



1918 Statutes

Article N° 1

The British Society in Uruguay is hereby constituted with its seat in the City of Montevideo.

Article N° 2

The objects of the Society shall be as follows:

- a) To represent the British residents in Uruguay and to act in their name, on all necessary occasions, whether of a national or international character;
- b) To promote by every possible means a spirit of unity, cooperation, mutual helpfulness and collective effort among British residents;
- c) To foster British patriotism and ideals;
- d) To arrange for the fitting celebration of anniversaries and events of British national interest;
- e) To give the members of the Society opportunities of meeting for the exposition or discussion of matters of general interest to the community provided these are not of a partisan or sectarian character;
- f) To compile and keep a permanent Register of British subjects and their descendents in Uruguay;
- g) To form and keep an archive of records of the British Community and its institutions;
- h) To promote friendly relations between the British and the Uruguayans and the Communities of other nations;
- i) To generally deal with affairs of interest to the British Community in Uruguay.

Article N° 3

Membership of the Society shall be open to all British subjects of either sex and their children and grandchildren, who are over eighteen years of age, and shall consist of ordinary members and Honorary Members as provided for in Article N° 7.

Article N° 4

The Society shall be governed and all its affairs managed by a Committee consisting of a President, a Vice-President and twelve other members. These shall be elected by ballot at the Annual General Meeting.

The President and Vice-President shall be elected annually, a separate ballot being taken for each. No person shall be qualified to serve in either position for more than two years in succession, nor be eligible for re-election until he has been out of office one year.

Other members of the Committee shall serve for two years, with annual elections of alternate groups of six members.

At the end of the first year of the Society, however, six members of the Committee, to be chosen by lot, shall retire, and none of these shall be eligible for immediate re-election unless

to the position of President or Vice-President. The other six members of the Committee shall afterwards retire in rotation.

No person who has served on the committee in any capacity for two consecutive years shall be eligible for re-election until the lapse of one year.

Each year, the Committee shall elect from its own members a Secretary and a Treasurer, and shall have power to fill vacancies occurring during the year. Persons thus entering the Committee shall retire at the next Annual General Meeting.

At all General or Committee meetings the President shall have an original and a casting vote.

The President shall be the legal representative of the Society subject to the obligation of being joined by the Secretary in all the proceedings in which he may appear as the said legal representative.

In the case of absence, resignation, or other impediment of the President, the Vice-President shall replace him in all his functions. In the absence of both, the Committee shall appoint one of its members as President ad-hoc who shall hold office with the same powers and faculties until the next Annual General Meeting.

His Britannic Majesty's representative shall be the Honorary President of the Society.

All posts on the Committee shall be honorary.

Article N° 5

Persons decisions of joining the Society shall make application on a form to be furnished by the Committee stating his (or her) full name, address and place of birth or other qualification for membership under Article 3, and accompany this application with the amount of the first year's subscription.

Article N° 6

The election of members is entrusted to the Committee, and notice of election shall be sent within seven days to every newly elected member, together with a copy of the Statutes.

Article N° 7

The Committee shall have power to elect as Honorary members of the Society such persons as they may consider worthy of the distinction for services rendered to the Society or to the British Community whether they be British subjects or otherwise.

Article N° 8

All members, other than Honorary, shall pay an annual subscription of one dollar, due and payable before the Annual General Meeting. There shall be no entrance fee. No member being in arrears shall be entitled to vote or enjoy any of the privileges of the Society, and any member in arrears for one year may, at the option of the Committee, have his name removed from the list of members.

Article N° 9

The Committee may at any time, by a vote of two thirds of its members, cancel the membership of any person who, in their opinion, has become undesirable as a member of the Society.

Article N° 10

The Committee shall meet at least once a month, six to form a quorum.

Article N° 11

The Committee shall have power, to appoint special or sub-committees from outside their own members, for any special object.

Article N° 12

The Committee may acquire on behalf of the Society any class of fixed or movable property, bonds or shares, and dispose of the same when deemed advisable, all such transactions to be reported at the first Annual General Meeting. The Society may also undertake the control and administration of any British society, institution or fund formally transferred to it for that purpose with the duly obtained consent and approval of the members or subscribers of such society, institution or fund.

Article N° 13

The Committee may appoint persons, not being members of the Committee, to be salaried officers, clerks or servants, for carrying out the necessary concerns of the Society, and may define the duties to be performed by them respectively, and may allow them respectively such salaries, gratuities and privileges as the Committee may deem proper; and may suspend or discharge any officer, clerk or servant.

Article N° 14

The ordinary funds of the Society shall be constituted by the yearly subscriptions, and any moneys arising from gifts, donations or benefit performances. The Committee may, however, call on the members for voluntary contributions when special funds are required for extraordinary purposes. The funds of the Society, excepting only the necessary cash in hand for current expenses, shall be lodged in a British bank selected by the Committee.

Article N° 15

An Ordinary General Meeting of members shall be held in the month of March of each year, to receive the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts to December 31st of the previous year that shall be presented by the Committee, and posted to all members at least seven working days before the date of the meeting; to fill vacancies on the Committee, and to transact the ordinary business of the Society. At such a Meeting thirty five members shall form a quorum, and if these be not present on the first occasion, the Ordinary General Meeting shall be convoked again within a month, and shall then be held with the number present.

Article N° 16

Extraordinary General Meetings may be convoked by the Committee at any time, and shall be convoked within twenty days of the presentation to the secretary of a requisition stating the object of the Meeting and signed by not fewer than thirty members. At Extraordinary General Meetings no business may be discussed or resolved upon other than that specified on the convocation to the Meeting. At all Extraordinary General Meetings fifty members shall form a quorum. If this number be not present on the first occasion it shall be optional with the Committee to issue a second convocation.

Article N° 17

All General Meetings shall be convoked by a notice published in two or more local daily newspapers at last one week prior to the date of meeting.

Article N° 18

The Committee may, when circumstances require, convoke a meeting of delegates from all the British Clubs, Societies and Institutions, for the discussion of questions of special interest.

Article N° 19

Members of the Society resident outside the Department of Montevideo may vote at General Meetings for election of Committee, reform of Statutes, or the dissolution of the Society, by signed proxy conferred on another member. No member may hold more than one proxy.

Article N° 20

The Committee shall have authority to frame by-laws, as also to interpret these Statutes, and to decide any question arising not provided for therein. The decision of the Committee in such cases shall be binding on all concerned until revoked by the vote of a General Meeting.

Article N° 21

The dissolution of the Society can only take place if resolved on by a three-fourths majority of the members of the Society present or duly represented at an Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose. In such an event the funds and properties of the Society shall be dealt with as determined by a vote of the majority of those present.

Article N° 22

The foregoing Statutes may not be altered, amended or added to except by the vote of two-thirds of the Members present at an Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose.