

# **CHURCHILL CLASSIC CINEMA CLUB (CASABLANCABRIDGE) CONSTITUTION**

## **1. NAME:**

The name of the Society shall be “The Churchill Classic Cinema Club (Casablancabridge)” hereafter referred to as “the Society”.

## **2. OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES:**

(1) The Society’s aim shall be to enrich the collective understanding and appreciation of early cinema and its history. Its functions, in pursuance of this aim, shall be to:

(1a) educate audiences—through discerning programming and active discussion—and

(1b) provide an open and welcoming community where members can share their love for early cinema.

(2) In pursuance of its aims, the Society will organise regular screenings and accompanying discussions of films.

(3) In pursuance of the function (2.1a), the list of films screened over the course of each year (‘The Year Programme’), with reference to (2.3), shall be representative of the history of and major forces operating within the scope of early cinema. See Appendix 1 (‘Guidelines for Year Programmes’).

(4) (a) In pursuance of functions (1a) and (1b), The Society commits also to the critical examination of perspectives and voices unjustly marginalised in the history of early cinema. To provide a very limited and non-exhaustive set of examples: this may take the form, over the course of The Year Programme, of screening classic films directed by women, or films which highlight the experiences of racial and sexual minorities.

(b) We recognise that many influential films contain racist, classist, sexist, or otherwise prejudicial messaging in various forms. Such messages do not align with the values of our society. Nevertheless, films containing such messages, which are otherwise judged to have artistic merit, shall not be prohibited from being shown. Rather, after screenings of such films, society members will be encouraged to discuss the film’s political/social messaging, and how these messages may relate to injustices in power systems past, present, and future.

(5) If a film contains sensitive topics including, but not limited to: drug use, racism, suicide, or sexual assault, or if the film contains flashing lights, members will be made aware of this before screenings.

(6) If a member requires specific disabled access arrangements, such as subtitles, these will be put in place by the Executive Committee upon request.

## **3. MEMBERSHIP:**

(1) Membership of the Society shall be open to all members of Churchill College.

(2) The Executive Committee may expel any member whose conduct seems likely to bring the Society into disrepute. Such expulsion shall be undertaken in accordance with Section (8), and is subject to confirmation at the next General Meeting of the Society. Any person expelled shall have the right of appeal to the Senior Treasurer.

#### **4. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

- (1) The day-to-day management of the Society's affairs shall be in the hands of the Executive Committee, which shall normally be elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM);
- (2) The Executive Committee shall consist of a President, Vice-President/Secretary, and Junior Treasurer, who shall be elected by the members as in (4.1). In addition there shall be a Senior Treasurer, who shall be a Fellow of Churchill College. The Senior Treasurer shall be appointed by the elected members of the Executive Committee and shall be *ex officio* a member of the Executive Committee;
- (3) All members of the Executive Committee shall be members of Churchill College *in statu pupillari*.

#### **5. GENERAL MEETINGS:**

- (1) The Society shall hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM) during each Academical year. The AGM shall be held in Cambridge during *Lent Full Term*. All Members, other than Honorary Members, shall be entitled to attend and vote at any General Meeting. At least fourteen days written notice shall be given to members before the AGM;
- (2) The AGM shall approve Minutes of the last General Meeting and the Society's Accounts for the preceding year, elect the Executive Committee for the year ahead and conduct such other business as is necessary;
- (3) Candidates for election to office shall be proposed and seconded by two other members. Every motion at a General Meeting shall be proposed and seconded by two members. Voting shall be by secret ballot and if there are more than two candidates for a post or more than two options on a motion, voting shall be by Single Transferable Vote;
- (4) An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be held at any time during Full Term. It shall be held in Cambridge and may be called by the Executive Committee or at the written request of at least ten members. Seven days written notice shall be given to members before an EGM is held. An EGM shall have the same powers as an AGM;
- (5) The President or if in absence the Vice-President/Secretary shall take the Chair at any General Meeting. In the absence of the President and Vice-President the meeting shall elect a Chairperson for that meeting. The quorum for a General Meeting shall be 10 or 25% of members, whichever is lower, including the Executive Committee and excluding the Senior Treasurer, and a written record of every General Meeting shall be kept.

