

The Earl of Stamford Morris

CONSTITUTION

June 1999



1 NAME

The name shall be "The Earl of Stamford Morris". The logo shall be as on the present badge.

2 AIMS and OBJECTIVES

The **aims** shall be to perform traditional English Morris dances (from the Cotswolds and to a lesser extent from the Borders) to the best of our ability and for enjoyment. The club will be democratic.

The **objectives** and how we achieve them:-

- public performance locally and further afield
- regular practices
- organise occasional workshops
- fund raising to further the aims of the group and for occasional charitable purposes
- dance with other morris sides and attend workshops to improve our skill and repertoire and to interact with others
- preserve and keep alive the tradition of English Morris dancing

3 MEMBERSHIP

Shall be open to men and women over the age of 16. Juniors may attend if accompanied by an adult acting in loco parentis.

Members pay a twice yearly subscription or weekly as agreed at the AGM. New members have 1 free practice. "Full" members can vote at the AGM. ("Full" can be defined by the officers if necessary.)

4 OFFICERS

The minimum number of officers shall be 4: leader, foreperson, secretary and treasurer. Other officers are decided each AGM.

The OFFICERS this year shall consist of Leader (Squire), Deputy Leader, Secretary, Treasurer (Bag), Foreperson (Teacher), Chief Musician, Kit Monitor, Archivist, Publicity, Webmaster, Stick Monitor, Events Organiser and Scapegoat!

The officers will be elected democratically at the AGM. The officers can co-opt others as needed. Vacancies arising can be filled by the decision of the officers with a volunteer until the next AGM. Officers will present their reports at the AGM.

The role of **HONORARY OFFICERS** shall be:

1 Leader (Squire) (Person elected chooses name)

To lead and select dances and dancers at performances. To call the dances or deputise. To deputise for the foreperson. To chair the AGM or nominate a chair. To decide with the advice of the foreperson when a new member is ready to dance out.

2 Deputy Leader To deputise for the Leader.

3 Secretary

To be responsible for all correspondence of the club including all bookings. To pass on information to members at notice time and to produce information sheets as needed. To keep an address list, date list, tick list of members attending events. To produce an agenda for the AGM and any other meetings. To keep minutes and pass on copies to all members. To keep a list of Friends of The Earl of Stamford (social members, occasionals, past members etc as agreed). To liaise with the Bag

about fees for events.

4 Treasurer (Bag) (Person elected chooses name)

To collect members' subs, booking fees, collections and bank all the club's monies in its bank account promptly. To keep all receipts. To pay all hall fees and events fees. To produce an annual account for the AGM. To book the hall for practices.

5 Foreperson/Foreman/Forewoman (Teacher) (Person chooses name)

To organise practices. To run the warm up exercises. To teach or deputise the teaching of dances. To improve dancing standards and advise the leader on selection of dances and dancers. To maintain and distribute copies of the dance notation. To liaise with leader about when new members are ready to perform in public.

6 Chief Musician

To be responsible for the music. To help the other musicians to perform. To maintain and distribute as needed copies of the music notation. To choose musicians for each dance performance as appropriate. To make tapes of the music and arrange for taped music when musicians are absent.

7 Kit Monitor

To be responsible for safe keeping of the club's communal kit belongings. To organise new kit as needed. To advise on kit.

Items of kit to be agreed democratically if at all possible at the AGM or special kit meeting!

8 Archivist

To keep safe all the club's communal belongings apart from kit. To keep all records. To maintain the club's albums or scrapbooks. To make these available as needed and at the AGM.

8 Publicity

To design, produce and distribute all publicity material as needed. To advertise for new members regularly and to advertise our performances.

9 Webmaster

To publish the web pages, according to ancient tradition, with appropriate material as agreed by the members and keep them up to date.

10 Stick Monitor

To obtain suitable sticks. To arrange for their carriage to events.

11 Weekend Co-ordinator (if needed) or Events Organiser

To organise the Weekend of Dance/Ceildhs/other socials/events.

5 FINANCE

All monies raised shall be used to further the aims of the group. Any member with agreed expenditure made for the group will be reimbursed by the treasurer on production of receipts. All cheques shall have 2 signatories: namely the treasurer and one other officer.

6 INSURANCE

Th EOS shall be members of Open Morris and receive insurance under their policy.

7 EVENTS

Bookings and events will be accepted by the group when sufficient dancers and musicians have agreed to attend. Once agreed there will be commitment by individuals.

8 TRADITIONS

The dance traditions will be decided at the AGM, for the year by all the members but with the final say by the foreperson, leader and chief musician according to their expertise. There will be some dances appropriate to the differing levels of ability and experience within the group.

9 PRACTICE

Will be weekly for 2 hours in the evening in Moore except during the summer dancing out season and only cancelled as agreed by members.

10 CONSTITUTION

Changes to the constitution can be by majority vote at the AGM.

11 DISSOLUTION

In the event of a proposed dissolution, an EGM shall be called and members will vote on the issue. Any assets remaining will be given to Open Morris (the 'umbrella' organisation for similar morris groups) or to a registered charity as decided democratically by the remaining members.