

Constitution and Rules
Of the
Peeblesshire Agricultural Society

I – Name

1. The name and title of the Society shall be “THE PEEBLESSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY”

II – Objects

1. The advancement and improvement of agricultural produce and stock of domestic animals usually associated with farming.
2. The promotion of all those arts with which agriculture and the rearing of stock are associated
3. The diffusion and discussion of agricultural information and of matters affecting the farming interests.
4. The holding of an annual show.
5. Such other objects connected with agriculture and the promotion of the interests of the members as may be approved of from time to time by general meetings of the society.
6. The education of the general public within the local community on aspects of rural life and agricultural industry.

III- Membership

1. Membership is open to any individual or business who agrees with the aims and objectives of the society.

IV Application for membership

1. Any person, or business who wishes to become a member must complete an application for membership; the application will then be considered by the presidents committee at its next meeting.
2. The Council of Management may, at its discretion, refuse to admit any person, or business, for membership.

V. Subscription

1. The annual subscription for every member shall be such sum as may be resolved upon at any general meeting, this membership to run from 1st January to 31st December each year and shall be payable not later than the closing date for livestock entries hereinafter referred to. Any member can apply to become a life member of the Society on a payment of a subscription of a sum equivalent to 20 years subscription, at the rate of subscription applicable at the time of application for life membership. ***The elected officers of the Society, in terms of paragraph VIII hereunder, shall not be obliged to pay the annual subscription for the year or years during which they are elected officers.***

2. No member in arrears with their annual subscription shall be allowed to vote at any meeting of the society, or at any Council meetings.

VI – Resignation of Members

1. Any member wishing to resign must intimate their intention of doing so to the Secretary in writing by 31st December in any year, otherwise subscriptions shall be held payable for another year.

VII – Conduct and Expulsion of Members

1. Should any member of the Society behave in a dishonourable manner or in such a way as could possibly bring discredit to the Society, the Council of the Society shall have the power to investigate and report on the matter to a general or special meeting of the Society. Such meeting, on such a report being made, shall have power to decide thereon and to proceed by way of vote of censure or by exacting an apology as a condition of being allowed to continue as a member or by expelling the offending member or otherwise as such general or special meeting shall think fit and proper. In no case, however, shall such an expulsion take place unless two-thirds of the members present at such general or special meeting shall concur in a vote to that effect and unless there be present at the meeting at least twenty members.

VIII – Officers

1. The Officers of the Society shall consist of Honorary Presidents, Honorary Vice-Presidents, a president and two Vice-Presidents with a Secretary or Secretaries and Treasurer or Treasurers and these shall be elected annually at the annual general meeting. The President may not hold office for more than two years in which shows are held.

IX – Council

1. The management of the affairs of the Society shall be vested in a Council, consisting of the officers of the Society (ex officio) and not more than twenty elected members to be appointed at the annual general meeting and such Council shall have full power over such management. At each of the annual general meetings one-fifth of the elected members of Council shall retire by rotation and shall not be eligible for re-election until one year has elapsed.
2. The Council shall have power to delegate any of its powers and duties to a Committee or Committees and shall every year appoint a President's Committee which shall comprise the President, the immediate Past President, the two Vice-Presidents, the Secretary, the Treasurer and two members appointed from the Council, which shall arrange and conduct the annual show hereinafter referred to. The Council shall also appoint a sufficient number of stewards and attending members for the show.
3. The Council shall have power to fill up any interim vacancy which may arise and to co-opt members to act on the Council or on any Committee until the next annual general meeting.

X- Meetings

1. An Annual General Meeting shall be held within the first ten weeks of the year. Fourteen days' notice of the date and place of any annual general meeting and of resolutions to be put to the meeting shall be given to all members of the Society.
2. A general meeting shall be held annually at which judges for the next show shall be appointed but the Council shall have power to fill any unavoidable vacancies in the list of judges. No judge shall again be eligible to act till three shows have elapsed.
3. Special meetings of the Society shall be convened on the initiative of the President or the Secretaries or on a requisition addressed to the Secretaries by any twenty members of the

Society. Seven days' notice of the date and place of any special meetings and of the resolutions to be put to the meeting shall be given to all members of the Society.

