

2026 CONSTITUTION

1. The group shall be known as HATS.
2. Membership shall be open to those 7 to 12 years for the children's chorus, and 13 years and over for adults (ages to be reached at the point of audition)
3. The AGM is to be held in the Spring of each year on a date to be fixed by the committee. This is the start of the HATS year that will end at the AGM in the following year.
4. Membership fees, as fixed by committee, are payable per production, or by one annual fee, and are to be paid one month after auditions, or after start date (unless arrangements have been made with the membership secretary). The committee reserves the right to amend membership fees.
5. Concessions (persons in full time education, unwaged, family discount etc.) shall pay reduced membership fees as set by the committee.
6. Any person not paying membership fees shall be regarded as a non-member unless otherwise agreed by committee.
7. Non-members will be able to attend any general meetings and can attend committee meetings at the invitation of the committee.
8. Non-members who have an interest in joining the society may come to a rehearsal; however any other non-member wishing to come to the rehearsal will do so at the discretion of the current Director.
9. The committee will consist of:
 - a. Officers
 - i. Chairman
 - ii. Vice Chair
 - iii. Secretary
 - iv. Treasurer
 - b. Non-officer positions
 - i. Publicity
 - ii. Social & Events Secretary
 - iii. Membership Secretary
 - iv. Social Media Secretary
 - v. Equipment Curator
 - vi. H&S Advisor

and a number of ordinary members to be decided at the AGM, however the committee should not exceed 11 members in total. A committee member may hold more than one non-officer position.

10. In the event that a full committee cannot be raised as per point 9, then a skeleton committee consisting of at least Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and two non-officer will be sufficient to run the society.
11. The age to stand for a non-officer position or ordinary member will be a minimum of 14 years of age and for an officer position, at least 18 years of age.
12. “Committee members are expected to be active in their roles and participate in regular meetings, taking on actions where requested. Any committee member with irregular attendance at committee meetings may be asked to resign their post”.
13. Anyone who has been a Member of HATS within the current HATS year can stand for committee and can vote. To vote they must be present at the AGM except under exceptional circumstances as agreed by the committee. To stand for committee they do not have to be present but must have someone to nominate and someone to second them.
14. The Chairman shall have a vote in committee. In the event of a tied vote, the Chairman shall have the deciding vote
15. The committee may elect officers and adopt members to fill any vacancies arising as an interim measure.
16. The committee is to meet at least at quarterly intervals.
17. The committee shall be quorate if five people are present: three members, in addition to at least two are officers (Chairman, Vice Chair, Secretary and/or Treasurer).
18. Signatories to the Society’s account shall be Treasurer and at least one other from either the Chairman or Secretary.
19. Any member behaving in a way likely to harm the good name of the Society may be expelled or suspended following a committee vote.
20. Changes to the Constitution are to be made by AGM unless an Extraordinary General Meeting is called.
21. In the event that a committee cannot be formed at the AGM the society shall take a three month break before calling an extraordinary general meeting. If, at the EGM, a committee still cannot be raised then the assets of the society will be disposed of in the following order:
 - a. offered for sale,
 - b. given away, or



c. as a last resort scrapped.

Any funds held by the society will then be divided amongst local groups or charities as decided by the final committee. Once all equipment and funds have been disposed of the society will cease to be.