
LAWS
OF THE

COLLEGE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1770



Dublin 2023

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CHAPTER I

FUNDAMENTAL REGULATIONS

The following shall be considered the fundamental regulations of the College Historical Society and no Law or resolution in anywise contradicting, suspending or repealing them, or any part of them, shall be valid without the consent of the Board.

1. All persons paying the capital levy shall be eligible for the Ordinary Membership of the Society.
2. Topics of religious controversy and present party politics shall be prohibited at the meetings of the Society.
3. Every meeting of the Society shall terminate not later than twelve o'clock by College time.
4. No person can be elected an Officer of the Historical Society without the sanction of the Board unless they be either officially connected with the University or be a Member of the Society. This law shall not apply to the election of Vice-Presidents.

CHAPTER II

ANNUAL MEMBERS

The amount of the annual subscription shall be determined by the General Committee in advance of the first of September of each session.

2. All persons who are eligible shall become Annual Members immediately upon paying their annual subscription.

3. The Membership of every Annual Member shall lapse at the end of the sixth week of Michaelmas Term in the session following that in which their annual subscription was last paid. Every person whose Membership shall have so lapsed, and fulfils the eligibility requirements of the Fundamental Regulations, shall be readmissible on payment of the annual subscription.

4. Any Member who is neither indebted to the Society in any amount, nor has in their possession any book from the Society's Library, nor has any key belonging to the Society may resign from Membership of the Society on notifying in writing the Record Secretary of their wish to do so. The Record Secretary shall, at the earliest possible moment after the receipt thereof, lay such Member's resignation before the General Committee, who may, on being satisfied that the above conditions are fulfilled, instruct the Record Secretary to inform such Member that their resignation has been accepted. The Record Secretary shall do so in Form A. Resignations shall take effect from the date of the Committee Meeting at which they were accepted.

5. Any Member communicating with the Board as to any proceedings of the Society without previously giving notice of their intention at a meeting of the Society ceases *ipso facto* to be a Member.

The General Committee alone shall have the power of expelling any Member in the Society; but the Society may, at any time, by motion on notice restore that Member, and may likewise, by further motion on notice declare their expulsion to have been

groundless. Members of Committee shall have the right of voting on such motion or motions.

7. The expulsion of a Member shall in all cases be effected by a decision of the Committee entitled to vote, and by the subsequent reading aloud of the following declaration by the Auditor at the next meeting, or next but one, after the Committee's decision:

“We hereby certify that it has been decided by a clear majority of the General Committee of the Historical Society that _____ shall be expelled from the Society”

CHAPTER III

HONORARY MEMBERS AND LIFE MEMBERS

1. No person shall be added to the list of Honorary Members until their name shall have been submitted to a meeting of the Society and a motion for their election passed with two-thirds of the voters voting for the motion, the vote to take place by resolution, and not by ballot. Failure to vote in favour or against this motion, will be deemed an abstention, and shall not be counted in the required quota. No Member shall be eligible to vote on such motion who shall not have been a Member of the Society during some session in which the candidate proposed shall have satisfied the requirements of the following law, where it applied to them.

2. Except as hereinafter provided for, no person shall be eligible for election to Honorary Membership who shall not have been an Officer and awarded the Marked Thanks of the Society for said Office, or who shall not have been awarded a medal in the Society; or who shall not have been awarded the Marked Thanks of the Society for their work as an Ordinary Member of Committee or as an Ordinary Member of the Society; nor shall any person be so qualified if more than two years have elapsed since their ceasing to be a Member of the Society, nor shall the name of any person be voted on more than three times in total, nor more than twice in any session

3. Honorary Members shall be admitted to the full privilege and subject to the same responsibilities as Annual Members, with the following restrictions, which shall not take effect in the same session in which they are elected to Honorary Membership: I. They shall not hold any office in the Society;

II. They shall not sit on General Committee;

III. They shall not obtain any medal or other distinction.

These restrictions do not apply while the Honorary Member is a student of the university.

4. Honorary Members shall be free from further annual subscription.

5. Every person elected an Honorary Member of the Society shall pay the amount of any debts due by them to the Society immediately after receiving notification of the same from the Treasurer.

All Members of the Speculative Society of Edinburgh, the Oxford Union Society, the Cambridge Union Society, the Durham Union Society and the Glasgow Union Society shall have the privileges of Honorary Membership, with the exception of voting in Society elections, and shall be subject to all the Laws of the Society. All Members of the above Societies claiming the privileges under this Law shall, if required, produce evidence of Membership of their respective Societies to the satisfaction of the Record Secretary.

7. All Fellows of the Trinity College, Dublin, shall be eligible for election as Honorary Members and they shall be entitled to all the privileges of Honorary Members elected in pursuance of Law 2, except that of taking part in the Private Business of the Society.

8. Any person who has been for four sessions a Member of the Society may, with the permission of the General Committee, when their name is no longer on College Books, or when they have obtained M.A. standing, become a Life Member, and may have full use of the Society's Rooms and take part in Public or Private Business. Members who have served as Members of Committee do not require the permission of the General Committee to be elected to Life Membership.

9. No person will become a Life Member until their name has been submitted to a meeting of the Society and a motion for their election passed with two-thirds of the voters voting for the motion, the vote to take place by resolution, and not by ballot. Failure to vote in favour or against this motion, will be deemed an abstention, and shall not be counted in the required quota. They shall not be able to act as a proposer or seconder of a motion in Private Business, hold any Office in the Society, sit on the General Committee or obtain any medal or other distinction.

CHAPTER IV

THE PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENTS AND STANDING COMMITTEE

1. They shall hold their respective Offices for life, or until removed, and shall be removable by resolution passed after fourteen days' notice thereof at an Ordinary Meeting of the Society, consisting of not less than twenty-four Members, such resolution to be carried by at least five-sixths of the Members present at such meeting.

2. All persons proposed for any of the above Offices shall be proposed and seconded by two Members of the Society, and a notice in writing of the intention to propose such persons, with the names of the proposer and the seconder, shall be given to the Record Secretary and read by them at two consecutive meetings of the Society next preceding that at which the election is to take place; and such notice shall remain on the notice-board from the day after the first reading-out of the same until the night of such election.

3. The election to the said Offices shall take place by resolution passed at an ordinary meeting of not less than twenty Members.

4. The President shall be elected by the majority of the Members present at such a meeting, providing that no person shall be declared unless a clear majority of the Members present, consisting of not less than eleven Members, shall have voted for such person.

In the event of there being three or more persons proposed for the above Office, and in case a clear majority shall not vote for one of such persons, then the name of the person for whom the smallest number of votes shall have been recorded shall be struck off, and the names of the remaining persons shall again be submitted to the meeting, and so in succession until a clear majority composed of not less than eleven Members shall vote for one person, whereupon such person shall be duly declared elected.

7. The Vice-Presidents shall likewise be elected by resolution provided that no person

shall be declared elected a Vice-President of the Society unless at least three-fourths of the Members present at a meeting consisting of not less than twenty Members shall have voted in favour of such person.

8. I. The Standing Committee of the Society will consist of the President, the Auditor, the Treasurer, and the Record Secretary, with six nominees of the President and two nominees of the Auditor to be ratified by the General Committee. Further nominees must be ratified by the Society.

II. The Auditor will vacate their position on the Standing Committee five sessions after their election. The Treasurer, the Record Secretary and the Auditorial nominees will vacate at the end of the session, while the President and their nominees will remain in position until they resign.

III. The Record Secretary will act as secretary to the Standing Committee.

IV. The Standing Committee will be available to advise the Auditor, the Officers and the Committee on all matters concerning the wellbeing of the Society.

V. It will meet once a year and further meetings may be called at the discretion of the President who will act as Chair of the Standing Committee.

CHAPTER V

ELECTION OF THE OFFICERS AND GENERAL COMMITTEE

1. The Officers of the Society shall be the Auditor, the Treasurer, the Correspondence Secretary, the Record Secretary, the Censor, the Librarian, the Debates' Convenor, the Events' Convenor, the Equity Officer, and the Senior Member of Committee.

