

# THE ARDBRAE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS OF OTTAWA CONSTITUTION

*Revised May 2018*

## **Article 1. Name**

The name of this organization shall be "The Ardbrae Scottish Country Dancers of Ottawa", hereinafter referred to as "Ardbrae."

## **Article 2. Objectives**

Ardbrae is an affiliated group with the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS). As such, the objectives of Ardbrae are those suggested by the RSCDS, as follows:

- (a) To preserve and further the practice of traditional Scottish Country Dancing;
- (b) To provide or assist in providing education or instruction to RSCDS standards in the practice of Scottish Country Dancing
- (c) To promote the enjoyment and appreciation of Scottish Country Dancing and music by any suitable means;
- (d) Generally to do such other things as are or may be considered by Ardbrae to further the foregoing objectives and those of the RSCDS in the district or area to which it relates.

## **Article 3. Membership**

Membership in Ardbrae is open to all persons who have attained the statutory age of majority and who are interested in the objectives of Ardbrae and shall be contingent upon payment of the appropriate fee in accordance with the By-Laws.

## **Article 4. Group Structure** *Deleted (2018)*

## **Article 5. Executive**

The Ardbrae Executive shall consist of the following elected officers: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

## **Article 6. Term of Office**

The term of executive officers shall be one year. Executive officers may be nominated and elected for a second or further term in any single office. Following a second year in the office of Chairman, however, a member shall not be eligible for nomination as Chairman in the next two subsequent years.

## **Article 7. Council**

Ardbrae affairs shall be administered by a Council consisting of the Executive, one representative of each class and additional members with capabilities for furthering the objectives of Ardbrae.

## **Article 8. Elections**

Election of the Executive and Council members shall take place at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Ardbrae. A Nominating Committee shall present a slate and the election shall be conducted in accordance with the By-Laws.

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## **Article 9.        Nominations**

1. There shall be a nominating committee consisting of the immediate past Chairman and two additional members. One of the latter shall serve as chairman. The nominating committee shall be appointed by the Executive not less than two months prior to the date set for the AGM.
2. Nominations in addition to the slate presented by the Nominating Committee may be made by any member, when supported by a seconder and when the candidate has indicated willingness to serve.

## **Article 10.        General Meetings**

1. A General Meeting shall be held once a year. The date for the AGM shall be set by the Executive.
2. At any other time an extraordinary General Meeting shall be called by the Executive if and when instructed by Council.
3. Notice of a General Meeting shall be given not less than two weeks prior to the date set.

## **Article 11.        Quorum**

A quorum at a General Meeting shall be determined in accordance with the By-Laws.

## **Article 12.        Procedure**

All matters of procedure not prescribed by the Constitution or By-Laws shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

## **Article 13.        Financial Review**

Ardbrae's financial accounts shall be reviewed annually in accordance with the By-Laws and a report shall be presented to the AGM.

## **Article 14.        By-Laws**

Pursuant to this article, By-Laws may be enacted or amended at a General Meeting by a simple majority of the members present, **provided** that notice of motion is given with the notice of meeting; otherwise a two-thirds majority of the members present is required. By-Laws shall be pursuant to an article of this Constitution. No By-Law shall be incompatible with any provision of the Constitution.

## **Article 15.        Amendment of the Constitution**

Amendments to the Constitution may be made at a General Meeting by a two-thirds majority of the members present, **provided** that notice of the motion has been given by Council to the membership at least three months prior to the General Meeting.

## **Article 16.        Disbandment**

Disbandment of Ardbrae shall require a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in a postal poll of all members. In the event of a decision to disband, Ardbrae shall follow the direction of a special committee of Council appointed for the purpose, following legal procedures with respect to the disposition of assets and financial accountability.