

# Gozo Philatelic Society



## Statute of Association

*(as originally approved on 9<sup>th</sup> October 1999,  
amended by the Annual General Meetings  
in January 2001, January 2002 and January 2004,  
and rationalized by the January 2005 AGM)*

- 1 **Name** The Society shall not operate for profit and shall be named “Gozo Philatelic Society”.
- 2 **Aims** The Aims of the Association shall be:
  - 2.1 the promotion of the hobby of philately in Gozo on a cultural and educational basis and
  - 2.2 the provision of a point of reference to collectors of stamps and philatelists in particular the younger collectors and the co-ordination of philatelic exhibitions and exchange and anything which in the opinion of the Committee is conducive to and encourages the collection of stamps and of philately in general.
  - 2.3 The Society shall seek to establish such ties as it may deem necessary and conducive to stamp collecting with similar societies both in Malta and abroad.
- 3 **The Committee**
  - 3.1 The Society shall be governed by a Committee composed of not less than five and not more than nine members.
  - 3.2 Such Committee shall hold office for a period of one calendar year. It shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting as the case may be.
  - 3.3 Members of the Committee shall receive no remuneration for their services. Provided however, that justified and approved expenses incurred by Committee Members shall be reimbursed on presentation of the relative bills or invoices.
  - 3.4 On election, as specified below, the Committee shall elect from amongst its members the following officers: a President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, as well as such other posts as it may deem appropriate. The Committee shall be empowered to assign particular functions to any members of the Committee.
  - 3.5 In order to qualify for nomination to the Committee, nominees must be paid-up members of the Society.

**3.6** So as to further promote the Society's aims, the Committee may decide to set up semi-autonomous Sections, which may be given a specific name (related to the category or specialization aimed at). These may have separate regulations.

#### **4 Members of the Committee**

**4.1** The President shall chair the meetings of the Committee. In his absence, the Committee shall choose another Committee member to act as Chairman for that meeting.

**4.2** The Secretary shall be empowered, in consultation with the President, to call meetings of the Committee and draw up the relative Agenda. He has to keep minutes of such meetings and shall also be responsible for all the correspondence of the Society. He is bound to keep an account thereof and shall report thereon to the Committee during meetings. In his absence, The Committee shall choose another Committee member to perform during that meeting the functions normally carried out by the Secretary.

**4.2.1** In convening meetings of the Society, the Secretary shall ensure that adequate notice is given to all Committee members of the date, time and location of the meetings.

**4.2.2** All Committee members shall be entitled to request the Secretary to include in the Agenda matter/s they may consider important for the Society.

**4.3** The Treasurer shall be responsible for all financial matters of the Society and shall render an account thereof to the Committee. At every Annual General Meeting he shall present a financial statement of the Society relative to the year immediately preceding such meeting. In conjunction with either the President or the Secretary, the Treasurer shall be empowered to sign cheques and other bank documents on behalf of the Society.

**4.4** The President and the Secretary jointly shall be the legal representatives of the Society.

**4.5** The Members of the Committee shall all have a vote during Committee Meetings. The Chairman shall have both an original and a casting vote.

**4.6** The Committee shall be empowered to form and constitute subcommittees to which particular functions shall be assigned. It shall also be empowered to regulate the procedure and terms of reference of such subcommittees as well as to ask the Chairmen of any such subcommittees so constituted to attend its meetings on a regular or one off basis. Any Society member may form part of such subcommittees.

**4.7** The Committee shall have the power to co-opt any paid-up member of the Society to form part of the Committee, if it deems this to be beneficial to the Society.

**4.8** A declaration signed by at least two-thirds of the paid-up members of the Society, demanding the resignation of a Committee member and specifying the reasons therefor, may be served upon the Committee. That person's vacation from the Committee shall become effective a week after the Committee notifies such declaration to that member.

**4.9** The Committee shall meet at least quarterly.

**4.10** As to any other matter not herein specified the Committee shall be empowered to regulate its own procedure; including the interpretation of this Statute. Provided however, that unless such interpretation appears in the Minutes of the Meetings of the Committee it shall not be considered as valid.

## **5 General Meetings**

**5.1** An annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held once a year on any day between the 1<sup>st</sup> of January and the 15<sup>th</sup> day of February of each year (herein after referred to as the Annual General Meeting).