2. The General Committee of the Society shall consist of the President of the Society, the ex-Auditor and the Officers of the session, *ex-officio*, together with up to 14 other Members of Committee the Officers and General Committee of the Society shall be elected for the ensuing session during the seven days immediately preceding the last ordinary meeting in each session, and shall enter upon Office one day after the last sessional meeting. They shall hold office for one session. The session shall begin the day after the last ordinary meeting of Hilary Term. At the close of each session, every Officer and Member of Committee shall vacate their Office or place on Committee.

3. No Member shall be qualified to vote at the annual election of Officers and Committee Members who shall not have attended, within the current session previously to the night of nomination, the ordinary weekly Public Business or Private Business meeting of the Society on at least three discrete nights of meeting, exclusive of the Inaugural Meeting, or who shall stand indebted to the Society.

4. All candidates for Office in the Society or seat on the General Committee in the annual elections must be proposed and seconded at a Private Business Meeting at least one week previous to the last ordinary meeting of the session. Each candidate or their proposer must on the night of the nomination hand in to the Record Secretary a paper setting forth the full name, and addition (i.e. B.A. etc.), if any, of the candidate, with their proposer and seconder. No Member need be present on the night of their nomination.

5. Each candidate for Office in the Society shall before the day of election give in to the Record Secretary a statement in writing in accordance with Form C. It shall be considered a breach of faith with the Society to either solicit votes for or promise votes in

favour of any candidates for Office in the Society, whether online or in person. This may include, but is not limited to, stating whether or not a particular candidate would be fit for Office, or suggesting the suitability or unsuitability of a candidate for Office. The statements, signed by the candidates, shall be open for inspection on the night of election.

Candidates for Committee who are unable to sign form C, by reason of being abroad, are entitled to have Form C signed on their behalf by an Officer on receipt by the Committee of written correspondence from the candidate to that effect.

6. I. On the night of nominations, an Electoral Sub-Committee shall be constituted, consisting of all Officers not themselves nominated, together with one Member by each candidate for the two most senior contested offices, and two Members nominated by the Auditor. The Sub-Committee shall choose a Chair and a Secretary from amongst its Members.

II. The Electoral Sub-Committee shall be responsible for the preparations for and conduct of the general election, and shall ensure that all laws relating to the election are observed. In particular, the Electoral Sub-Committee shall adjudicate on any reported breaches of Law 6 of this Chapter, shall fix the date, time and place of balloting and shall, at least one week prior to the election deliver or cause to be delivered notification of these matters to each Member of the Society qualified to vote. It shall appoint Presiding Officers for the conduct of balloting, and shall provide a sealed box for the insertion of completed balloting papers.

III. The Electoral Sub-Committee shall provide balloting papers, containing instructions to voters in accordance with Form B, together with the names of the candidates for each Office and place on Committee in alphabetical order, and all information provided to the Record Secretary in accordance with Law 5 of this Chapter.

IV. An Ordinary Member who is not on the List of Electors provided by the Librarian may appeal their franchise to the Electoral Sub-Committee if they can furnish sufficient evidence for consideration. The Electoral Sub-Committee will advertise times for

members to appeal their franchise in week before the day of the election.

7. I. The Electoral Sub-Committee is empowered to investigate at its meetings any breaches of the laws to how the elections are observed. Quorum shall be two thirds of Members for all meetings of this Sub-Committee, and any decision taken will require a two thirds majority of those present.

II. Ordinary Members may make submissions to a meeting of the Electoral Sub-Committee and the Sub-Committee will make provisions for this.

III. In the event of a significant breach of the laws by a candidate or Member before the election, the Electoral Sub-Committee is empowered to perform the following:

- A. Administer fines to ordinary Members or a candidate, to a maximum of five times the annual subscription.
- B. Strike a candidate's name from the ballot.
- C. Remove a Member's name from the list of Electors for this election. d. Remove Member's name from the list of Electors for the remainder of the Session. In the case where the breach of these laws took place over the course of a General Election, the Sub-Committee would be empowered to remove a Members name from the the List of Electors for the Session following the General Election.
- D. Recommend expulsion from the Society of a Member to the General Committee.

IV. If a significant breach of the Laws regulating the elections is reported after the day of balloting and the declaration of the results of the election, the Electoral Sub-Committee is empowered to investigate. It may declare an election invalid in its report at the last ordinary meeting if sufficient evidence is provided, and the position will be in abeyance, and its functions discharged in compliance with the provisions of Chapter VI Law 7.

V. The Electoral Sub-Committee shall provide online balloting for Members unable to vote in person.

VI. If the General Committee is made aware of any breaches of these laws at a previous election within the last twelve months, which was not investigated at the time of that election, they may re-establish the Electoral Sub-Committee from that election, who shall be empowered to investigate said breach, and perform any of the actions outlined in Law 8 Section III of this Chapter. If they are unable to re-establish the original Electoral Sub-Committee, they may constitute a new Electoral Sub-Committee, as outlined in Law 7 Section I, with the exception that no candidate for the race in which the breach refers to may sit on this Sub-Committee.

8. I. The Electoral Sub-Committee shall obtain from the Librarian a list of Members who have attended, within the current session previous to the night of nomination, at least three of the Society's ordinary weekly meetings, exclusive of the Inaugural Meeting.

II. The Electoral Sub-Committee shall obtain from the Treasurer memoranda of accounts due from each Member of the Society.

III. The Electoral Sub-Committee shall post in the Conversation Room and under Front Arch a copy of the list sent in by the Librarian, distinguishing thereon the names of those Members who stand indebted to the Society. If their debts be discharged before the time fixed for balloting shall have elapsed, such Members shall be eligible to vote.

IV. An Ordinary Member who is not on the List of Electors provided by the Librarian may appeal their franchise to the Electoral Sub-Committee if they can furnish sufficient evidence for consideration. The Electoral Sub-Committee will advertise times for Members to appeal their franchise in the week before the day of the election

V. It is the duty of all Members of the Electoral Sub-Committee, if notified of a suspected breach of these laws, to report said breach to the Sub-Committee as a whole.

9. I. Throughout the time fixed for balloting, not less than two Presiding Officers shall be present in the place of balloting.

II. Each Member wishing to vote shall present themselves to the Presiding Officers who may require proof of identification and Membership.

III. If the Member is qualified to vote, the Presiding Officers shall provide them with a single balloting paper for each election, which shall be first marked with a distinctive stamp, and with an envelope, which shall be marked in the same fashion. They shall ensure that the balloting paper is marked by the Member in secret, and shall not allow it to be removed from the place of balloting.

IV. The Member shall mark the candidates for each Office and place on Committee with the numerals from 1 onwards in the order of their choice until the limit of their preferences or until the limit of the number of the candidates for that Office or place on Committee. They shall then fold the balloting paper so as to conceal their mark, and place it in the envelope provided, which they shall sign on the inside and seal. They shall then place the sealed envelope containing the marked balloting paper inside the sealed box provided for that purpose in the view of the Presiding Officer.

V. At any time before placing the sealed envelope in the box provided, the Member may return the envelope or the balloting paper to the Presiding Officers, who shall immediately destroy it, and provide them with another one.

10. I. After the time fixed for balloting has elapsed, the sealed box shall be opened and the votes scrutinised by the Auditor and the Chair and Secretary of the Electoral Sub-Committee, who may jointly appoint substitutes, subject to the approbation of the Electoral Sub-Committee.

II. The scrutineers shall declare the result of the election.

III. On each balloting paper the candidate who has been marked with the numeral 1 shall be deemed to be the Member's first preference, the candidate who has been marked with the numeral 2 shall be deemed to be the Member's second preference, and so on. Where

a ballot paper has been improperly marked, the scrutineers shall give effect to the Member's preferences in so far as they are clear to all the scrutineers from the marking.

IV. The first candidate for each Office to achieve a majority of votes after, if necessary, re-allocation of votes by the system of the single transferable vote shall be declared elected. But if only one candidate remains they shall be declared elected whether or not they shall have a majority of votes.

