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Constitution of The Coracle Society

Last amended: April 2026

1. The Society shall be called THE CORACLE SOCIETY. Its aims shall be:
 - To promote the knowledge of coracles, curraghs and allied craft, their making, use, study and collection,
 - To take all reasonable steps to support the continuance of fishing involving the use of coracles and to encourage the holding of coracle regattas, races and the like,
 - To publish a newsletter as a means of communication between all those interested in coracles,
 - To use its best endeavours to obtain supplies of materials for the construction of coracles
2. MEMBERSHIP
 - a. Membership shall be open to all those interested in coracles, their use and manufacture (including allied small craft), who support the aims of the Society. Membership shall start from the date payment is received and their details are entered into the membership database
 - b. The subscription shall be fixed by the Society at the Annual General Meeting and shall be payable on joining and thereafter on the first of January each year
 - c. Any member whose subscription has not been received by the thirty-first of January shall be deemed to have resigned unless the Executive Committee shall decide otherwise. The Executive Committee may by notice in writing expel any member who offends against the Rules, or whose conduct in the opinion of the Executive Committee render him unfit for membership of the Society. Before any member is expelled the Secretary shall give him seven days written notice to attend a meeting of the Executive Committee and shall inform them of the complaints made against them
3. OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
 - a. The officers of the Society as provided by these Rules shall be a Chair, up to two Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. A President and six Vice Presidents may be elected annually at a General Meeting and shall be officers within Rule 3b but without voting rights. The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and any other officers shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.
 - b. The Executive Committee shall consist of:
 - i. The Officers of the Society
 - ii. Not less than six, nor more than nine, other committee members to be elected by the Society at the Annual General Meeting
 - c. The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice in every year and its first meeting after the Annual General Meeting shall decide on the quorum for subsequent meetings. It may fill any casual vacancies on the Executive Committee and appoint an

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auditor. It may co-opt any other member or members provided that the number of co-opted members does not exceed four at any one time

- d. The management and control of affairs, funds and property of the Society shall be in the hands of the Executive Committee (constituted in accordance with Rule 3b). The Executive Committee shall have full power over the interpretation of these rules and shall decide on all questions as to their construction
- e. Nominations for the election of elected committee members must be made in writing and received by the Secretary not later than twenty-one days before the date of the Annual General Meeting, but nominations may be made at the meeting in respect of any vacancies for which written nominations have not been received. If the number of nominees exceeds the number of vacancies, voting shall be ballot by the members present at the meeting
- f. At the Annual General Meeting each year, all officers and other members of the Executive Committee shall retire and shall be eligible for re-election. The Chair, Vice Chairmen, Secretary and Treasurer, after five years in such office, shall not be eligible for re-election to such office for the following year unless the Annual General Meeting decides otherwise, but shall be eligible for election to any other office. The President, after three years in such office, shall not be eligible for re-election to such office for the following year unless the Annual General Meeting decides otherwise, but shall be eligible for election to any other office.

4. ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

Due to the small turnover of the Society, there is no requirement for the accounts to be audited and therefore no requirement for an auditor to be elected to office. The financial year of the Society shall run from first of January to thirty-first of December.

The income and property of the Society shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the aims and objectives of the Society.

- a. A member of the Society governing body is entitled to be reimbursed from the property of the Society or may pay out of such property reasonable expenses properly incurred by them when acting on behalf of the Society.
- b. None of the income or property of the Society may be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, by way of dividend bonus or otherwise by way of profit, to any member of the Society. This does not prevent a member from receiving reasonable and proper remuneration for any goods or services supplied to the Society.

5. GENERAL MEETINGS

- a. An Annual General Meeting shall be held each year at the discretion of the committee, on a date, place and time to be determined by the Executive Committee, at which a report of its proceedings, affairs of the Society and a statement of accounts will be presented
- b. The Executive Committee may at any time, and the Secretary shall on the written request of any ten members of the Society, stating the business for which it is required, convene at not less than one month's notice an Extraordinary General Meeting for any specific purpose and the notice shall state the business to be transacted at the meeting
- c. The quorum for the Annual General Meeting shall be nine, except at the inaugural meeting when it shall be six, and all matters shall be decided by the majority of those attending and voting. In the case of equality of votes the Chair of the meeting shall have the casting vote
- d. No alteration or addition to these Rules (except so far as the same are reserved to the

Executive Committee or to the Society in General Meeting under these Rules) shall be made except by a resolution passed by three quarters majority of those present and voting at an Annual General Meeting

- e. Notice of every Annual General Meeting with an agenda shall be sent by either post and/or email to each member whose contact details are known to the Secretary at least one month before the date of the meeting. Any member, who wishes to propose at the Annual General Meeting any alteration to the Rules, or any other business of importance, shall notify the same to the Secretary six weeks before the meeting. The Secretary shall include notice of such a proposition in the agenda of the next Annual General Meeting where the proposition is to be discussed

6. LOCAL SOCIETIES

- a. Local societies composed of members of the Society with power to carry out aims similar to those of the Society under such title as the Executive Committee may authorise, provided that the aims of the local Society are compatible with the aims of the Society and that:
 - i. The Rules of the local Society and all subsequent changes to such rules shall be subject to approval by the Executive Committee, and a copy of its accounts shall be delivered to the Society's Honorary Treasurer not less than once a year
 - ii. The local society shall submit to the Executive Committee a list of the names and addresses of the persons taking part in its activities

7. DISSOLUTION

If members in a General Meeting decide to discontinue the Society, its net assets after payment of all expenses shall be given to a charity or charities nominated by the last Executive Committee