XI – Chairman and Quorums

1. The President or, in their absence, one of the Vice-Presidents or, failing any of these, such a member as the members present shall elect, shall be Chairman of all meetings of the Society and its Council and shall have a deliberative, as well as casting, vote.
2. At general meetings of the Society eleven, and at meetings of the Council five members shall constitute a quorum.

XII – Annual Show

1. An annual show shall be held at Peebles on the third last Saturday in August or on such other date to be fixed by the Council.
2. The show shall be open to all comers, except where otherwise stated on the entry form.
3. Every exhibitor shall pay for each entry such fee or fees as shall be decided by the Council.
4. The Council shall fix the subjects and order for competitions, for premiums and for every matter connected with the show.
5. Any competitor, reported by the Council as guilty of misrepresentation in respect of any entry, shall forfeit any prize that may be awarded. If reported by the Council as guilty of wilful misrepresentation he or she shall cease to be a member of the Society.
6. Protests must be lodged with the Secretaries in writing on the day of the show no later than 30 minutes following the judging of the relevant Section and must be accompanied by a deposit of a sum equivalent to 4 times the cost of membership of the Society current at the time. All parties lodging a protest must attend at the show committee room at four o'clock in the afternoon of the show. All protests will then be considered and adjudicated upon by the Presidents Committee and the relevant Show Stewards. This rule will be literally and strictly enforced and all entries are accepted only on the express condition that the exhibitor binds himself or herself to accept the decision of the Presidents Committee and the relevant stewards as final and binding. If a protest shall not be sustained, the deposit will be forfeited and go to the general funds of the Society.

XIII – General

1. The Secretary or Treasurer shall keep a register of members of the Society and a minute book. In the latter they shall record the rules and bye-laws and all the proceedings of the Society. The register shall be at all times open to the inspection of members. The Secretary or Treasurer shall call and attend all meetings of the Society, of the Council and, when requested, of the Committees also and shall have the power to call meetings of the Council when deemed necessary, and shall be bound to do so on the presentation of a requisition by any five of the Council and to give at least six days' previous notice of such meeting. Every requisition and notice shall state the purpose for which such meeting is to be held.
2. The Treasurer shall receive the revenue of the Society and shall deposit the funds of the Society in the name of the Society in such a bank as the Council shall direct. Drafts on the bank shall be signed by the President, the Treasurer or the Secretary (two signatures are required on all cheques). The annual accounts of the Society shall be presented at the Annual General Meeting, having been examined and verified by the person appointed at the previous year's A.G.M. The Council shall have the power to make such investments of surplus funds as may appear to them advantageous.

XIV - Alteration of Constitution and Rules

1. It shall be lawful for the Society at any general meeting at which there shall be present at least twenty-one members by a vote of at least two-thirds of the members present at that meeting :To add to, delete, or alter any of the foregoing articles of the Constitution and Rules.
2. Notice of proposal of any change in Constitution and Rules must be given in writing to the Secretary at least twenty-one days previous to the meeting

XV – Dissolution Clause

1. The Society may be dissolved at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose and must be advertised 21 days before the meeting. Such proposals to dissolve the Society shall take effect only if agreed by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting at the meeting. Surplus funds and assets of the Society, if it is dissolved, shall be transferred to such other charitable institution or voluntary organisation having similar objects as the members of the Society may determine or failing that shall be applied for some other local charitable purpose.

NB The foregoing Constitution and Rules were adopted at the Extraordinary General Meeting held at Peebles on the 16th November 2016

President : K. Rowell **Signature**

Date

Vice President : W. Brown Signature

Date

Vice President : A. Adamson Signature

Date