**5.2** Notices of Annual General Meetings shall be served on all members of the Society at least seven (7) days prior to the holding thereof. Such notices shall indicate the date, the time and the location where the meeting is being held.

**5.3** The AGM shall commence at the time stipulated in the Notice, but members who arrive late cannot be refused attendance.

**5.4** The Committee shall be bound to convene a General Meeting (hereinafter referred to as an Extraordinary General Meeting) whenever a request signed by at least twenty (20) members of the Society is presented to the Secretary of the Committee giving the reasons why the Extraordinary General Meeting is being requested.

**5.4.1** An EGM shall also be convened within one month should the number of members on the Committee falls below the minimum number required by this statute.

**5.5** At Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings all members have one vote.

**5.6** The rules and regulations applicable to Annual General Meetings shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to Extraordinary General Meetings.

**5.7** For the purposes of the Annual General Meeting only, the term “members of the Society” in this Statute shall be deemed to mean those fully paid up members of the Society who are in attendance at the Annual General Meeting.

## **6 Election of the Committee**

**6.1** Nominations for election to the Committee shall be submitted to the Secretary by not later than the date and time fixed for the convening of the Annual General Meeting. Such nominations may be submitted to any member of the outgoing committee who will tender due receipt, which may also be verbal.

**6.2** Any paid-up member of the Society may nominate himself or any other Society member for election to the Committee. In the latter case, the nominated member should express his consent.

**6.3** At the Annual General Meeting, the outgoing Committee shall choose three paid up members of the Society (hereinafter referred to as the Returning Officers) to run and take care of the election process. The Returning

Officers shall regulate the procedure and formalities of the election. Upon termination of the voting process, the Returning Officers shall declare the elected members as Committee members.

**6.4** As soon as practicable after the General Meeting the elected members shall convene to assign posts as specified in Section 3.4 above.

## **7 Membership**

**7.1** Any person may apply to become a member of the Society. There shall be no limitation as to the age or nationality of members.

**7.2** The Committee reserves the right not to accept the application of a particular individual where, in its opinion, such membership would be detrimental or harmful to the Society.

**7.3** The Society shall distinguish between senior and junior (being members who have not attained 16 years of age) members in the fixing of membership fees.

**7.4** It shall be possible to accept Group Membership to the Society under such conditions and with the payment of such fees as may be determined by the Committee.

**7.5** All members shall be bound to pay any such membership fees as may be fixed by the Committee. However the Committee may also fix separate fees for membership of specific Sections (see #3.6)

**7.6** Resignation from membership shall occur by notification to the Secretary and/or by failure to pay such membership or other fees as may be determined for a period of two consecutive years or where an amount equivalent to two years' membership fees is due to the Society by that member.

**7.7** The Committee shall be empowered to expel any member from the Society, and bound to notify him accordingly, should it deem the continued membership of such person harmful or detrimental to the Society.

**7.8** The Committee shall be empowered to offer honorary memberships of the Society if it deems this to be in the

interest of the Society. Such honorary members shall be exempt from the payment of any membership fees and shall not have voting or nomination rights.

## **8 Amendments to the Statute**

Amendments to Articles 1 (one), 2 (two), 8 (eight) and 9 (nine) of this Statute shall require a two-thirds majority of the members of the Society to be effected. All other Articles may be amended by simple majority of all members of the Society attending the Annual General Meeting.

Any member intending to propose any amendment to the Statute shall notify the Secretary at least 10 days before the time fixed for the Annual General Meeting and shall present the intended amendment in writing duly signed by himself and seconded by at least one other member.

The Secretary shall put any such amendments on the Agenda of the annual General Meeting.

Any proposed amendment shall be put to the vote of the General Meeting and, if approved, shall have immediate effect unless the members convened at the General Meeting otherwise determine.

**8A** The amending restrictions which apply to Articles 1, 2, 8 and 9 of this Statute shall apply also to 5.7 and to this.

## **9 Dissolution of the Society**

Dissolution of the Society shall require a two-thirds majority of the members of the Society duly convened at an Extraordinary General Meeting.

Should for any reason, the Society is dissolved any philatelic material which it might possess shall be handed over to the National Archives, Gozo Section. No member shall withhold any of the possessions of the Society. Any funds which the Society shall own at the moment of its dissolution shall be handed over to a Charitable Institution on Gozo.

Transfer of material or funds in these cases shall be against receipt.

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