V. Each candidate for a place on the General Committee, for the election of the 248th Session, will receive a number of points based on the ranking of the preferences given to them. If a voter votes for M candidates on their ballot, then each candidate will M points for a first preference vote, M-1 points for each second preference vote they receive, and so on, down to 1 point for a last preference vote. In this way, voters are encouraged to fill out the entirety of their ballots. Any candidate who is not assigned a preference will receive 0 points.

VI. The winner of an election shall be the person who receives the most points, as calculated by the method in Law 11 Section V. In the case where there are N vacancies to be filled, then the N candidates with the most points will be deemed elected.

VII. If an Office or position on General Committee be declared vacant due to an equality of votes, then Members must be re-balloted no later than the day immediately preceding the day of the Annual General Meeting. In the event of a by-election, this date shall be set as no later than one week from the date of initial balloting.

VIII. A "Speech in a Debate of the Society" or "speak" can be defined as the following

- A. Any speech in a public business meeting, including floor speeches
- B. Any appointed role in the Records and Libraries debate
- C. Any speech in a derby of rhetoric
- D. Judging at least one round of a Schools' Debating Competition, convened by the Librarian. You may only get a maximum of one speak from this category.

- E. Competing in enough rounds of an Internal Competition during the preceding session. Internal Competitions include The Rosaleen Mills Maiden Speakers Competition, The “Harneys” Women’s Competition, The “Wolfe Tones” Impromptu Competition, The “Grattans” Historical Motions Competition, and The “Freshers Masters” Competition. You may only get a maximum of one speak from this category.

IX. No Member shall be declared elected to any Office or place on Committee who stands indebted to the Society.

11. No objection against the validity of any election can be entertained unless a notice of motion impeaching such election be given at the last ordinary meeting of the session. Such motion shall be disposed of at an extraordinary meeting, to be held for that purpose, on the following Saturday.

12. If such motion shall be put on notice, the Office concerning which the question is raised shall be in abeyance and its functions discharged in compliance with the provisions of Chapter VI Law 7.

13. Nothing in these Laws shall prohibit a Member of the Society from standing for election to the position of General Ordinary Member of Committee in addition to that of an Officer, however no Member may hold two positions on committee at the same time, and no Member may run for more than one Officer position in the one election. The counting of ballots for all Officer positions shall be conducted before the counting of ballots for General Members of Committee. In the event that a newly elected Officer shall still be standing in the election for General Committee, their votes shall not be counted for election but rather shall transfer to the candidate who receives the next highest preference on their ballot.

14. In the event of a vacancy a bye-election may be held at any time during the Session. In the event a Member of Committee position is vacant, however, and the relevant Officer already has at least one Member of Committee in their department, Committee

may elect to hold the position vacant until they require it to be filled.

15. Bye-elections shall be conducted according to the Laws governing the annual elections, subject to the following exceptions:

I. If the bye-election takes place before the sixth ordinary meeting of Michaelmas Term, no Member shall be qualified to vote who was not qualified to vote in the annual elections at the close of the preceding session, and Law 9 need not be observed. Members who were not qualified to vote in the annual elections only by virtue of their standing indebted to the Society shall become qualified if they discharge their debts before the time fixed for balloting in the bye-election shall have elapsed.

II. The Electoral Sub-Committee may alter the words of Form B as appropriate to the number of Offices and places on Committee as are being contested.

III. Law 12 shall not apply; no objection against the validity of any election can be entertained unless a notice of motion impeaching such election be given at the next night of meeting, and such motion be brought forward on the night of meeting next afterwards.

CHAPTER VI

DUTIES OF THE AUDITOR

1. No Member shall be eligible for this Office who shall not have fulfilled the following conditions:
 - I. They must have been a Member for one whole year;
 - II. They must have attended at least one-half of the meetings of some one session, during which they shall also have spoken at least three times in the debates of the Society.
 - III. They must have spoken at least seven times in the debates of the Society.
2. The Auditor shall be responsible for maintaining the high standing of the Society within College and in the wider public sphere during the Session in which they hold the position.
3. The Auditor shall be responsible for ensuring that the Officers and the Members of the General Committee fulfil both their duties under these laws and any duties agreed upon at the start of the Session. The Auditor must notify committee of the stated aims and objectives of their Auditorship at the beginning of each Session.
4. The Auditor shall deliver an Inaugural Address during the Session; and in case of their being unavoidably prevented from doing so, the Committee shall appoint a substitute.
5. The Treasurer shall, in the absence of the Auditor, perform all the functions of the Auditor as by law prescribed, as well in the Society's meetings as out of them. If necessary, the order of precedence shall then follow the Officers as listed in Chapter V Law 1.
6. The Auditor shall be fined five times the sum of the Annual subscription if they shall be absent on any night of meeting without having given notice to the Librarian.
7. If a successor to any Office – except that of Auditor – be not chosen at the legal time

of election, the Auditor shall, with the approval of the General Committee at the next Committee meeting, nominate some Member of the General Committee, or a Member of the Society in good standing eligible to hold the Office, to fill the vacant Office until the election shall have been concluded. Should any Officer, other than the Auditor, be absent from a meeting of the Society without having appointed a deputy, the Auditor shall appoint one.

8. The Auditor shall take care to record in a copy of the Laws to be kept by them any changes made in the Laws during their term of Office. They shall also take care that the Record Secretaries shall enter any such change into their own copy of the Laws. It shall be the duty of the Auditor to compare these copies of the Laws not later than the eighth ordinary meeting of Hilary Term for the purposes of carrying out the foregoing provisions of these Law, and for any neglect of these provisions, they shall be fined twice the sum of the annual subscription.

9. An Auditor may rule on a point of Law provided said ruling is recorded by him before the next night of meeting in a book to be kept for that purpose. A ruling by an Auditor on a point of Law shall be a binding interpretation of the Laws.

The Society shall review all of the previous Session's rulings at the start of each Michaelmas term by holding a vote at the third Private Business of the year. A vote of three-fourths of the Members in attendance shall suffice to set aside any ruling.

10. The Auditor shall appoint all tellers on divisions, whether of business or debate, and shall also declare all ballots open and closed.

11. The Auditor is the officer authorised to issue public statements on behalf of the Society or the General Committee. They shall be responsible for all the external relations of the Society, unless they direct that another Officer or Member of the Society shall bear that responsibility.

12. The Auditor will be responsible for all correspondence and dealings with the bodies

of College apart from the Board. They may appoint a deputy to perform any of this business as they sees fit.

13. If the Auditor has not been present at the Society's meetings for at least threequarters of the nights of meeting, they shall not be eligible for the Marked Thanks of the Society.

14. The Auditor shall invite distinguished guests to visit the Society, and may award them the Gold Medal for Outstanding Contribution to Discourse, or the Burke Medal for Outstanding Contribution to Discourse Through the Arts, or any other Award they see fit.

CHAPTER VII

DUTIES OF THE TREASURER

1. No Member shall be eligible for this office who shall not have spoken at least five times in the debates of the Society.
2. The Treasurer shall receive the subscriptions and fines of the Members and shall provide everything necessary for the use of the Society.
3. The Treasurer shall outline and implement a strategy for sponsorship and fundraising at the beginning of the Session. They shall deliver a report to the Committee at the first Meeting of September on the progress achieved during the preceding months.
4. They shall keep an account of the sums of money received and expended, mentioning from whom and when received, and upon what and when expended. They shall not, however, spend more than two hundred euro for any non-recurrent purpose without the sanction of General Committee. An item of expenditure which has been incurred at least once in the previous two sessions shall be deemed to be recurrent. No part of the Society's funds shall be devoted to any public subscription without the sanction of the Society.
5. No Officer shall order anything whatever on account of the Society without having previously obtained the consent of the Treasurer or of the General Committee and any Officer violating this law shall be subject to a fine to be imposed at the discretion of the General Committee on complaint being made by the Treasurer.
6. On each night of meeting, the Treasurer shall read out a list of fines imposed. Each fine shall be read out on two occasions, and on the second reading of each fine the Auditor shall adjudicate the same and declare it absolute or not. If any fine is declared absolute, it shall be competent for any Member other than the Member fined to move the remission of the fine. If a motion for the remission of a fine be carried the fine

shall be deemed to be not absolute.

