



The Spiritualists' Lyceum Union

CONSTITUTION FOR AFFILIATED LYCEUMS

Rule 1. Objects

The Lyceum has the object of providing education and training in the principles of the religion and religious philosophy of Spiritualism and in the principles of good citizenship.

Rule 2. Membership

(a) Membership is open to those who, having attended at least four Lyceum Sessions out of six consecutive sessions, agree to abide by this Constitution and satisfy the Lyceum Committee that they have a sincere desire to promote the objects of the Lyceum. No person shall be eligible for membership if he is a member of any incompatible religious body or holds any position in, or any award of, such body.

(b) Voting is limited to those members who have reached the age of eighteen years and have been members of the Lyceum for at least three months.

(c) Any member who is absent from Lyceum Sessions for eight successive sessions shall lose his membership, unless a reason for absence is given which is considered satisfactory by the Lyceum Committee.

Rule 3. General Meetings

(a) The Annual General Meeting shall be held each year no later than 31st March. Notice of the date and time must be given at the two previous Lyceum sessions. At the Annual General Meeting the financial position and progress of the Lyceum during the past year shall be reported, the annual statement of accounts presented for approval, the Lyceum Committee for the ensuing year elected and other general business transacted.

(b) The Lyceum Committee may, whenever it thinks fit, convene a general meeting and shall convene such general meeting on a requisition, stating the purpose for which the general meeting is desired and signed by not less than one-third of the total number

of members having at the date of the requisition a right to vote at general meetings of the Lyceum.

(c) The quorum for any general meeting shall be one-third of the number of members.

Rule 4. Lyceum Officers and Committee

(a) The Lyceum Committee shall consist of such number of persons as may be determined by the Lyceum in general meeting and as a minimum shall include a Conductor, a Secretary, a Treasurer and a member of the Church Committee, where such exists. No person shall be eligible for any position on the Committee if he is a member of any incompatible religious body or holds any position in, or any award of, such body.

(b) Subject to paragraphs (c) and (d) of this Rule, the Officers and Committee (other than a member appointed by a Church Committee) shall be elected each year at the Annual General Meeting by a majority of votes given by the voting members present; in case of a contest for any position a ballot shall be held.

(c) On the formation of the Lyceum and in any year when less than six members are present at the Annual General Meeting the Conductor and two members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Church Committee, where such exists, or, in other cases, the other Officers and members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Conductor.

(d) A vacancy in any office shall be filled by the Lyceum Committee.

Rule 5. Duties of Officers

(a) The Conductor shall act as Presiding Officer. He shall superintend the activities of the Lyceum.

(b) The Treasurer shall receive all moneys of the Lyceum and shall make such payments as are authorised by the Lyceum Committee. He shall keep a true account of all receipts and payments and produce it to the Lyceum Committee when required. He shall bank or otherwise deal with such funds as are not immediately required according to the instructions of the Lyceum Committee. He shall each year prepare a statement of accounts for presentation to the Annual General Meetings of the Lyceum and of the Church and shall submit it in good time to the auditors, together with his books and vouchers.

(c) The Secretary shall make a record of all meetings of the Lyceum Committee and general meetings of the Lyceum and of all business transacted at such meetings; he shall maintain a register of members and attend to correspondence. He shall send the completed Annual Return, together with the audited statement of accounts, to the Lyceum Union by not later than 1st March each year.

Rule 6. Auditors

Two auditors shall be elected annually to examine the statement of accounts, books and vouchers, and to present a report thereon to the Annual General Meetings of the Lyceum and of the Church. Each auditor must be one of the following:-

- (i) a member of the Lyceum aged 18 or over;
- (ii) a full member of the Church to which it is attached, if any;
- (iii) an auditor of the Church to which it is attached, if any;
- (iv) a person whom the members consider competent;
- (v) a professional accountant.

Neither may be a member of the Lyceum Committee or the Committee of a Church to which it is attached, if any.

Rule 7. Complaints

All complaints arising within the Lyceum shall be referred to the Union to be dealt with in accordance with the appropriate Bye-laws.

Rule 8. Dissolution of the Lyceum

(1) Grounds for Dissolution

Irrespective of any other provision in these Rules the Central Committee may declare the Lyceum to have been dissolved

- (a) if a three-quarters majority motion with notice dissolving the Lyceum has been passed at a general meeting; or
- (b) if the Lyceum has ceased to conduct regular public Lyceum teaching or sessions for a period of six months; or
- (c) for conduct which in the opinion of the Central Committee constitutes serious misconduct harmful or potentially harmful to the Lyceum Union or to the Union; or
- (e) for the promotion of principles and practices which in the opinion of the Central Committee are antagonistic to the Lyceum Union or to the Union.

(2) Disposal of Property or Monies

If the Lyceum is dissolved, the Central Committee may take possession of any part of the Lyceum property not already vested in it and sell or dispose of the Lyceum property or any part of it. They must hold any unsold part of the property and the net proceeds of sale or other capital monies from any disposal of property on the following trusts, subject to settling all the Lyceum's outstanding debts:-

- (a) The Central Committee may use the property or monies or any part of them for the endowment or other capital benefit of any new or existing Lyceum affiliated to the Lyceum Union in the same district, say within three miles of the last regular meeting-place of the Lyceum, and established for objects similar to those of the Lyceum.

(b) Any part of the property or monies not used under (a) above must be used for any charitable purpose under (c) below. Until the six years under (c) below has expired or the property and monies have been used earlier under (a) above the Central Committee may either accumulate the income from the property and monies (or any investment of it) and add it to the capital or use the income for any charitable purpose under (a) or (c) of this paragraph.

(c) If, after six years from when the Lyceum was declared dissolved, the Central Committee considers that there is no reasonable prospect of reviving the Lyceum the Central Committee may, at its discretion, devote the property or monies to any charitable purpose which in its opinion will tend towards the advancement of the Lyceum Union.

SLU 2018

Head Office,
Burton End Lodge
Stansted Hall
Stansted
CM24 8UD
01279 814158.

The SLU is incorporated as a Branch of the Spiritualists' National Union
Reg. Charity No 261898 | Reg. Company No 71661