

# **Bradford Model Engineering Society**

## **Rules and Constitution 2006** (revised 2018)

### **Title and Objectives**

The title of the Society shall be “**BRADFORD MODEL ENGINEERING SOCIETY**”.  
A Company Limited by Guarantee

Bradford Model Engineering Society exists to bring together people interested in:

- \* Construction and working of models, electrical apparatus, tools and kindred subjects
- \* Reading and discussion of papers
- \* Exhibition and trial of models
- \* Promotion and furtherance by mutual assistance of Model Engineering among members.

### **Membership**

\* Candidates for admission to membership shall be classed as either:

Full – aged 18 years and over

or

Junior – under 18 years of age.

\* Each candidate shall be proposed and seconded by two members of the Society and shall be considered for membership by the committee.

\* Membership shall start from the date of the payment of the first subscription fee.

\* When members reach the age of 65 years they are entitled to pay a reduced subscription.

\* The partner of a full member may become an associate member upon payment of a reduced fee.

### **Subscriptions**

Subscriptions are payable on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January each year. The rate of subscription for all classes of membership shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting. The subscription rate shall apply to the year (1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December) following the Annual General Meeting.

Any member who has not paid their subscription within three months from the date from which it was payable shall have their continued membership of the Society reviewed by the Executive Committee. The Honorary Secretary shall remind in writing, any member whose membership is to be reviewed, that their subscriptions are outstanding.

### **Equal Opportunities**

Membership of the Society is open to all, regardless of gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, age or ability. The Executive undertakes not to discriminate against any person on any of the above grounds and will act to prevent any members doing so – consciously or unconsciously.

### **Visitors**

Members will be permitted to introduce one visitor at ordinary “Member’s Meetings” provided that the visitor has not been expelled from the Society, or refused membership. That visitor may attend no more than three meetings in any one year – meetings declared by the Executive as “Open Meetings” are excepted.

### **Executive**

**A.** The Executive Committee shall consist of up to 14 voting members, comprising the following Officers; President, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary, Boating Commodore, Track Superintendent, Road Vehicles Superintendent, Honorary Bulletin Editor and seven "General Committee members". One of these General Committee members should be, wherever possible a junior representative.

**B.** All members of the Executive shall become Directors of the Company. They shall be elected at the annual general meeting of the Society and shall hold office until the conclusion of the next following annual general meeting. All Officers and Committee Members shall, if they so wish, be eligible for re-election.

**C.** Six members of the Executive shall constitute a Quorum.

**D.** The Executive shall have power at any time, and from time to time to appoint any individual to be a member of the Committee, either to fill a casual vacancy, so long as the total membership does not exceed the maximum stated in the rules, or by reason of any special need to co-opt a additional member on to the committee whether or not in that case such addition shall cause the constitution of the committee to exceed the total number of members as stated in the rules. Any person so appointed shall hold office only until the next following Annual General Meeting.

E. If any Committee member shall fail to attend any meeting of the Committee for two consecutive committee meetings, and his absence shall in the opinion of the majority of the remaining committee members be unacceptable, the absent member shall 14 days after being given notice of the default in writing by the Secretary or another Officer of the Committee be deemed to have retired as a member of the Committee and shall not be eligible to serve as an Officer or member of the Committee for one year after such retirement. Unless within 7 days of receiving the notice set out above they shall serve counter notice in writing upon the Committee giving their reason for their absence and requesting the Committee to exercise its absolute discretion to dis-apply this clause.

### **Expulsion**

The Executive reserves the right to refund the subscription of any member on what they deem to be adequate grounds. The membership of that member shall cease forthwith.

### **Honorary Treasurer.**

The Honorary Treasurer shall be responsible for all monies of the Society. Such monies shall be lodged in any Banks approved by the Executive. A Deposit and a Current account shall be maintained to hold the cash assets of the Society. The Current account shall hold sufficient funds for the day to day running of the Society. The amount to be held in the current account shall be determined by the Executive. The cheque book for this current account shall be held by the Treasurer whose signature only will be required. All expenditure shall require the authority of the Executive. The Deposit account shall hold the remainder of the cash assets of the Society. Two signatures from the Executive shall be required for transfers or withdrawals from this Deposit account.

### **Auditors**

The accounts of the Society shall be audited annually by two honorary auditors (who will not be members of the Executive) to enable a statement of the Society's financial position to be presented at each Annual General Meeting.

### **Use of Funds**

The funds of the Society shall be applied solely to its stated objectives. Members of the Society shall not receive payment either directly or indirectly for their services or personal expenses. However, claims for reimbursement of legitimate expenses incurred on behalf of the Society shall be permissible. Honoraria may be paid to the Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary and other officers within the limits set by an Annual General Meeting. In the event of the dissolution of the Society, the remaining funds shall be devoted to objectives similar to those of the Society or to any purpose approved by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise.