7. The Treasurer shall keep a book in which they shall record all fines.

8. The Treasurer shall ensure the proper auditing of the Society's accounts according to the directions of the General Committee. The President shall appoint a person of their choosing to audit the accounts at least twice a year.

9. The Treasurer shall keep a record of all debts due to or owed by the Society.

10. The Treasurer shall secure sufficient income to finance the Society's activities according to the directions of the General Committee.

11. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all funds raised in the Society's name and shall oversee all funds raised to be used for the production of any publication of the Society. They shall arrange any sponsorship agreements entered into, on behalf of the Society, subject to the final approval of the General Committee.

12. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the care and upkeep of the Snooker Room and other revenue generating activities, and shall have the power to frame and alter rules for the management of these facilities, and supervise their operation. All sums due to the Society for the use of these facilities shall be collected by the Treasurer or their deputies, and entered in a book to be kept by them for that purpose. The General Committee must approve any deputies appointed to these tasks.

13. The Treasurer shall compile a biannual newsletter and report for the sponsors of the Society with the assistance of the Record Secretary and Censor for publication at the end of Michaelmas and Hilary Term.

14. A Sponsorship Sub-Committee shall be convened by the Treasurer consisting of the Treasurer, Events Convenor, Auditor, and Pro-Treasurer for the purpose of coordinating the acquisition of sponsorship for the Session.

15. If the Treasurer has not been present at the Society's meetings for at least threequarters of the nights of meeting, they shall not be eligible for the Marked Thanks of the Society.

CHAPTER VIII

DUTIES OF THE CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY

1. No Member shall be eligible for this Office who shall not have spoken at least five times in the debates of the Society.
2. This Secretary shall carry on the general correspondence of the Society. They shall keep the correspondence received by them and copies of all letters sent by them.
4. This Secretary shall submit subjects for debate for the approval of the General Committee.
5. Once the subject of debate has been approved, they may approach other organisations with regard to hosting the debate with the Society, subject to the final approval of the General Committee.
6. This Secretary shall, as soon as a subject for debate has been selected, make all exertions to procure a suitable Chair for the meeting at which such subject will be discussed in time for publication and in case they shall not have procured a suitable Chair in sufficient time they shall be fined five times the amount of the annual subscription.
7. This Secretary shall, as soon as a subject to debate has been selected, make all exertions to procure suitable guest speakers for the meeting at which such subject will be discussed in time for publication unless the General Committee otherwise direct and in case they shall not have procured suitable guest speakers in sufficient time they may be fined thrice the sum of the annual subscription. They shall endeavour to ensure there is a guest speaker both for and against the motion.
8. This Secretary shall place upon the notice-board every subject for the discussion of which the General Committee shall have fixed a date.
9. At least two full days before each debate this Secretary shall place upon the

noticeboard an order paper so that Members wishing to speak in the debate may place their names thereon. They shall decide the position of speakers to be called during the debate, with the consent of the Auditor and the guests.

10. If this Secretary has not been present at the Society's meetings for at least three quarters of the nights of meeting they shall not be eligible for the Marked Thanks of the Society.

CHAPTER IX

DUTIES OF THE RECORD SECRETARY

1. No Member shall be eligible for this Office who shall not have spoken at least three times in the debates of the Society.

2. I. This Secretary shall keep safe the Journals and other Records. They shall keep them in the Society's rooms and no one shall remove them without the permission of the Auditor, or of this Secretary under a penalty of thrice the amount of the annual subscription for the first offence and expulsion for the second.

II. This Secretary shall, before the close of each session number and add to the catalogue of the records whatever books, documents or relics (other than books placed in the Society's Library) have been placed in the Record press or otherwise come into the custody of the Society during the session.

3. I. This Secretary shall keep a copy of the Society's Laws into which they shall enter all changes made in the Laws during their tenure of Office. They shall compare this copy with the Auditor's copy not later than the second ordinary meeting of Trinity Term for the purpose of carrying out this duty.

II. Before the first ordinary meeting of Michaelmas Term, this Secretary shall publish a notice of those amendments to the Laws adopted by the Society since the last reprinting of the Laws. Any member shall have a right to purchase a copy of such notice.

III. This Secretary shall maintain a Register of all Honorary and Life Members of the Society, together with their addresses, for the accuracy of which they shall be responsible and which they shall exhibit to the Chair, Auditor and other Officers, when called for by them.

IV. This Secretary shall enter into the Record Book the names of the new Members in each year and the distinctions obtained by present and former Members, whether in the

Society, the University or otherwise.

V. This Secretary shall, in conjunction with the Alumni Office, maintain contact with Honorary and Life Members, and shall send out a newsletter at the end of the Session.

VI. They shall hold a debate in Hilary term, at which they will invite Honorary and Life Members to speak.

4. I. This Secretary shall convene the Rosaleen Mills Maiden Speakers Competition.

II. They shall organize meetings and events to cater for new members.

5. This Secretary shall preserve in the Records one typescript copy of any essay for which a Composition or a History Medal shall have been awarded by the Society.

6. This Secretary shall preserve in the Records one typescript copy of the Address made by the Auditor at the Inaugural Meeting.

7. This Secretary shall preserve in the Records two typescript copies of every SubCommittee report, marking thereon such amendments as the Society may adopt.

8. This Secretary shall have book entitled '*Abstracts from the Journals*' into which they shall enter by the conclusion of the session in which they have held Office decisions upon important matters of procedure, Auditorial Rulings not inserted in the Rulings Book, decisions of the House (through the adoption of Sub-Committee reports and otherwise) in regard to matters of fundamental importance and all amendments to the Laws passed for the first time, together with a record of other principal occurrences during each session.

9. This Secretary shall have a book in which they shall place all press cuttings pertaining to the Society.

10. I. This Secretary shall prepare the Society's Annual Report relating to the proceedings of the preceding session within four months of the end of that session. This report shall contain an abstract of the Journals relating to the proceedings of the Inaugural Meeting, a similar abstract giving particulars of the Society's meetings during that session, particulars of any changes made in the Society's Laws in that session, a list of the Permanent Officers of the Society, a list of Officers and Members of both Committees for that session, a list of Honorary and Life Members

of the Society and a summary of the result of the annual elections held at the close of the preceding session.

II. These reports shall be published in excerpt or in full, at intervals to be determined by the General Committee, together with lists to be prepared by this Secretary of the Officers of the Society from its foundation, of Medallists from its foundation and of the titles of Auditorial Addresses from 1843 (with the names of the speakers to the Addresses).

III. This Secretary shall, immediately on the publication of the Annual Reports forward a copy thereof, together with a copy of the Laws of the Society, to those listed in Appendix B.

11. This Secretary shall register in the minute book within a week, a full account of the proceedings of the Society on the last night of meeting, including the name of the Chair, the subject of debate, the speakers on each side, the names of speakers to motions in Private Business, all notices of motion in the order in which they were given and all rulings of the Auditor in accordance with the provisions of Chapter XVIII Law 33. On the day after each meeting of the Society this Secretary shall place a transcript of the above account on the notice-board of the Society.

12. The duties of this Secretary at the Society's meetings shall be as follows: as soon as the Chair shall have been taken, they shall read the minutes of the last meeting and

present them to the Chair for their signature. At the time appointed for that purpose, they shall call upon the Members to bring forward their respective motions in their order, and in case of their failing to do so in person or by substitute (duly appointed by them in writing) they shall declare the motions lapsed. It shall likewise be their duty to receive notices of motion, and to distribute balloting papers.

13. This Secretary shall have entire control over the Notice-board of the Society.

14. This Secretary shall act as secretary to the General Committee.

15. At the end of the session they shall transfer copies of all reports, publications and important documents to the College archives, and ensure that manuscripts and records of the Society are protected properly as they age.

16. If this Secretary has not been present at the Society's meetings for at least threequarters of the nights of meeting, they shall not be eligible for the Marked Thanks of the Society.

