

CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIETY OF PARANORMAL INVESTIGATORS

.....

NAME

1.1 This Society shall be known as the “**Society of Paranormal Investigators**”, hereinafter referred to as the “Society”.

PLACE OF BUSINESS

2.1 Its place of business shall be at “21 Tai Keng Place Singapore 534337” or such other address as may subsequently be decided upon by the Committee and approved by the Registrar of Societies. The Society shall carry out its activities only in places and premises which have the prior written approval from the relevant authorities, where necessary.

OBJECTS

3.1 Its objects are:

- a) To promote, foster and maintain friendship and goodwill among Society members through social, cultural, educational and recreational activities, as well as expedition and investigation.
- b) To provide Society members the opportunity of maintaining and improving their knowledge and understanding of the facts behind paranormal and the related rational and/or scientific explanations against myths, rumours and superstitions through the aforesaid activities. (The term paranormal means any phenomenon that cannot be sufficiently explained by the current science in our context.)
- c) To provide a forum and a website in which Society members can discuss and identify common interests in paranormal and their various fields of specialization that help solving the unexplained.
- d) To provide standardised rules of all paranormal investigations organised in Singapore.
- e) To initiate and/or support, by pecuniary or other means, any project which the Society deems deserving for its members or the community.

- f) To promote and foster knowledge exchanges in the light of debunking ridiculous superstitious beliefs and urban legends in Singapore.

3.2 In furtherance of the above objects, the Society may conduct the following activities:

1. Form study groups to read up the necessary history, scientific theories and related texts for debunking myths and explaining the unexplained.
2. Carry out scientific experiments mainly to examine and rationally verify the facts against the myths.
3. Carry out on site investigations on allegedly haunted places only when accesses are legally possible or explicit permission is granted by the authorities concerned.
4. Organize expeditions and excursions for members to sightsee and collect information that may help contribute resolving urban legends and mysteries.
5. Conduct seminars or public talks either on internal basis for our own society members or on invitation basis by external organizations.
6. Fund-raising for the common fund of the society.
7. Publish results or outcomes of investigation on media such as website, books, newsletters, journals and magazines.

The aforesaid activities including those stated in Sections 3.1 and 3.2 are to be absolutely bound by the prevailing laws of the Republic of Singapore.

MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATION AND RIGHTS

4.1 Membership is open to all supporters of the Society.

4.2 Persons who are below 16 years of age shall not be accepted as members without the written consent of their parent or guardian.

4.3 There shall be three categories of Membership:

a) Club Membership shall be opened to all those who are above 12 years of age only.

b) Senior Club Membership shall be opened to all those who are 21 years of age and above, whose contributions to the Society has been recognised, and have demonstrated exceptional performance. The Committee will decide on the application for Senior Club Membership by vote of a simple majority.

c) Elite Membership shall be opened to all those who are 21 years of age and above, and have at least a Diploma from a recognized academic institution. Exceptions may be granted and approved by the Committee when one can demonstrate certain outstanding performance. The Committee will decide on the application for Elite Membership by vote of a simple majority.

d) Honorary Membership shall be opened to those who have contributed significantly to the Society. Honorary members are invited by the committee. Honorary members shall have no right to vote and cannot hold office in the Society.

4.4 Only Elite members who have joined the society for more than one year shall have the right to vote and to hold office in the Society.

4.5 Any Society member who intends to resign from the Society shall give written notice to the Secretary of his intention. There will be no refund, total or partial, of the subscription fee.

4.6 The committee reserves the right to take any actions in whatever form deemed appropriate against any member who acts in any way which may be construed as being injurious to the dignity of the Society, or contrary to the interests of the Society or its members.

4.7 If the member has been convicted in a Court of law for any criminal offence(s), or has been reported for any inappropriate behaviour which has been deemed to be serious, the committee shall first call him to show cause why he should not be asked to resign or be expelled and the committee shall have the right to expel him if he refuses to do so or if the committee is not satisfied with the reasons given. The member being disciplined shall be entitled to appeal to a General Meeting against the decision of the committee, whose decision shall be final and binding.

