

# FALKLAND ISLANDS PHILATELIC STUDY GROUP - CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF THE SOCIETY

## 1 Objects

- a) To research into all aspects of philately relating to the Falkland Islands and their former Dependencies and to publicise the findings.
- b) To foster Falkland Islands philately and to provide the means whereby members may exchange views and exchange, sell or buy related material.

## 2 Membership

- a) Membership of the Study Group shall be open to any person who has an interest in the philately of the Falkland Islands and who is approved by the general committee of the Study Group. An application for membership shall be in writing (which includes electronic form) and accompanied by the prescribed membership fee which shall be returned in the event of the application not being approved.
- b) The partner of any full member shall be entitled to joint membership with the member on the payment of an additional reduced subscription at such rate as shall be agreed from time to time by the Society at an Annual General Meeting. Such joint member shall not be entitled to receive a separate copy of Upland Goose.
- c) Membership of the Study Group as a Vice President shall be an honorary one open to those persons recommended by the general committee to an Annual General Meeting and approved at that meeting.
- d) The general committee shall have the power to confer honorary life membership upon any person for service to the Study Group, subject to approval at the Annual General Meeting.

## 3 Termination or Suspension of Membership

Membership shall terminate:

- a) Upon resignation in writing
- b) Upon non-payment of subscription within four months of 31<sup>st</sup> August of each year, this being the due date
- c) Upon the decision by three quarters of the general committee at a properly constituted committee meeting, a member shall be excluded or suspended from membership. The general committee need not disclose the reason for such exclusion or suspension.

## 4 Committee

The affairs of the Study Group shall be managed by the executive and general committees who may pay all reasonable approved expenses incurred in furtherance of its objects and exercise such powers as are not required by these rules to be exercised by the members in general meeting.

- a) The executive committee shall comprise the following  
President, Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer  
Up to four other members
- b) Elections to the executive committee shall take place at the Annual General Meeting. Nominations to the executive committee shall be submitted to the Secretary not less than 14 days before the meeting and shall be signed by the proposer and counter-signed by another member and the nominee, who must also be a full member of the Society.
- c) The executive committee shall have the power to appoint a member to fill a casual vacancy. The person so appointed shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting when they shall be eligible for formal nomination and election.
- d) Any member of the executive committee may be suspended or removed from office by a three quarters majority vote at a properly constituted general committee meeting.
- e) The executive committee shall appoint one of their members to be Chairman, who, in the case of a tied vote of either committee, shall have a casting vote.
- f) Every five years, or sooner if required, the general committee shall recommend to the Annual General Meeting for approval, the appointment of a person to be President of the Study Group. The office of President shall be held for a fixed period of five years. Any past President who is still a member of the Study Group may, if they so wish, continue to attend and participate in meetings of the general committee but shall not have any right to vote.
- g) The executive committee shall have the authority to appoint or vary the appointments of the editor of Upland Goose, the auction manager and the exchange packet secretary. Any person so appointed shall not be subject to annual re-election whilst holding office.
- h) The general committee shall comprise the executive committee, the editor of Upland Goose, the auction manager and the exchange packet secretary.
- i) Meetings or conference calls of either committee shall be convened at the request of the Chairman or a quorum of members by giving at least fourteen days notice of any meeting.
- j) A quorum of a committee shall comprise five voting members in respect of the executive committee and six in respect of the general committee.
- k) The general committee may from time to time appoint members as overseas representatives in their areas of residence to further the interests of the Study Group but anyone so appointed shall not thereby become a committee member and must seek approval from the general committee before incurring the Society in any liability.

## **5 Meetings**

- a) The Study Group shall hold in each year an Annual General Meeting for which not less than twenty one days notice must be given.
- b) Each fully paid up member of the Study Group shall have one vote, exercisable personally at any properly constituted Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting.
- c) The general committee may, whenever they think fit, convene an Extraordinary General Meeting. Such meetings may also be convened on the signed requisition of not less than ten fully paid up members by notice to the Secretary who must then give at least twenty one days notice to members of such a meeting. An Extraordinary General Meeting may conduct any business that would normally be dealt with at an Annual General Meeting.
- d) A quorum for any general meeting shall consist of twenty members.
- e) The Study Group accepts no responsibility or liability for the loss or damage to any stamps, philatelic material or items of whatever sort brought to any meetings or other functions of the Society, or sent to the Study Group for sale in the Auction, through the Exchange Packet or for any other reason.

## **6 Finances**

- a) Subscriptions shall be fixed annually by the general committee subject to approval at the Annual General Meeting and shall be payable on or before 31<sup>st</sup> August annually in respect of the ensuing year.
- b) The Treasurer shall be responsible for the preparation of the annual accounts for each year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August for the presentation to the Honorary Auditor and the general committee, following which they shall be put before the Annual General Meeting for approval.
- c) At each Annual General Meeting the members shall elect an Honorary Auditor who shall be responsible for the audit of the annual accounts.

## **7 Publications**

- a) The general committee shall publish annually, on behalf of the Study Group, not less than three issues of the journal *The Upland Goose*.
- b) The general committee may publish on behalf of the Study Group or in conjunction with any other society, person or body, such additional works as are considered by them to be in the interests of the Study Group.

## **8 Auction and Exchange Packets**

- a) All vendors or purchasers through any auction or exchange packet must be fully paid up members of the Society.
- b) The rules governing the auction shall be set down by the general committee and published with each auction catalogue.
- c) The rules governing the exchange packet shall be set down by the general committee and made available to members on request.

## **9 Amendments to the Constitution and Rules**

The members may, from time to time in Annual General Meetings, alter or amend the constitution and rules either previously proposed by the general committee in the notice convening the meeting, or by written or electronic proposal lodged with the Secretary not less than twenty one days before the meeting, signed by the proposer and countersigned or supported by email by ten other members.