

Bradford Model Engineering Society

Rules and Constitution 2006

(revised 2024)

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

Junior – under 18 years of age

Associate – partner of a full member or at the Executive Committee’s discretion

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

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

* A grouped Family Membership class may consist of 1 Full, 1 Associate and up to 2 Junior Members.

* A Day Member shall be considered for membership on the day by two Full members and shall be classed as an Associate Member.

Subscriptions

Subscriptions are payable on the 1st 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 (1st January to 31st 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 where eligible. Should a person not be eligible to be a Director this should not preclude them serving on the Executive. The Executive 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 Northcliff 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 Northcliff 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.

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, 20% of proceeds shall be paid to Society funds.

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.

The competition shall be run in accordance with the document 'Competition Procedure and Trophies' which will be displayed at each competition.

Reviewed February 2014, Adopted by the Membership and Executive - 5th March 2014. John Mills, Hon. Secretary.

Revised 7th March 2018. Laurence Bentley, Hon. Secretary.

Revised February 2019, Adopted by the Membership and Executive - 6th March 2019. Russ Coppin

Revised March 2022, Adopted by the Membership and Executive – 1st March 2022. Laurence Bentley, Hon. Secretary.

Revised March 2023, Adopted by the Membership and Executive – 6th March 2023. Laurence Bentley, Hon. Secretary.

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