CHAPTER X

DUTIES OF THE CENSOR

1. No Member shall be eligible for this Office who shall not have spoken at least three times in the debates of the Society.
2. The Censor shall publicise, both within and without College, the debates and other activities of the Society, subject to the directions of the General Committee. This will include posters to alert the Members of all activities, emailing relevant departments within College, and issuing press releases.
3. The Censor shall be responsible for the Society's tape recordings. They shall keep a digital record of all speeches, once permission has been granted from the speaker, and ensure these are made accessible to Members.
4. The Censor shall be responsible for maintaining the Society's website.
5. The Censor shall be responsible for editing all publications of the Society which are not allocated to other Officers. This includes the Members' guide and schedule magazines.
6. The debates and other activities of the Society shall be photographed and the Censor is responsible for arranging this. They shall also have responsibility for the filming of debates when requested by the General Committee.
7. If the Censor has not been present at the Society's meetings for at least threequarters of the night of meeting they shall not be eligible for the Marked Thanks of the Society.

CHAPTER XI

DUTIES OF THE LIBRARIAN

1. No Member shall be eligible for this Office who shall not have spoken at least three times in the debates of the Society.
2. It shall be the duty of the Librarian to maintain the Society's Library and to keep an accurate catalogue thereof. They shall facilitate the lending out to Members of books and ensure their safe return.
3. They shall be responsible for the newspapers and periodicals in the Conversation Room and shall ensure the publications are made available to the Members.
4. The Librarian shall be responsible for conducting the Schools' Debating Competition.
5. The Librarian shall maintain a Register of all Annual Members of the Society, together with their contact details, for the accuracy of which they shall be responsible and which they shall exhibit to the Chair, Auditor and other Officers, when called for by them. They shall place upon the Notice-board at the end of the sixth week of Michaelmas term a list of all Ordinary Members of the Society.
6. The Librarian shall provide for the recording of the names of all Members attending the meetings of the Society. They shall particularly record the Members of the Committee who are absent from meetings of the Society.
7. If the Librarian has not been present at the Society's meetings for at least threequarters of the nights of meeting they shall not be eligible for the Marked Thanks of the Society.

CHAPTER XII

DUTIES OF THE DEBATES CONVENOR

1. No Member shall be eligible for this Office who shall not have fulfilled the following criteria:

- I. They must have spoken at least five times in the debates of the Society
- II. They must have competed in at least four intervarsity competitions, as a speaker or a judge, either in Ireland or abroad, in the previous Session.

2. The Debates Convenor shall convene a two-day intervarsity competition, preceded by a one-day competition, in early Hilary term. They shall also convene a two-day open competition over the summer. The format and structure of such competitions to be subject to the approval of the committee, and any agreements entered into for the running of such competitions in conjunction with another society.

- I. They shall appoint, in consultation with the Auditor, Members of the Society to convene a number of Internal Debating Competitions, the exact format and structure of such competitions to be subject to the approval of the committee.

Such competitions may include:

- a. The “Wolfe Tones” Impromptu Competition, to commemorate Theobald Wolfe Tone.
- b. The “Grattans” Historical Motions Competition, to commemorate Henry Grattan.
- c. The “Harneys” Women’s Competition, to commemorate Mary Harney
- d. The “Freshers Masters” Competition for Members in their first year of debating.

- II. To provide for members a debating development program to consist of the following:

- i. A series of lectures on topics of particular interest to competitive debating, to be run throughout the Session.

- ii. A series of workshops and seminars on competitive debating technique, to be run throughout the Session.
- iii. A series of workshops and seminars on equity and equality in conjunction with the Equity Officer, to be run throughout the Session.
- iv. The establishment and upkeep as part of the Society's Library of a resource library of debating related materials.

3. The Debates Convenor will produce a report at the end of each session on the particulars of competitive debating, listing the competitions and number of teams entered, the successes of those teams and details on internal competitions. They will provide the Record Secretary with abstracts for inclusion in the Annual Report.

4. To assist them in their duties the Debates Convenor may establish a committee of Society members to be known as the Debates Committee.

5. If the Debates Convenor has not been present at the Society's meetings for at least three-quarters of the nights of meeting they shall not be eligible for the Marked Thanks of the Society.

6. The Debates Convenor shall be the representative of the Society on any formal national or international body related to competitive debating. In the case of their being unable to do so, the Auditor or a pro-Debates Convenor may act as a substitute.

7. The Debates Convenor shall be responsible for ensuring that all attendees at the European and World University Debating Championships have signed Form G.

CHAPTER XIII

DUTIES OF THE EVENTS CONVENOR

1. No Member shall be eligible for this Office who shall not have spoken at least three times in the debates of the Society
2. The Events Convenor shall be responsible for the provision of refreshments to Members of the Society at all events throughout the Session and the organization of post-event entertainment and other social events.
3. The Events Convenor shall be responsible for the organization of Freshers' Week in each Session.
4. If the Events Convenor has not been present at the Society's meetings for at least three-quarters of the nights of meeting, they shall not be eligible for the Marked Thanks of the Society.

CHAPTER XIV

DUTIES OF THE EQUITY OFFICER

1. The Equity Officer shall be appointed by the General Committee at the beginning of each Session.
2. The Equity Officer shall be responsible for the promotion of equality and diversity in the Society. They shall ensure that the Society maintains a safe and inclusive environment for all members throughout the Session.
3. An equity policy must be drafted by the Equity Officer at the beginning of each session. The equity policy shall outline the standard of behaviour all members of the Society must adhere to throughout the Session and the procedure that will be followed in handling equity complaints for the violation of that standard. The equity policy must be circulated amongst all members of the Society before the first public business of the Session.
4. The Equity Officer is responsible for the enforcement of the equity policy. The equity policy may be enforced by the crafting of proportional responses to equity complaints or the enactment of positive measures, such as quotas, subject to approval by the General Committee.
5. Equity complaints may be submitted to any Officer or Ordinary Member of Committee and then referred to the Equity Officer. Equity complaints must be dealt with in a prompt and effective manner.
6. The Equity Officer, is mandated to attend some form of welfare training, if they have not previously done so, before the start of the academic year for which they are elected.
7. The Equity Officer is not responsible for hearing personal disputes between Members of the

Society, nor are they obliged to act as a mediator for those disputes, except where those disputes infringe upon the day-to-day running of the Society. The Equity Officer should be aware of the relevant College Authorities to which they can refer Members whose complaints they cannot adequately deal with themselves.

8. If the Equity Officer has not been present at the Society's meetings for at least threequarters of the nights of meeting, they shall not be eligible for the Marked Thanks of the Society.

CHAPTER XV

DUTIES OF THE SENIOR MEMBER OF COMMITTEE

1. No Member shall be eligible for this Office who shall not have spoken at once in the debates of the Society.

I. The Senior Member of Committee shall have general charge of the Rooms, and in the event of any property being missing or wilfully damaged they shall immediately bring the matter under the notice of General Committee.

II. The maintenance and operation of the Resource Room, Snooker Room, and Pool Room shall be their responsibility.

III. They shall be responsible for enforcing the rules of the Committee Room as laid out in Appendix C. They may recommend fines to the Treasurer for any breaches that occur.

IV. They shall be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the property of the Society other than that which is entrusted to the care of any particular Officer, and shall take such steps as may be necessary to have any repairs of such property promptly executed.

2. The Senior Member of Committee shall be responsible for the supervision of the Members of Committee in fulfilling their roles and their welfare throughout the Session.

3. The Senior Member of Committee shall circulate a weekly rota outlining the duties of each Member of Committee for the week.

4. The Senior Member of Committee shall be responsible for the attendance of Members of Committee at events throughout the Session, and keep a record thereof.

5. The Senior Member of Committee shall act as chief steward at the Inaugural Meeting, and shall appoint as many stewards as they think proper to assist them. They shall have regard to the recommendations of any Sub-Committee appointed to consider arrangements for the Inaugural Meeting.

6. If the Senior Member of Committee has not been present at the Society's meetings for at least three-quarters of the nights of meeting, they shall not be eligible for the Marked Thanks of the Society.