#### **6. FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

- (1) The Society may maintain a banking account with a suitable Bank or Building Society to hold the Society's funds;
- (2) It shall be the collective responsibility and liability of the Executive Committee to ensure that monies and assets received into, transferred out of, or circulated within the body of the Society are properly accounted for, and that the Society's financial records are kept in good order. In particular, the Junior Treasurer shall represent the common interest of the Executive Committee in all such financial matters, and ensure continuity of Cambridge resident signatories for any bank accounts held by the Society;

- (3) The accounts should cover the period 1 July (or date of constitution) to 30 June of following year.
- (4) The Senior Treasurer shall make arrangements for the Society's Accounts to be properly audited, either by themselves, or by some other person approved under University Ordinances;
- (5) The Senior Treasurer shall not be liable for any financial debt or other obligation of the Society unless personally authorised such a debt in writing;
- (6) The society shall abide by the funding rules set by the CCRFC.

## **7. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION:**

- (1) The Constitution may be amended at a General Meeting, with approval of at least two thirds of those present. No amendment to this Constitution intended to remove the position of Senior Treasurer, to alter its prerogatives and duties, or to change the criteria and procedure for the appointment of a Senior Treasurer can be put to a vote without the prior written agreement of the Senior Tutor of Churchill College.

## **8. DISCIPLINARY PROCESSES:**

- (1) The Society's only disciplinary sanctions are to expel or to suspend a member whose actions are felt to be such as to bring the Society into disrepute, or to adversely affect the smooth running of the Society in a major way.
  - (1a) Actions which would lead to expulsion include: sexual harassment or other sexual violence, physical violence, or continued and malicious verbal assault to other members.
  - (1b) The Society will provide an anonymous online form where members can alert the Executive Committee of such behaviour.
- (2) A member who is accused of such behaviour will be made privately aware of the accusation by a member of the Executive Committee and be asked not to participate in the Society while the matter is investigated. The complaint will also be forwarded to the Senior Tutor of Churchill College.
- (3) If a member of the Executive Committee is accused of inappropriate behaviour, then an EGM will be called, where their role will be taken over by another member of the society, previously not on the Executive Committee (the 'temporary Committee member'), while the matter is investigated. The temporary Committee member will be elected by majority vote of the body of the EGM.
- (4) Such expulsion or suspension can only be effected by an (anonymous) majority vote of all Executive Committee members, including any temporary Committee members, and excluding the Senior Treasurer and any Executive Committee member under investigation.
- (5) If the excluded or suspended member wishes to appeal the decision, that appeal should be made to the Senior Treasurer, who will consider all the facts, and whose decision will be final. An appeal as to the process of exclusion, but not a further investigation into the facts, may be lodged with the Junior Proctor.

## **9. DISSOLUTION:**

- (1) The Society may be dissolved at a General Meeting provided that at least Twenty-one days written notice of the intention to dissolve the Society has been given to the members. At least two thirds of those present and voting at the General Meeting must vote in favour of the motion for Dissolution for it to be effective;
- (2) Any motion for Dissolution of the Society shall provide that assets remaining after all liabilities have been met shall be transferred either to another Registered College Society, or to the CCRFC.

## **APPENDIX 1 - GUIDELINES FOR YEAR PROGRAMMES:**

An ideal Year Programme would fulfil the following guidelines, but exceptions may be made if the Executive Committee believes this to be appropriate:

- (a) No film shall be screened which was commercially released after the year 1960;
- (b) At least 10% of films shall be silent films;
- (c) At least 40% of films shall have been produced in the USA;
- (d) At least 10% of films shall have been produced in France;
- (e) At least 10%  
of films shall have been produced in any one of the following countries: Germany, Italy, Japan, Sweden, United Kingdom, USSR.
- (f) No more than 40% of films shall be of the same genre.