

# **OXFORD YOUTH CHOIRS**

## CONSTITUTION

### **1 Name**

The name of the Association is the "Oxford Youth Choirs" (hereafter called "the Choir"). Working names of "The Oxford Girls' Choir" and "The Oxford Boys' Choir" may also be used as appropriate.

### **2 Objects**

The objects of the Choir shall be to promote, improve, develop and maintain public education in and appreciation of the art and science of music in all its aspects by the presentation of public concerts and recitals and by other such ways as the Choir through its Committee shall determine from time to time.

### **3 Membership**

(a)

(i) Singing membership shall be open to all girls aged 8 to 18 inclusive at the discretion of the Musical Director who can satisfy a voice and sight reading test held by the Musical Director, provided that there are vacancies in appropriate parts of the Choir and shall pay the termly subscription on the 10 September, 10 January and 10 April in each year or within 30 days thereof at the appropriate rate as shall be determined by the Committee.

(ii) There shall also be a preparatory section of the Choir comprising such number of children, boys or girls, within the ages of four to eight inclusive as the Committee shall determine, on whose behalf there shall be paid such termly subscription as the Committee shall decide.

(iii) There may also be a boys' section of the Choir open to boys of age eight and older at the discretion of the Musical Director who can satisfy a voice and sight reading test held by the Musical Director, comprising such numbers as the Committee shall determine, on whose behalf there shall be paid such termly subscription as the Committee shall decide.

(b) Parent membership shall be open to all parents or persons acting as parents of singing members and members of the preparatory section and members of the boys' section of the Choir.

(c) Associate membership shall be open to all who wish to support the Choir in a singing or non-singing role and shall pay the annual subscription at the appropriate rate or rates as shall be determined by the Committee.

### **4 Officers and Committee**

The management of the Choir shall be in the hands of a Committee consisting of a Chairman, an Honorary Secretary, an Honorary Treasurer, the Musical Director and three other members with power to the Committee to co-opt up to three additional members as required. The officers, other than the Musical Director, and the other Committee Members shall be elected by and out of the Associate Members and Parent Members of the Choir at the Annual General Meeting. They shall hold office for one year and be eligible for re-election.

### **5 Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting of the Choir shall be held before the end of June in each year and every Associate and Parent Member shall receive not less than Fourteen days notice of such meeting. Special meetings may be convened by the Honorary Secretary upon a request by the Committee or one-third of the Associate and Parent Members upon a similar notice which shall state the business to be considered at the meeting.

### **6 Votes**

At all meetings every Associate and Parent member, including the Chairman, shall have one vote and in the case of equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote. Amendments to the Constitution shall require a two-thirds majority of the Associate and Parent Members present and voting at an Annual or Special General Meeting provided that nothing herein contained shall authorise any amendment which shall have the effect of the Choir ceasing to be a charity.

### **7 Committee Meetings**

The Committee shall meet at least four times a year and additionally as required. If the Chairman is not present the Committee shall elect a Chairman from amongst those present to take the Chair. Each Committee member, including the Chairman, shall have one vote and in the case of equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote. A quorum shall be four members.

### **8 Management**

All arrangements for concerts and other events and the control of finance shall be in the hands of the Committee. The Musical Director shall have power to select the music to be sung by the Choir, subject to the approval of the Committee, to hold voice and sight reading tests for applicants for Singing Membership and to select voices for any purpose and bar Singing Members from public performance if in his or her opinion they do not reach the required standard.

### **9 Finance**

(i) The financial year shall end on 31st March.

(ii) A banking account shall be opened in the name of the Choir and cheques up to the value of £200 shall be signed by the Treasurer or one other officer and over that limit shall be signed by any two officers to be determined by the Committee.

(iii) The Choir may receive donations, grants in aid and financial guarantees and tickets for any or all of its concerts and other events may be offered for sale to the public.

(iv) The income and property of the Choir whencesoever derived shall be applied solely towards promoting the objects of the Choir as set forth above and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred either directly or indirectly to any member or members of the Choir except in payment of legitimate expenses incurred on behalf of the Choir and in payment of honoraria agreed by the Committee and any moneys not required for the immediate purposes of the Choir shall be invested in securities in which trust money may lawfully be invested with power from time to time to transpose such investments.

(v) The financial accounts shall be audited and submitted to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

### **10 Dissolution**

In the event of the Choir being wound up, any assets remaining upon dissolution after the payment of proper debts and liabilities shall be transferred to a charitable institution or institutions having similar objects to those of the Choir.

1986, rev. 1992, 1998, 1999, 2000

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**Oxford Youth Choirs is a registered charity (No. 299109)**