



CONSTITUTION

Of

Feis Dhoire Cholmcille

- ARTICLES

1. The name of the Organisation is Feis Dhoire Cholmcille.
2. The Organisation shall consist of a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar and all other members of the Feis Committee and all persons specified in Articles 9 below.
3. The organisation is not affiliated in any manner to any organisation involved in politics, and is non-discriminatory in matters of gender, race or creed.

- OBJECTIVES

4. The Organisation will safeguard, sustain, promote and enhance the culture, arts and heritage of Ireland and shall encourage participation by Competitors, audiences and groups irrespective of their cultural religious, political or social background or of their gender or disability.
5. The Organisation shall compile and arrange, on an annual basis in or about December in each year, a Syllabus containing all relevant information for the various competitions in the respective disciplines and the rules thereof and shall provide same to the prospective participants, schools and other interested bodies and individuals not later than the 30th day of December in each year.
6. The Organisation shall make provision for such participants to enter the respective competitions in the respective disciplines of Irish language, Classical Music, Traditional Music, Speech & Drama, History and Irish Dancing and shall arrange order, notify, allocate and facilitate all valid entries received.
7. The Organisation shall arrange the series of competitions which together comprise the Feis Dhoire Cholmcille (hereinafter called the Feis) and shall arrange and order the events which together will constitute Feis Week (hereinafter called Feis Week) which shall be held in the week immediately following the Easter celebration in the city of Derry and shall arrange, appoint, involve and employ adjudicators and judges to assess and judge the relevant disciplines in respect of which competitions re offered.



8. The Organisation shall encourage the continued study and interest in the culture and arts and in particular the respective disciplines of the Irish, Classical Music, Traditional Music, Song, Speech & Drama, History and Irish Dancing.

- MEMBERSHIP

9. Membership of the Organisation is by invitation; any person involved in the teaching or schooling of a participant or entrant shall not be permitted to be a member of the Organisation.

- HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

10. Each entrant and participant of the competition shall be for the period of time from when the entry is received to the end of the Feis Week an Honorary Member.

- MEMBERSHIP RECORDS

11. The Secretary shall keep a full and complete written record of name, address and telephone numbers of all members, but not Honorary Members of the Organisation.

- COMMITTEE

12. The Committee will comprise of a minimum number of 9 members comprising Officers as stated above together with Officers who shall when necessary to be co-opted to fill such positions of Hostess, Competition Co-ordinator and Floor & Properties Manager and any other function which the Committee deem desirable for the efficient organisation and running of Feis Week.

13. The members will be elected to the relevant positions of offices at the Annual General Meeting of the Organisation; nominations for the position of Office Bearers shall be received 14 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting or Extra-Ordinary General Meeting as the case may be in respect of any extra-ordinary election as hereinafter appearing, to be a valid nomination and each nomination must be proposed and seconded.

14. In the event that the Committee requires an increased number of Officers, the Committee is at liberty to co-opt additional support as and when required but any co-opted members shall step down after the year in which they have been co-opted has expired but are eligible for election at the following Annual General Meeting or Extra-Ordinary General Meeting as the case may be.



15. The Committee shall formulate the Rules by which the Feis will run.

- PERIOD OF OFFICE

16. The Office Bearers and all members of the Committee may serve on the Organisation for a term of 3 years and shall be eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting following the end of their term.

17. In the event of any member of the Committee absenting him or herself from the organisation without valid reason or apology on more than three consecutive meetings his or her membership shall be automatically terminated; should any member of the Committee wish to resign from the Committee he or she shall give notice of his or her intention to the Chairperson for submission to the next meeting.

- ELECTION OF OFFICERS

18. The election of the Officers shall be carried out in order of seniority beginning with the Chairperson, the Secretary, the Treasurer and the Registrar at the Annual General Meeting or as the case may be and shall be elected by a majority of votes of those attending in person at the said meeting; the nominations for the respective positions shall be announced at the beginning of the Meeting at which the nominations are to be held.

19. The Chairperson is eligible for re-election at the Meeting immediately following the termination of his/her term, as shall the positions of Secretary and Treasurer.

20. The Offices of Hostess, Competition Co-ordinator, Floor & Properties Manager and any other offices required shall be elected from within the Committee.

21. The quorum required to validate the election of Officers shall be 6 members; in the event that a quorum is not present at any meeting at which the election of officers is on the Agenda, the said meeting must be reconvened within 21 days and so on until a quorum is achieved.

- COMMITTEE MEETING

22. The Secretary shall convene meetings on a need be basis being to include the Annual General Meeting and shall prepare an Agenda for, and record Minutes of, each meeting, that the Chairperson and in his or her absence an Officer temporarily elected by those present at the meeting to act as Chairperson shall preside at the Committee Meetings; the quorum to validate proceedings at the Committee Meetings shall be 6.



23. In the event of resignation of an Officer during the period of election that a co-option may be effected until the next Annual General Meeting then following.

- SECRETARY

24. The Secretary shall be entitled to be remunerated at the discretion of the Committee in respect of out-of-pocket expenses which such out of pocket expenses shall be vouched to the Treasurer for payment at the end of the Organisation's financial year subject always to same having been ratified by not less than 6 members of the Committee.

- REGISTRAR

25. The Registrar shall prepare and produce, arrange and organise all matters required to be done at the relevant times for the proper organisation of the Feis and shall ensure the opening of Feis Week each year on the first day after Easter.

- FUNDS & FUNDING

26. The Treasurer shall collect in all entry fees, audience admission fees, sponsorship and other funding.

27. The Treasurer shall apply for funding for the provision of Venues, Bursaries, Prizes and in every manner as the Treasurer considers appropriate subject to ratification by not less than 6 members of the Organisation.

28. The funds of the Organisation shall be lodged in an Account in the name of the Organisation in the Bank of Ireland, Strand Road, Derry or such other Bank as the Organisation shall from time to time agree. All cheques shall be signed by the Chairperson and Secretary.

29. The Treasurer shall keep a written record of all monies received by the Organisation for the purpose of its Objectives, and all monies disbursed in connection with the organisation of the Feis week and shall compile and complete a full and proper set of Annual Accounts for production to the Organisation's Auditors.

30. The Treasurer shall place the Accounts before the members of the Organisation at the Annual General Meeting.



- RULES

31. The Committee shall formulate the Rules of the Feis and shall publicise same each year in the Syllabus; the Rules shall be fairly and justly applied at all times; all participants and entrants shall be expected to abide thereby; the Rules are for the benefit of all participants and entrants.

32. Any amendments required to the Rules shall be proposed at the Annual General Meeting to the Secretary and agreed by the Committee with at least a quorum of 6 members.

- ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

33. The Annual General Meeting of the Organisation shall be held on the date notified by the Secretary who shall notify all members not less than 21 days before the relevant date; resolutions proposed at the meeting shall be limited strictly to matters pertaining to the Organisation; a Report on the year's activities shall be presented by the Secretary; the Accounts and Annual Balance Sheets shall be presented by the Treasurer; any other matters which are generally addressed at the Annual General Meeting.

- AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

34. Any amendments to the Constitution and any other matter requiring to be voted upon by the members shall only be approved or passed by a majority of votes of those members of the Organisation and voting in person at the Annual General Meeting notified as above or an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting convened upon 21 days' notice.

Reviewed and ratified at Annual General Meeting 26th September 2019