### **Meetings**

The President of the Society shall chair all meetings. In his absence any other Executive member elected by those present shall take the chair.

### **Alteration of Rules**

Any alteration or additions to these rules shall be made at an Annual General Meeting, or exceptionally, at an Extraordinary General Meeting, of which at least seven days notice has been given to the full membership by the Honorary Secretary including the details of any proposed or intended alteration or addition.

### **Voting**

All votes on any issue brought before the Society shall be given in person. In the event of an equal vote, a casting vote will decide the issue made by the person chairing that meeting. In the case of the Annual General Meeting (or Extraordinary General Meeting) all members will have a vote, with the exception of Associate Members.

### **Operation of Permanent and Portable tracks**

All members shall abide by the rules posted at Northcliffe Club House regarding; the use of the clubhouse, the operation of the permanent tracks, and the erection and operation of portable tracks.

### **Model Road Vehicles**

All members shall abide by the rules posted at Northcliffe Club House regarding the operation of model road vehicles.

### **Wibsey Park Lake**

All members shall abide by the rules posted at Wibsey Park Lake Club House regarding the operation of model craft and use of the Club House there.

### **Annual Competition**

The aims of the Society's Annual Competition shall be at all times to encourage, value and reward effort, skill and good model engineering practice of its members within a spirit of friendship.

\*With this aim in mind, the competition shall usually be held in late November or December of each year and will be administered on the day by a nominated member of the committee or any member co-opted by the committee

beforehand to act as competition administrator. The competition will be judged by members only, voting for exhibits of their choice. The voting will take place within a period of time (usually at least 90 minutes) on the day of the competition.

The exhibit gaining most votes in each class shall be deemed to be the class winner for that year. In the event of a tie, a group of not less than three committee members who have no "interest" in any of the models under scrutiny, will act to break the tie. Their decision will be final.

\*Competition entry – will be only accepted on the approved entry form, clearly stating which class or classes the entrant wishes their exhibit to be considered in. The classes will be agreed with the competition administrator who will verify that the entry is wholly or chiefly the product of the member. Upon receipt of the entry – the exhibit will be clearly labelled with the entry form to inform voting members which classes the exhibit is eligible for. It is probable that some exhibits will be eligible for more than one class. Exhibits previously winning a class will be disqualified from further entry in that class. However, should the exhibit qualify for a different class eg. previously in unfinished class – now completed it becomes a full entry in the appropriate class for which it is submitted. In the event of only one entry in a class, discretion will be retained by the administrator in consultation with other committee members as to whether that entry is of a satisfactory standard to award the class trophy.

\*Trophies shall be awarded to class winners to be held for one year only, such trophies will remain at all times the property of the Society. The holder of the trophy shall sign for the trophy and undertake to keep the trophy safe for the year and return it in the same clean condition on the day of the next year's competition. Engraving is voluntary and will, if requested, be paid for by the Society upon application to the Treasurer.

#### Classes:

<b>Marine Exhibits</b>	"Tempest" Trophy.
<b>Railway Locomotive Exhibits</b>	"Northcliffe" Trophy.
<b>Road Vehicle Exhibits</b>	"Roland Sutcliffe" Trophy.
<b>General Engineering Exhibits</b> (not classified as Marine, Rail or Road)	"Jack Ashworth" Trophy
<b>Unfinished Exhibit</b> – open class	"Meeson" Trophy.
<b>Junior Member Exhibit</b> ( under 18 years of age )– open class	"Barber Tidswell" Trophy.
<b>Handicraft/Miscellaneous Exhibit</b>	"BMES Small Trophy"
<b>Novice Member Exhibit</b>	"Fletcher Hudson" Trophy - open age/any class, not having been awarded a prize at any BMES competition before.

**Best in Show** "Joseph Hepworth" Trophy and the **Runner-up Best in Show** – "Thornton" Trophy, shall be decided from votes cast by members. These trophies will be additional to any class winning trophies already awarded. In the event of a tie, a group of not less than three committee members will act to break the tie. Their decision will be final.

In addition, the **\*Walter Ashworth" Trophy** will be presented to the junior member (under 18) who, in the opinion of the Executive, has done most to further the interests of the Society. This award will normally be presented annually, although if no junior members are considered to be eligible for its' receipt, the trophy will be held by the previous winner until such times as when the Executive require its' return.

Judging for Best Exhibit for the **Amos Barber** Trophy will be a panel of committee members or any member co-opted by the committee for this task. They will judge each exhibit on its merits for this award. The panels' decision is final.

#### **Auctions**

Surplus models, model-making materials and tools etc. of members and deceased members may be auctioned to other members of the Society at an ordinary (members) meeting. Where such auctions take place, 10% of proceeds shall be paid to Society funds.

Reviewed February 2014 Adopted by the Membership and Executive – 5<sup>th</sup> March 2014. John Mills, Hon. Secretary.

Revised 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018. Laurence Bentley, Hon. Secretary.