

# Scunthorpe Society of Model Engineers



## RULES

As Revised October 2016

1. The name of the Society shall be The Scunthorpe Society of Model Engineers.
2. The aims of the Society shall be to further and promote the hobby of Model Engineering.
3. The Annual General Meeting shall be held each October. In exceptional circumstances it will be held on the next General Meeting. General Meetings shall normally be held every three months.
4. Membership shall be open to all persons over the age of 12 years. All members to be given a yearly membership card on payment of subscriptions. A member may sponsor a child and will become a supporter of the society from the age of six to eleven years inclusive, and will pay no subscriptions, will not be allowed to vote at any meeting and is not covered by the Society's insurance. The member is totally responsible for the child.
5. A member must be paid up to date to take part in any meeting, event or activity of the Society and shall have no rights as a member until fully paid up to date. Any member three months in arrears shall cease to be a member and must re-join as a new member. The Secretary and Treasurer shall keep an up to date list of all members paid up to date and report the names of ceased members to the next General Meeting after they became ceased members. Any member requesting shall be supplied with a list of members within seven days.
6. The subscription rate shall be fixed at the General Meeting prior to the AGM and will take effect for the AGM. All subscriptions shall be paid yearly and in advance. New members will pay a joining fee of one years subscription. The yearly subscription will be due at the next AGM. The present qualifying Honorary Members (As per the 1984 rule e.g. Honorary members shall be a member 70 years of age or over and have been a paid up member for ten consecutive years.) are exempt from subscriptions, but must attend one meeting or event organized by the society every year to remain an Honorary Member, this includes Vice Presidents. No more Honorary Members shall be made except Vice Presidents. The President and Vice President are exempt from subscriptions.
7. The Managing Officers of the Society shall be Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Safety Officer. The Functional Officers ( relating to the railway at Normanby Park ) will be Track Superintendant, Assistant Track Superintendant, Track Marshal, Assistant Track Marshal, and Senior Boiler Inspector. The Society shall also have a President and up to four Honorary Vice-Presidents, (who are not elected. and vacancies do not have to be filled).
- 7a. The Track Superintendent and Assistant Track Superintendent will be responsible for organising the engineering maintenance and repair of the track and site at Normanby Hall. The Track Marshal and Assistant Track Marshal will be responsible for organising the day to day operation of the track and site at Normanby Hall.
8. The prospective President, Officers and Functional Officers must be proposed and seconded at the AGM (written proposals will be accepted if presented to the Secretary before the start of the meeting). and elected by a majority decision. Any position that becomes vacant between AGMs shall be filled at a general meeting as above procedure. The Vice Presidency's are for service to the Society and are for as long as the Society sees fit.

9. A quorum for a General meeting of the Society shall consist of six members plus two officials.
10. An emergency meeting may be called at the request of the Chairman or Acting Chairman, or on written request of three members to the Secretary or Chairman. Such meeting to be held within 14 days.
11. The Chairman of the meeting shall have the casting vote at any meeting.
12. Proposed rule alterations must be written and in the hands of the Secretary so that they can be read out at the General Meeting prior to the AGM or the last General Meeting prior to a Special Meeting called for that purpose. Rule alterations may only be made at an AGM or a Special Meeting called for that purpose. All alterations must be carried by a majority vote of members present and take effect from that day.
13. No person may use the name of the Society for any activity or venture, whether for gain or otherwise, without permission of the Society.
14. Operation;-Models, Miniatures and Machinery.

At any event organised or attended by the Society the following must be observed.

- A) Members must have available for inspection proof of third party liability insurance. This can be as a fully paid up member of the Society or an independent insurance certificate.
  - B) Each Model/Miniature with boiler operation must have a current valid boiler certificate.
  - C) A current DISC as issued by the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Society's shall be accepted as proof of both insurance and boiler certificate being valid.
  - D) Visitors operating any Model, Miniatures or Machinery must provide proof of current boiler certificates and insurance as appropriate and sign the Visitors Book as prescribed by the Southern Federation.
  - E) At any event or operation by the Society the decision of the Safety Officer is final. Any member(s) who wish to contest this decision may do so at the next General Monthly Meeting where the decision of the Society will be final.
15. Members involved in any event or activity who bring children or friends that are not members including supporter members are their responsibly and at their own risk and are not covered by the Society's insurance, therefore the Society accepts no responsibility for them. Members should make sure their guests abide by the Society's rules.
  16. A set of rules, which will be posted in the Running Shed shall be drawn up for any railway operated by the Society and shall be binding on members as if they were part of these rules.
  17. Smoking is not allowed in any building that the Society may use as prescribed by law.
  18. Any member who breaks any of the Society's rules or bring the Society into disrepute shall be allowed to offer an explanation to a General Meeting. If proven, members present at the meeting shall be allowed to take any action they see fit.

19. All members are expected to conduct their business within the guidelines set out in the current Health and Safety Executive Information Sheet.

20. Any amendments or additions to the Society's rules that become necessary due to Health And Safety Executive Information Sheets can be agreed at a General Meeting.

21. No internal rule change or amendment, affecting operation of the track at Normanby Hall, is to be put before a general meeting of members for approval until the Track Marshal, Track Superintendent and the Safety Officer have had sight of the wording so that they can discuss it prior to it being put to the next General Meeting. As per AGM 2010

22. Any member or group intending to stand for election to any post within the Society that is already held by another member, who is prepared to continue in that post, must give notice in writing of such intention to the Chairman four weeks prior to the AGM at the latest.

23. Any member or group of members that put their names to a letter to the Society that in any way maligns another member(s) must attend the next General Meeting in order that the maligned member(s) may challenge any derogatory or incorrect statements made about them in that letter, in front of the members present with their accusers.

#### **Society Dissolution**

24. The Society may be dissolved at any time by a resolution passed by a two thirds majority of those present and voting at a Special General Meeting of the Society. All infrastructure will remain with and under the control of Normanby Hall management. After all debts have been paid, any remaining cash will be donated to local charity/charities as decided by the members at the meeting. Any equipment purchased with Grant Funding will be kept by Normanby Hall on behalf of North Lincolnshire Council for future community use. All remaining property will be given or transferred to other similar institutions , as decided and voted on at the meeting.