

Stratford Musical Theatre Company - Rules 2013

1. Name - The name of the organisation shall be the Stratford Musical Theatre Company (SMTC).

2. Objects - The objects of the SMTC shall be:

- (a) To produce musical theatre and raise funds to be devoted solely to the SMTC and charitable purposes; and
- (b) To do all such things as shall be conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

3. Management - The Management of the SMTC and its work shall be entrusted to a Committee consisting of the officers, supported by five other members elected annually by a ballot at the Annual General Meeting (five to form a quorum), vacancies during the season to be filled by the Committee who shall have the power to co-opt not more than two additional members.

The exclusion of any committee member from the committee shall be effected by a vote of three-fourths of the rest of the committee, whose decision shall be subject to a right of appeal to a General Meeting. A vote by the committee may only take place when a committee member falls in to one or more of the following categories:

- Poor attendance at committee meetings without valid reason
- Persistent unacceptable or aggressive behaviour
- Failure to complete given tasks
- Bringing the reputation of SMTC into disrepute.

4. Officers - The officers shall consist of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon Treasurer, Hon Secretary, all of whom shall hold office for one year, be eligible for re-election, and be ex-officio members of the Committee.

5. Membership - Intending members of the SMTC shall be elected by the Committee. Applicants for membership will be required to pass a test in singing before election, but may be elected without a voice test for non-singing parts or activities at the discretion of the Committee.

6. Expulsion - The exclusion of any member from the SMTC shall be effected by a vote of three-fourths of the entire Committee, whose decision shall be subject to a right of appeal to a General Meeting.

7. Subscriptions - The annual membership subscription shall be fixed in General Meeting from time to time. All subscriptions shall be due by the 1st JULY in every year. If any member shall fail to pay his or her subscription by the 30th SEPTEMBER, he or she shall cease to be a member of the SMTC. New members shall pay their subscriptions immediately on joining the SMTC.

8. Musical Theatre Productions

- (a) The Production Team will operate in accordance with the brief given by the General Committee of the SMTC;
- (b) The cast will be selected from members of the SMTC, or candidates for membership, who attend published audition dates;

- (c) The cast for every production will be chosen by the Casting Committee, which will consist of the Chairman of the General Committee, who will be Chairman of the Casting Committee, two elected members of the SMTC, the Producer, Musical Director and Choreographer;
- (d) No member of the Casting Committee may audition for a principal role in the production;
- (e) The Casting Committee shall have the power to fill any parts not cast and to revise the cast if any member, to whom a part has been allocated shall, in its opinion, prove unsuitable for the part and recast any part should it become vacant;
- (f) The Casting Committee, in consultation with the General Committee, may, in emergency, invite any person to take part in the SMTC's current production but such person shall not be deemed a member of the SMTC, with full privileges, until duly elected; and
- (g) Should any member, either as a principal or in the chorus, be absent without reasonable cause from three consecutive rehearsals, without permission from the Producer or Musical Director, his or her part may be allocated elsewhere.

9. Performances of the Choir

- (a) For each performance, the programme, including solos and small ensemble parts, will be agreed by the Choir Casting Committee which will consist of the Musical Director, the Chairman of the General Committee, who will be the Chairman of the Casting Committee and one elected member of the SMTC. Small solos within compilations will be at the discretion of the Musical Director; and
- (b) Should any member be absent without reasonable cause from three consecutive rehearsals, without permission from the Musical Director, he or she may be ineligible for the next concert.

10. Annual Meeting - The Annual General Meeting of the SMTC shall be held within three months of the end of the financial year when the Report and Balance Sheet for the past year shall be presented. Ten clear days' notice of the date of each Annual General Meeting shall be given to members.

11. Special Meetings - A Special General Meeting of the SMTC shall be convened at any time by direction of the Committee, or within one month after the receipt by the Hon Secretary of a written requisition signed by ten or more members. In either case, ten days' notice shall be given to members of the object, time and place of such meeting.

12. Finance:

- (a) The funds of the SMTC shall be applied solely to the objects of the SMTC;
- (b) No member of the SMTC shall receive payments directly or indirectly for services to the SMTC or for other than legitimate expenses incurred in his work. The General Committee has the power to waive this clause in exceptional circumstances;
- (c) Two members shall be elected annually to audit the accounts of the SMTC;
- (d) In the event of dissolution of the SMTC the remaining funds shall be devoted to charitable purposes; and
- (e) The financial year of the SMTC shall commence on the first day of April in any year.

13. Rules - Each member shall be provided with a copy of the SMTC's rules. The same may be altered only at a General or Special Meeting by resolution of the members present and voting of the SMTC of which due notice (indicating the nature of the proposed alteration) shall have been given to members.