

THAMES VALLEY & DISTRICT PHILATELIC FEDERATION CONSTITUTION & RULES

1. NAME

The name shall be "THE THAMES VALLEY & DISTRICT PHILATELIC FEDERATION"

2. OBJECTS

The aim of the Federation shall be:-

- (a) To associate the Philatelic Societies in the area for the broad purpose of furthering the interests in, and enjoyment of, the hobby of philately.
- (b) To promote co-operation and friendship between Federated Societies.
- (c) To create panels of exhibitors and competent philatelic judges willing to visit societies in the area.
- (d) To promote the exchange of philatelic information and foster research in philately.
- (e) To organise joint and co-operative philatelic events.
- (f) To encourage the exchange of visits and displays between Federated Societies and an interchange of members.
- (g) To foster the development and formation of Societies in the area.
- (h) To hold conventions and organise competitions and exhibitions.
- (i) To provide delegates to represent the area.
- (j) To facilitate the exchange of philatelic material.
- (k) To represent our interest in, and the interest of The Association of British Philatelic Societies (ABPS)

3. MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Application for Membership shall be open to any Philatelic Society, Circle, Group or Club (hereinafter referred to as Federated Societies) within the Area of the Thames Valley.
- (b) Membership shall be the existing Federated Societies and, thereafter, by application to, and approval of the Council. All Federated Societies will pay such Annual Subscription as may be levied from time to time by the Council.

- (c) Philatelic Societies not strictly within the above area may be elected to membership by invitation of the Council.
- (d) Membership shall cease on receipt by the Council of notice of resignation in writing, or where subscriptions have been in arrears for two years.

4. MANAGEMENT

- (a) The affairs of the Federation shall be conducted by a Council consisting of any two Delegates nominated by each Federated Society. 5 Delegates will constitute a Quorum.
- (b) Each of the two nominated Delegates attending a Council Meeting shall have full voting rights and are entitled to speak on matters before the Council. The Chairman shall have an additional casting vote in the case of equality of voting.
- (c) The Annual General Meeting will elect a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, an Hon. Secretary and an Hon. Treasurer. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall serve for not more than three consecutive years in the same office.
- (d) The Council may appoint special sub-committees from its members and delegate to them such of their powers as may be deemed necessary.
- (e) The Council shall have power to fill any casual vacancy among the Officers.
- (f) The dignity of President shall be conferred annually upon an experienced Delegate who shall, ex officio, have the right to attend and vote at any meeting of the Federation. (see also 5e below)

5. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- (a) An Annual General Meeting of the Federation shall be held each year not later than 31st May.
- (b) 28 days notice shall be given each Federated Society to request Notices of Motion to be placed on the Agenda. Only items on the Agenda will be eligible to be voted on.
- (c) Any member of a Federated Society is entitled to attend the AGM. Each such Society may have up to three members (including Council Delegates) with voting powers.
- (d) The Hon. Secretary will present the Report of the Council.
- (e) The Hon. Treasurer will report and produce Examined Statement of Accounts for the financial year.
- (e) The Annual General Meeting shall confer the honour of President.
- (f) The Annual General Meeting shall appoint an Hon. Examiner (who shall not be a member of the Council) for the ensuing year.

6. OTHER MEETINGS

- (a) There shall be other meetings of the Council as and when required.
- (b) An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Federation may be requested by not less than 25% of the Federated Societies, by notice in writing to the Secretary, stating their reasons. Voting rights will be the same as for an Annual General Meeting. (see clause 5c above)

7. FINANCE

- (a) The Hon. Treasurer shall operate the Funds of the Federation within the general directions of the Council.
- (b) The financial Year shall be from 1st April to 31st March of each year.
- (c) Federated Societies shall contribute to the expenses of the Federation by an Annual subscription payable, on joining or, by September of each year, by means of a per capita levy based on its total paid up membership at the end of its last financial year. Such levy to be determined by the Council. (see clause 3b above)
- (d) The Council may levy fees for competitions, seminars, and other events as it considers necessary.

8. OTHER

- (a) This Constitution may only be amended at a General Meeting by a majority vote of Delegates/Members (maximum 3 per Society) present.
- (b) The Council shall have power to act in all matters not provided for in this Constitution.
- (c) Should the Council consider that the future of the Federation is not viable, it will call a Special Meeting to discuss its future. If that meeting decides to wind up the Federation, it will also decide on the disposition of the Federation's assets. Voting rights will be the same as for an Annual General Meeting. (see clause 5c above)

Date.....9th June 2004...