CHAPTER XVI

HONARARY MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE

1. All Officers who obtain the Marked Thanks of the Society shall be eligible to be appointed Honorary Members of Committee at the end of their Session on the General Committee.
2. Honorary Members of Committee shall hold the position for as long as they remain enrolled in Trinity College, Dublin. They shall be sent minutes of every meeting of the General Committee. They may also be invited to meetings of the General Committee.
3. Honorary Members of Committee shall act in an advisory capacity to the General Committee on all matters.

CHAPTER XVII

COMMITTEES

PART I – DUTIES OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

1. The General Committee shall meet regularly each week during the terms of Arts Lectures until the last sessional meeting at a time and on a day to be chosen by itself, but shall have the power to adjourn itself. While the Committee is sitting no Member who is not on the Committee shall be allowed to remain in the same room without the permission of the General Committee.
2. The number of members required to form a quorum shall be half the Committee minus one, and the Chair shall be taken by the Auditor.
3. The Committee shall have the general management of all the affairs of the Society which are not entrusted to a particular Officer, and for all purposes the property of the Society shall be deemed to be invested in it.
4. The Officers of the Society shall agree roles for the general Members of the Committee at the beginning of the Session.
5. Members of the Committee representing the Society as part of their duties shall be answerable to the General Committee.
6. The Committee shall have power of imposing fines and remitting fines imposed by them without appeal from its decision.
7. The committee shall have the power of directing the Treasurer to expend any part of the Society's funds (not exceeding eight hundred euro) in any manner they think proper, and which may be consistent with the immediate objects of the Society.

8. The number of tickets to be issued for the Inaugural Meeting shall be decided by the Committee and all tickets on that occasion must be printed.
9. The Committee shall have the power of communicating with the Board on any subject they think proper.
10. The Record Secretary (or any Member of the Committee duly appointed by them in writing) shall be at liberty, with the concurrence (expressed in writing) of two other Members of the Committee, to call an extra Committee meeting on any day provided that one day's notice shall be given to every Member of the Committee then resident in Dublin and two days' notice shall be given to every Member of the Committee then resident elsewhere in Ireland.
11. Every Member of the Committee shall enter all amendments to the Laws into their copies immediately on their adoption.
12. The General Committee may summon an extraordinary meeting of the Society whenever they may deem it necessary and may abandon an extraordinary meeting so summoned.
13. The General Committee shall have the power to accept or reject invitations from other Societies or from the convenors of debating competitions and, if necessary, to choose delegates in response to an invitation so accepted.
14. The General Committee may direct that any ordinary meeting of the Society be organised as a competitive debate upon such terms as they see fit provided always that standing orders shall not be raised otherwise than by privileged motion in the usual way.
15. If any Officer or Member of the General Committee shall absent themselves from three successive meetings of the Society, or from three successive meetings of the

General Committee, without leave they shall from the termination of the third such meeting be deemed to have vacated their place. On the next night of meeting, the Record Secretary shall report the vacancy immediately after the minutes have been signed. In the event of the Record Secretary so vacating their place it shall be the duty of the Librarian to give such notice. Failing such notice in either case, the Officer omitting to give such notice shall be fined the amount of the annual subscription.

16. Any Officer or Member of the General Committee may resign from their Office of place on the Committee on notifying in writing the Record Secretary of their wish to do so. The Record Secretary shall at the earliest possible moment after the receipt thereof lay such resignation before the General Committee who may instruct the Record Secretary to inform such Officer or Member of the General Committee. Resignations shall take effect from the date of the Committee meeting at which they were accepted, and the Office or place on the General Committee shall be deemed to be vacant.

17. No Member shall be eligible for the election to the General Committee unless they shall have attended at least three meetings in any one session and shall have spoken at least once in the debates of the Society.

18. At the beginning of the Session, the General Committee will agree upon the specifics and the deadlines of the tasks assigned to each Officer and Member of Committee. If any Officer or Member of Committee shall fail to perform the tasks assigned to them, or fail to meet the required deadlines, without proper justification, they shall be deemed to have vacated their place.

PART II – SUB-COMMITTEES

20. The Auditor shall appoint the Chair and the Secretary of every Sub-Committee, whether elected by the Society or otherwise constituted. The Chair shall fix the times of meetings of the Sub-Committee, notify the Members thereof and read and propose the report of the Sub-Committee in person or by deputy.

21. The Auditor (except in the cases provided for in Laws 22 & 23) shall appoint the time within which all Sub-Committees shall report.

22. No report of any Sub-Committee can be made unless signed by a majority of the Members constituting such Sub-Committee.

23. Every report shall be read aloud in the Society and notice given of its proposal at least one week before it can be disposed of by the Society. The report of the SubCommittee, when adopted, shall be final, but the Society may reject, amend or refer to another Sub-Committee any report or parts of a report.

24. One fortnight before the last ordinary meeting of the session, a Sub-Committee shall be elected to inquire in to the conduct of those who have served as Officers and on the General Committee for the session. This Sub-Committee shall send in a report to the last ordinary meeting of the session recommending whether and, if so, what thanks are due to the Officers by the Society.

I. The General Committee will establish terms of reference for this SubCommittee.

II. As laid out in Chapter XIX Law 16, this Committee will accept nominations from Ordinary Members of those who have given an outstanding contribution to the Society.

III. The Sub-Committee may award the Marked Thanks of the Society to a number of Ordinary Members of Committee who they deem to have performed exceptionally during the Session. No Member of Committee shall be eligible for the Marked Thanks, unless they have been present at the Society's meetings for at least three-quarters of the nights of meeting.

25. The Officers' Conduct Sub-Committee shall take the Laws relating to each Officer's duty as its guide in deciding whether they are deserving of the Marked Thanks. They shall also particularly inquire whether each Officer has been regular in their attendance at meetings of the Society and the General Committee. The SubCommittee may examine each Officer and any of the Members of the Society.

26. At the ninth ordinary meeting of Michaelmas Term, four Members shall be elected who shall form a Sub-Committee to inquire into the affairs of the Society. This SubCommittee shall send in a report at the last ordinary meeting of Michaelmas Term.

CHAPTER XVIII

STANDING ORDERS

PART I – THE INAUGURAL MEETING

1. The General Committee shall elect the Chair for the Inaugural Meeting.
2. The Order of Proceedings at the Inaugural Meeting shall be as follows: the chair having been taken, the Record Secretary shall read the minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of the Society. The medals and certificates having been presented to the successful candidates, the Chair shall then call upon the Auditor to deliver their Address, after the delivery of which it shall be moved and seconded, that the best thanks of the Society are due to the Auditor for their Address, and the Society is worthy of support.

PART II – PUBLIC BUSINESS

3. A Public Business Meeting shall be held, unless the General Committee otherwise direct, on the Wednesday immediately preceding the beginning of the Michaelmas term of Arts Lectures, and on each Wednesday during Michaelmas and Hilary Terms of Arts Lectures at approximately half past seven p.m. College Time.
4. The order of proceedings at each Public Business Meeting shall be as follows: after the chair has been taken, the Minutes of the last public proceedings of the Society shall be read by the Record Secretary and, after any objection to their accuracy has been decided upon, shall be signed by the Chair. The debate shall then ensue, after the conclusion of which the question for debate shall be put from the Chair. The question having been decided, the Chair may vacate the Chair in order to address the Society, during which time some other person shall take the Chair.
5. The question for debate shall be put in the form of a motion.

6. I. Guest speakers may be appointed to support the debate without the suspension of standing orders, besides whom any other Member may address the Society upon the subject under consideration.

II. The General Committee may at its discretion appoint that at one meeting during the session an essay submitted for the preceding session's competition in History or Composition or a part thereof, not exceeding thirty minutes in length shall be read to the Society, whereafter the motion "That this House Agrees with _____" shall be debated in the usual fashion, save only that the essayist shall have the sole right of a concluding reply.

7. Any Member who is absent from their place in any debate without due cause in which they has undertaken to speak shall be named by the Correspondence Secretary to the Auditor at the next meeting and shall be fined the amount of the annual subscription by the Auditor.

8. The Auditor may limit the time for which Guest speakers and Members will be permitted to address the Society.

9. The question for debate shall be put not later than 11p.m.

PART III – PRIVATE BUSINESS

10. A Private Business Meeting shall be held, unless the General Committee otherwise direct, on the Wednesday immediately preceding the beginning of Michaelmas Term of Arts Lectures, and on each Wednesday during the Michaelmas and Hilary Terms of Arts Lectures.