4.8 If the member has been found guilty of a charge or any inappropriate behaviour which has been deemed to be minor, the committee may suspend his membership status for a period not exceeding six (6) months.

4.9 A member expelled from the Society shall forfeit all rights and privileges of membership and all rights against the committee and the Society with effect from the date of the expulsion. His name shall be struck off from the Register of Members.

4.10 A suspended member shall cease to have the rights and privileges of membership and all rights against the committee and the Society during the period of suspension

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

5.1 A person wishing to join the Society should submit his particulars to the Secretary on a prescribed form.

5.2 The Committee will decide on the application for membership.

5.3 A copy of the Constitution shall be furnished to every approved member upon payment of the entrance fee.

ENTRANCE FEES, SUBSCRIPTIONS AND OTHER DUES

6.1 The entrance fees and subscriptions shall be determined by the General Meeting on recommendation from the Committee from time to time.

6.2 The annual subscriptions (non-refundable) that are payable are stated as follows:

a) S\$20/- per person for Club Membership

b) S\$10/- per person for Senior Club Membership

c) Free for Elite Membership

d) Free for Honorary Membership

6.4 Annual subscriptions are payable in advance within one month from the end of his current membership term. If a member falls into arrears with his subscription or other dues, he shall be informed immediately by the Treasurer or Secretary. If he fails to settle his arrears within 4 weeks of their becoming due, the President may order that his name be posted on the Society's notice board and that he be denied the privileges of membership until he settles his account. If he falls into arrears for more than three (3) months, he will automatically cease to be a member and the Committee may take legal action against him provided that they are satisfied that he has received due notice of his debts.

6.5 Any additional fund required for special purposes may only be raised from members with the consent of the general meeting of the members.

SUPREME AUTHORITY AND GENERAL MEETINGS

7.1 The supreme authority of the Society is vested in a General Meeting of the members.

7.2 An Annual General Meeting shall be held in any day in the month of April annually.

7.3 At other times, an Extraordinary General Meeting must be called by the President on the request in writing of not less than 50% of the total voting membership or thirty (30) voting members, whichever is the lesser, and may be called at anytime by order of the Committee. The notice in writing shall be given to the Secretary setting forth the business that is to be transacted. The Extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened within two (2) months from receiving this request to convene the Extraordinary General Meeting.

7.4 If the Committee does not within two (2) months after the date of the receipt of the written request proceed to convene an Extraordinary General Meeting, the members who requested for the Extraordinary General Meeting shall convene the Extraordinary General Meeting by giving ten (10) days' notice to voting members setting forth the business to be transacted and simultaneously posting the agenda on the Society's notice board.

7.5 At least two (2) weeks' notice shall be given of an Annual General Meeting and at least ten (10) days' notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting. Notice of meeting stating the date, time and place of meeting shall be sent by the Secretary to all voting members. The particulars of the agenda shall be posted on the Society's notice board four (4) days in advance of the meeting.

7.6 Unless otherwise stated in this Constitution, voting by proxy is allowed at all General Meetings.

7.7 The following points will be considered at the Annual General Meeting:

- a) The previous financial year's accounts and annual report of the Committee.
- b) Where applicable, the election of office-bearers and Honorary Auditors for the following term.

Any member who wishes to place an item on the agenda of a General Meeting may do so provided he gives notice to the Secretary one (1) week before the meeting is due to be held.

7.8 At least 50% of the total voting membership or thirty (30) voting members, whichever is the lesser, present at a General Meeting shall form a quorum. Proxies shall not be constituted as part of the quorum.

7.9 In the event of there being no quorum at the commencement of a General Meeting, the meeting shall be adjourned for half an hour and should the number then present be insufficient to form a quorum, those present shall be considered a quorum, but they shall have no power to amend any part of the existing Constitution.

