual subscription and at discretion of the Committee.
2. The annual subscription will be set at the Annual General Meeting (AGM)
3. The annual subscription shall entitle the holder to participate in the activities of MFS during the year of their membership. The year of membership runs from 1st September to 31st August.
4. Temporary memberships for one film will usually be available prior to each film. A temporary membership does not give any voting rights unless the purchaser chooses to buy a full membership on that day.
5. The number of temporary memberships at any one film performance must not exceed the number of members paying an annual subscription.

Management

1. The business of the MFS shall be managed by a General Committee (Committee)
2. The Committee shall consist of a Chairman, a Treasurer, a Secretary and at least 3, but not more than 6 other society members.
3. The Committee shall be elected by the members of MFS at the AGM and shall hold office until successors are appointed at the following AGM, at which all Committee members will stand down but may stand again for re-election.
4. The quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall be 5 including at least 2 officers.
5. Other officers can be appointed by the Committee as found to be necessary.
6. The Committee shall have power to co-opt any member of the MFS.
7. Sub-committees for special purposes may be appointed by the Committee.

General Meetings:

1. An AGM shall be held at the end of the season, ideally immediately preceding the final film of the season which will normally be before the end of May.
2. The quorum for the AGM shall be 20 members.
3. A Special General Meeting may be called by the Committee or upon request being made to the Secretary and signed by at least 20 members with annual subscriptions.
4. 14 days notice must be given of any General Meetings.

Alteration of Rules: Changes to the constitution can only be made by a resolution of two thirds of members present at a General Meeting.

Accounts: The Treasurer shall submit a current statement of accounts to MFS at the AGM in respect of the year ending between the penultimate film and the last film. This will usually be towards the end of April.

General:

1. MFS shall not be run for the private profit of any member or members.
2. MFS shall not support the cause of any political party.
3. Any balance of funds at the end of the accounting period shall be carried over to the following year.
4. No members or Committee members shall receive payment directly or indirectly for their services or for anything other than legitimate expenses incurred by them in their work for MFS.

Dissolution:

1. MFS can be wound up in one of the following ways:
 - a) A resolution passed by three quarters of the number of annual subscription members present at a Special General Meeting convened for that purpose,
or
 - b) In the case that there is an unresolved conflict between the committee and the members at such a meeting the final decision will be made by the treasurer.
2. In the event of MFS being dissolved any remaining funds will not be distributed among the members. The funds will be passed to a charitable organisation or organisations with objects similar to those of MFS. MFS may consult with Cinema for All or a like organisation for advice and assistance in distributing these funds.