11. I. The order of proceedings at each Private Business Meeting shall be as follows: after the Chair has been taken, the minutes of the last Private Business Meeting shall be

read by the Record Secretary and, after any objection to their accuracy has been decided upon, shall be signed by the Chair. The Society shall then proceed to the items of business in the following order:

- (a) Fines read out for the first time;
- (b) Questions;
- (c) Reports to be Read;
- (d) Notices of Motion;
- (e) General Business;
- (f) Motions to be Discussed;
- (g) Fines read out for the second time.

II. The Auditor may suspend the proceedings at any stage thereof so that a Public Business Meeting may be held, at the conclusion of which the Private Business Meeting shall be reconvened, Oratory returns shall be taken and the proceedings shall continue from the stage at which they were suspended.

III. Whenever a Private Business Meeting does not commence until after the conclusion of the Public Business Meeting, Oratory returns shall be taken after the minutes have been signed and before fines are read for the first time.

IV. Whenever a Private Business Meeting shall conclude before the Public Business Meeting, Oratory returns shall be taken from Members at the conclusion of the Public Business Meeting.

12. At question time the Members shall address their questions through the Chair to some Officer of the Society. Each Member asking questions shall preface it with the words, "Mr/Madam Chair, I should like to ask the ...", mentioning the title of the Officer questioned.

The questions asked at question time shall be brief. They shall refer solely to the Society's business, shall not invite opinion and shall, in the case of each particular question be within the sphere of responsibility of the Officer questioned. Members

desiring information upon matters not especially part of the duties of the Treasurer, the Secretaries, the Censor or the Librarian or on matters within the competence of the General Committee shall question the Auditor.

Officers replying at question time shall do so briefly and shall preface their replies with the words “Mr/Madam Chair, in answer to the question asked by _____”.

Not more than ten minutes shall be devoted to question time at any meeting of the Society, and it shall be the duty of the Librarian to inform the Chair if and when ten minutes shall have elapsed since the asking of the first question so that the Society may proceed immediately to the next business.

13. No motion shall be entertained by the Society unless a week’s previous notice shall have been given by the mover, excepting the following, which shall be privileged to be moved without such previous notice:

i. Motions for adjournment to the usual night of meeting; ii.

Suspension of Standing Orders (which must be carried unanimously); iii. Votes of thanks, sympathy, regret and congratulations; iv.

Amendments to motions;

v. Motions for extension of time to Sub-Committees; vi. Motions for leave of absence; vii. Motions for the remission of fines; viii. Motions for the appointment of Sub-Committee under any Law or Examiners.

14. The Motions numbered i. to iv. (inclusive) in the immediately preceding law shall be movable in Public as well as Private Business.

15. All notices of motion, whether given for the first time or renewed, must be read aloud by the Member giving or renewing them, or by their deputy duly appointed in writing, and then delivered to the Record Secretary in writing, with the names of the mover and seconder affixed and if this rule shall be not complied with the motion shall fall to the ground.

16. The Auditor shall have the right to reject any notice of motion which is obviously frivolous or improper.

17. If a Member who has given notice of motion be not present in person or by deputy duly appointed by them in writing when called upon by the Record Secretary to bring forward their motion such motion shall lapse.

18. I. No alteration in the Laws of the Society shall be valid unless the motion proposing the alteration having been passed by the Society after at least one week's notice shall on the next night of meeting or at the earliest opportunity thereafter, be passed again, and without amendment.

II. No alteration in the Laws of the Society shall come into force until the session next ensuing after that in which it is adopted by the Society unless a resolution be passed to the contrary effect be passed on the second reading of such alteration.

PART IV – STANDING ORDERS OF GENERAL APPLICATION

19. Eleven Members of the Society shall be sufficient to constitute a quorum.

20. The Chair shall not address the Society on any subject while it is under discussion.

21. No motion shall be proposed after the hour of half-past eleven p.m. if any Member present objects, unless it be a motion for the adjournment, or for the suspension of standing orders, or for the remission of fines.

22. Privileged motions, other than votes of thanks, motions for the suspension of standing orders and motions for the remission of fines shall, upon being moved, be handed to the Record Secretary in writing with the names of the mover and the seconder attached.

23. When a motion is before the House no other motion shall be proposed unless that secondly proposed be a motion for the adjournment, or a motion for the suspension of standing orders, or an amendment, or a vote of thanks, sympathy, regret or congratulations.

24. No motion, unless it be a motion for the adjournment or for the suspension of standing orders shall be proposed twice on the same night of meeting.

25. No amendment shall be proposed while another amendment is before the meeting.

26. No motion may be withdrawn without the unanimous consent of the meeting.

27. When making speeches, Members shall address the House with the words, “Mr/Madam Chair, Mr/Madam Auditor, Ladies and Gentlemen of the College Historical Society”. This form of address shall also preface all remarks addressed to the House under the heading of General Business and all reports read to the Society. The formal address to the House may also be made in the Irish language.

28. Any Member may speak to an amendment, although they may have previously addressed the Society upon the question to which the amendment is being proposed.

29. The mover and opposer of any motion shall, subject to the Auditor’s discretion, have the privilege of replying to any speakers before that motion or amendment to it shall be put to the House. This privilege does not extend to the mover and opposer of an amendment.

30. No division on any motion shall take place until such motion be put from the Chair; but if a division be called for by any Member, the Society shall divide and tellers shall be immediately appointed, and in case of an equal division the Chair shall decide the question.

31. No Member shall be permitted to vote on any subject in which they is personally

concerned (save as otherwise provided); and of this point the Auditor shall be judge. All individual Members of the Committee shall be entitled to vote on any motion dealing with the conduct of the Committee as a whole.

32. When an amendment is adopted, the question as amended shall then be treated as a substantive question, and shall be subject to further amendment; but if no other amendment be proposed, then the Chair shall, at the conclusion of the debate on the amended motion, put the amended motion to the vote.

When an amendment is rejected, the debate on the original motion may be resumed, after which the Chair shall put the original motion to the vote, unless another amendment is proposed.

33. The Auditor shall be the sole interpreter of the Laws and judge of order for the night; and they shall have the power to fine any Officer or Member of the Society (including themselves) for any neglect of duty or breach of the Laws or customs of the Society or for any act, wherever committed, which interferes with the order of its meetings.

34. When making points of order, Members shall address the Auditor with the words, "On a point of order, Mr/Madam Auditor."

35. No point of order shall be raised when a previous point of order remains unanswered.

36. In ruling on points of order, the Auditor shall have regard to the customs of the Society; and of such customs, the rulings of previous Auditors on the same or similar points shall be deemed to be the best evidence procurable.

Any ruling of the Auditor made in writing in pursuance of this and of Law 33 shall, at the request of any Member present, be taken down by the Record Secretary.

37. If the Auditor shall be found on impeachment to have misinterpreted the Laws or

vexatiously called a Member to order they shall be punished by a fine not exceeding the amount of the annual subscription to be imposed on them by the General Committee.

38. No impeachment for a transaction shall be entertained by the Society unless notice of such impeachment be given within three weeks of the date of the transaction, or at the next ordinary meeting thereafter. No impeachment of the Auditor shall be carried unless supported by at least thirty votes. Any Member for a frivolous or vexatious impeachment of the Auditor in the discharge of their duty shall be liable to the utmost amount of the fine which the Auditor might have incurred in the case of conviction; the character of such impeachment to be decided by the votes of the Society.

39. If any Member, on being called to order by the Auditor, shall not submit they may be fined by the Auditor. If they shall still persist the Auditor shall direct them to make an apology, of the sufficiency of which the Chair shall be judge. If the Member shall refuse to apologise, the Auditor shall suspend them for the night from exercising the privileges of a Member by writing a declaration in Form D, which the Chair shall read aloud to the Society.

40. In case the suspension of any Member shall on any future night be pronounced by the Society to be undeserved, the Auditor shall immediately upon the Society's decision, or as soon after as possible, write an apology in Form E, which the Chair shall read aloud to the Society.

