



AMERSHAM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Constitution of the Society

1. The name of the society shall be AMERSHAM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
2. The purpose of the Society shall be to hold meetings for discussions, lectures and demonstrations for those interested in photography; and to organize competitions between members and against other similar organizations.
3. Application for membership shall be made upon the prescribed form and accompanied by the subscription due for the class of membership requested. (See Appendix A for membership classes).
4. Membership of the Society is open to everyone of the age of 16 and over. Current Child Protection regulations require a child under the age of 19, or a vulnerable adult under the age of 26, to be accompanied by a parent or nominated adult.
5. The subscriptions due shall be fixed at the Annual General Meeting. The subscription becomes due at the first meeting of the club in the September following the Annual General Meeting. Members joining after 1st January shall pay half the appropriate subscription. (See Appendix A for current rates).
6. The affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Committee of office holders and elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt additional members for specific purposes or to fill a vacancy. Seven members shall constitute a quorum. (See Appendix B).
7. After recommendation by the Committee and by vote at a General Meeting, a member shall be invited to become President of the Society. The President shall be an ex-officio member of the Committee and any Sub-Committee that may be formed and no period of time shall be put upon this office. At the request of no less than 10% of the voting membership of the Society, and if made in writing, a vote for a new President of the Society shall be held at a General Meeting.
8. All committee members, excluding the President, shall retire annually, but be available for re-election.
9. In recognition of an outstanding contribution to the Society a member or ex-member may be offered honorary membership. This will be confirmed by a General Meeting of the society following a recommendation by the committee



10. An Annual General Meeting, chaired by the President, shall be held before 31 May of each calendar year to receive the reports of the Chairman and Secretaries, to approve the Accounts, to fix the Subscriptions, to elect the Committee, to elect an Examiner and to elect delegates to represent the Society in connected bodies.
11. The financial year shall run from 1st April until the following 31st March.
12. A minimum of 14 days' notice shall be given prior to the holding of any General Meeting and also the proposals for an Extraordinary General Meeting.
13. Nomination forms for the committee will be sent out with the calling notice for the AGM, to be returned to the General Secretary at least 48 hours before the AGM. To be valid a nomination requires the names of two sponsors and the signature of acceptance of the nominee. Existing committee members are not required to be nominated and seconded but will be elected at the AGM. A list of the committee members standing for re-election will be sent with the calling notice.
14. An Extraordinary General Meeting can be called by a Committee decision or at the request of not less than 25% of the voting membership of the Society, if made in writing, stating the purpose of the meeting. The secretary shall make arrangements to hold the meeting within 28 days of the decision or the request being received.
15. Alterations to this Constitution, the Competition Rules or the Classes of Membership (see Appendix C) may only be made at a General Meeting, if supported by two-thirds of those members present and voting at the meeting.
16. The Secretary shall keep Minutes of all formal Meetings and shall be responsible for conducting the general correspondence of the Society.
17. The Treasurer shall collect all monies due to the Society, settle all accounts and keep a record of all transactions. The Treasurer shall maintain a bank account in the name of the Society, withdrawals from which shall require the signature of two officers of the Society, one of which should normally be the Treasurer.
18. Only members who have paid their subscription may enter a competition of the Society.



Appendix A - Classes of Membership

There are three classes of membership: Individual, Family and Honorary

The subscription rates are set at the Annual General Meeting. The rates for 2014 – 2015 are	
Individual	£50
Family (The family rate applies to members whose partners attend the Society meetings on an irregular basis and who do not enter competitions)	£84
Honorary	No subscription

A reimbursement of a subscription will only be made with the agreement of the Chairman and President and only in exceptional circumstances.

Appendix B - Committee

The officers of the Society are:

- *President
- *Chairman
- *Vice Chairman
- *General Secretary
- *Treasurer
- Membership Secretary
- Programme Secretary
- Judges' Secretary
- Print Secretary
- Projected Digital Image Secretary
- External Competitions Secretary
- Membership Communications Secretary
- Webmaster
- Publicity Officer
- Outings Secretary
- Members' Representative

The following posts are not members of the committee and are elected.

- CACC Representative
- NW Fed Representative
- Amersham & District Community Association representatives

Those officers marked with an asterisk (*) are mandated to sign cheques.



Appendix C - Classification of Members for Competitions and Competition Rules

Classification of members for competitions

There are three classes for competitions: General, Intermediate and Advanced.

The General Class- the usual entry class for new members of the Society

The Intermediate Class – by promotion on merit from the General class.

Promotion is on recommendation from the Print and PDI secretaries to the committee based on results in the previous year. This is also the entry class for members holding the LRPS, CPAGB, or equivalent qualification or who can demonstrate the appropriate level of photographic skill and achievement.

The Advanced Class – by promotion on merit from the Intermediate class.

Promotion is on recommendation from the Print and PDI secretaries to the committee based on results in the previous year. This is also the entry class for members holding the ARPS, DPAGB, equivalent or higher qualification or who can demonstrate the appropriate level of photographic skill and achievement.

Annual Print Competition Rules

There shall be a print competition each year, comprising five rounds.

A member may enter one or two images into a round of a competition.

Thus a maximum of 10 prints can be entered by a member into the print competition. The marks from the 8 highest scoring prints will be used to determine the winner, runner up, etc, in each class.

Annual PDI Competition Rules

As for Annual Print Competition

Print of the Year

Each year a member can enter one or two images into the Print of the Year Competition, providing the image has already been submitted into the annual print competition.

PDI of the year

As for Print of the Year



Reuse of Images

As a guiding principle members are encouraged to further their photographic skill and ability, and to produce new images for competitions. Thus

- no image may be used more than once in an internal APS competition in the same season unless it is being entered into the Print of the Year/PDI of the Year
- The decision of the print or PDI secretary is final when deciding if an image is similar to a previous entry from an author.
- An image may be entered into a competition in the following season in a different medium.

Judges

Judges will be asked to mark competition entries in the range 12 to 20 inclusive. They will be asked to select a first, second and third placed entry together with any entries to be Highly Commended. There is no limit on the number of images awarded "20".

Revised May 2104