41. When raising points of information, Members shall address the Member speaking with the words, "On a point of information, ___", and the speaker shall be at liberty to accept or reject the point of information.

42. When raising points of fact, Members shall address the Chair with the words, "On a point of fact, Mr/Madam Chair." No Member shall raise a point of fact during the debate except to correct a misstatement of the views expressed by them in the debate, and no Member making such a correction shall introduce any new matter in order to render more clear the speech which they alleges to have been misunderstood.

43. Speakers may address the house in either of the national languages.

44. Minutes and other Society documents may be written in Irish provided that an English translation be appended thereto.

CHAPTER XIX

MEDALS AND PRIZES

PART I – ORATORY

1. The Society may award one gold and one silver medal to the best and next best speakers, a discretionary power being vested in the General Committee to award two gold or silver medals instead of one.
2. At the conclusion of every debate, except an impromptu debating competition, each Member shall mark and hand in when called upon a signed Oratory return, containing the names of the speakers whom they has heard, with numbers affixed expressing the degree of excellence, but no Member shall be entitled to mark their own speech.
3. Any Member, on expressing a wish to that effect, may have their name excluded from the Oratory returns.
4. No speech made to a privileged motion shall be allowed to be marked.
5. As each Oratory return is given in, it shall be placed by the Librarian in an envelope, which is to be sealed, endorsed and dated by them and then, in the presence of the Society, placed in a locked box provided for the purpose, which box shall remain in the Auditor's charge until the Committee meeting for awarding medals, and the key of the said box shall be kept by the Treasurer.
7. The Committee shall adjudge the medals and certificates according to the following system:
 - I. No Member shall obtain a medal or certificate unless they shall have spoken at least five times in the course of the Session.

II. The average mark of each speaker for each night shall first be determined by dividing the sum of all their marks for the night by the number of returns given in; but in case there shall be one mark, and only one, lower than any other mark for that night, it shall be excluded in computing the average for the said night. The five highest averages shall then be added together and divided by five, the quotient being the general average for the five best speeches of each Member. The general average shall be the mark determining the medals and prizes. The Committee shall have the power of rejecting any marking paper which is filled up in an obviously frivolous or unfair manner, provided the Members present be unanimously of opinion that such paper be rejected.

III. The general average required to receive a medal shall be decided at a meeting of the Society organized by the Committee at the end of the Session.

IV. The Marked Thanks of the Society may be awarded to those who have attained a general average of merit but did not qualify for a medal. The certificate may be presented at the Inaugural Meeting.

V. No member shall obtain more than one gold medal and one silver medal in Oratory.

8. The Society will award a prize of a book token to the best speaker in each debate according to the Oratory returns at the next meeting. It will also award prizes to the member and maiden speaker given the highest overall average mark of the session for their speech.

PART II – HISTORY

9. The General Committee may direct the organisation of a competition on History among the Members of the Society for which a gold medal and a silver medal may be awarded to the best and second best candidates respectively, provided always that such medals shall not be awarded unless the examiners consider that sufficient positive merit has been shown.

10. No Member shall have more than one gold and one silver medal in History.

11. The Record Secretary shall for the purposes of Chapter IX Law 5 receive a copy of any essay for which a medal in History shall have been awarded.

PART III – COMPOSITION

13. The General Committee may direct the organisation of a competition in Composition for which the President may award a gold medal and the Society a silver medal to the authors of the best and second best essays respectively, provided always that such medals shall not be awarded unless the judge or judges consider that sufficient positive merit has been shown.

14. No Member shall have more than one gold and one silver medal in Composition.

15. The Record Secretary shall for the purpose of Chapter IX Law 5 receive a copy of any essay for which a medal in Composition shall have been awarded.

PART IV – OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION

16. The Committee established in Chapter XIII Law 24 will accept nominations for Outstanding Contribution by an Ordinary Member from those submitting submissions.

17. The General Committee will then choose from among the nominees the overall winner and award up to two Marked Thanks certificates. The prize may be awarded jointly and shall be presented at the Inaugural Meeting.

APPENDIX A
FORMS A-F

FORM A

Dear _____,

I have been instructed by the Committee of the College Historical Society to inform you that at their meeting onthey decided to accept your resignation from Membership, which I laid before them.

Yours sincerely,

Record Secretary

FORM B

Instructions to voters:

1. Ensure that your balloting paper and your envelope have been stamped by the Presiding Officers.
2. Do not remove this balloting paper from the place of polling.
3. Mark the balloting paper in secret.
4. Number the candidates for each Office and place on Committee in the order of your choice unto the limit of the number of candidates or unto the limit of your preference.
5. Fold the balloting paper so as to conceal your vote.
6. Insert the balloting paper inside the envelope.
7. Sign your name clearly on the inside flap of the envelope.
8. Seal the envelope and place it in the ballot box.
9. Failure to observe these rules may result in the disqualification of your vote.

FORM C

I, _____, hereby declare that it is my intention, if elected to the Office of _____, to perform the duties of such Office for the whole of the period for which I am elected. I further declare that I have not myself, directly or indirectly, canvassed any Member of the Society for their vote, or directly or indirectly requested any other person to canvass on my behalf.

Name _____

Date _____

FORM D

By the authority vested in me by Chapter XV Law 39, I hereby suspend ____ from exercising the rights and privileges of a Member of the Historical Society for the remainder of this night.

Auditor

FORM E

I hereby apologise to _____ for having suspended them from exercising the privileges of a Member on the ... day of ...

Auditor

FORM F

I, _____, hereby declare the following:

1. To dutifully represent the Society at all the preliminary debates required by the following competition: _____.
2. If I should be unable to attend one of the debates, I shall ensure to inform the Debates Convenor without delay and provide a valid excuse.
3. By entering the competition, I agree to ensure my conduct does not reflect badly on the Society and to respect the rules and property of the host Society.
4. To speak at least once in the debates of the Society during the session. One speech will honour all commitments, as a result of signing this form for other competitions.
5. That I will forfeit any deposit and be subject to either a ban on representing the Society, or a fine not exceeding five times the annual subscription, or both on failing to honour my commitment.
6. That the details below are correct:

Name: _____

Student Number: _____

Home Address: _____

Next of Kin: _____

Next of Kin contact number: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____

FORM G

I, _____, hereby declare the following:

1. I have not previously represented the other society at an intervarsity debating competition, as a speaker or judge.
2. I will adhere to the guidelines of the World and European Debating Councils, with regards to dual institutional status.
3. I understand that exemptions to these laws may only be granted by the World and European Debating Council.

APPENDIX B

The following must be sent a copy of the Annual Report with a copy of the Laws:

The President, Vice-Presidents, Honorary Members, Life Members and Medallists, the National Library of Ireland; the College Library; the Library of University College, Dublin; the Library of University College, Cork; the Library of University College, Galway; the Library of Queen's University, Belfast; the Library of the Royal Dublin Society; King's Inns Library; the Public Library of St. Patrick's (commonly called Marsh's Library); the Library of the Royal Irish Academy; the Speculative Society of Edinburgh; the Oxford Union Society; the Cambridge Union Society and the Durham Union Society.

APPENDIX C

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ROOM

1. Belongings should always be stored safely in the appropriate presses and not allowed to remain exposed.
2. The Committee Room is not to be used for general socialising and is defined as a place of administration for the purposes of carrying out the Society's business.
3. The door of the Committee Room should always be firmly locked when last leaving the room
4. If an ordinary Member wishes to store their belongings, they must seek permission from a Member of the General Committee and collect it the following day. The Society will not be held liable for personal items stored in the Committee Room that are lost or stolen.
5. After the preparation of food or beverages, all equipment should be cleaned and returned to the appropriate storage place. Products should not be left in the fridge without a note determining date of purchase.
6. The computer is reserved for Committee business only. Documents relating to nonSociety business may not be printed. When using the computer be aware that it is illegal to view and download certain material online and we refer you to the College's policy on internet usage.
7. All materials relating to the Society should be clearly sorted, arranged and deposited in the correct location.
8. Any untidiness should be cleaned properly before leaving the room.