MANAGEMENT AND COMMITTEE

8.1 The administration of the Society shall be entrusted to a Committee consisting of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer; and at least 6 but not more than 12 Ordinary Committee members, to be elected at each Annual General Meeting:

8.2 Names for the above offices shall be proposed and seconded at the Annual General Meeting and election will follow on a simple majority vote of the existing committee members. All office-bearers, except the Treasurer may be re-elected to the same or related post for a consecutive term of office. The term of office of the Committee is two years.

8.3 Election will be either by show of hands or, subject to the agreement of the majority of the voting members present, by a secret ballot. In the event of a tie, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote.

8.4 A Committee Meeting shall be held at least once every two months after giving seven (7) days' notice to Committee Members. The President may call a Committee Meeting at any time by giving five (5) days' notice. At least half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the Committee Members must be present for its proceedings to be valid.

8.5 Any member of the Committee absenting himself from three (3) meetings consecutively without satisfactory explanations shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the Committee and a successor may be co-opted by the Committee to serve until the next Annual General Meeting. Any changes in the Committee shall be notified to the Registrar of Societies within two (2) weeks of the change.

8.6 The duty of the Committee is to organise and supervise the daily activities of the Society. The Committee may not act contrary to the expressed wishes of the General Meeting without prior reference to it and shall always remain subordinate to the General Meetings.

8.7 The Committee shall have the power to authorise the expenditure of a sum not exceeding \$20,000 per month from the Society's funds for the Society's purposes, with the consent of not less than two-third of the total voting membership of the Society.

DUTIES OF OFFICE-BEARERS

9.1 The President shall chair all General and Committee meetings. He shall also represent the Society in its dealings with outside persons.

9.2 The Vice-President shall assist the President and deputise for him in his absence.

9.3 The Secretary shall keep all records, except financial, of the Society and shall be responsible for their correctness. He will keep minutes of all General and Committee meetings. He shall maintain an up-to-date Register of Members at all times.

9.4 The Treasurer shall keep all funds and collect and disburse all moneys on behalf of the Society and shall keep an account of all monetary transactions and shall be responsible for their correctness. He is authorised to expend up to \$1000 per month for petty expenses on behalf of the Society. He will not keep more than \$5000 in the form of cash and money in excess of this will be deposited in a bank to be named by the Committee. Cheques, etc. for withdrawals from the bank will be signed by the Treasurer and either the President or the Vice-President or the Secretary.

9.5 Ordinary Committee Members shall assist in the general administration of the Society and perform duties assigned by the Committee from time to time.

AUDIT AND FINANCIAL YEAR

10.1 Two (2) voting members, not being members of the Committee, shall be elected as Honorary Auditors at each Annual General Meeting and will hold office for a term of one year only and shall not be re-elected for a consecutive term. The accounts of the Society shall be audited by a firm of Certified Public Accountants if the gross income or expenditure of the Society exceeds \$500,000 in that financial year, in accordance with Section 4 of the Societies Regulations.

10.2 They:

- a) Will be required to audit each year's accounts and present a report upon them to the Annual General Meeting.
- b) May be required by the President to audit the Society's accounts for any period within their tenure of office at any date and make a report to the Committee.

10.3 The financial year shall commence on *the 1st day of the month of January and end on the 31st day in the month of December annually.*

TRUSTEES

11.1 If the Society at any time acquires any immovable property, such property shall be vested in trustees subject to a declaration of trust.

11.2 The trustees of the Society shall:

- a) Not be more than four (4) and not less than two (2) in number.

- b) Be elected by a General Meeting of members.
- c) Not effect any sale or mortgage of property without the prior approval of the General Meeting of members.

11.3 The office of the trustee shall be vacated:

- a) If the trustee dies or becomes a lunatic or of unsound mind.
- b) If he is absent from the Republic of Singapore for a period of more than one (1) year.
- c) If he is guilty of misconduct of such a kind as to render it undesirable that he continues as a trustee.
- d) If he submits notice of resignation from his trusteeship.

11.4 Notice of any proposal to remove a trustee from his trusteeship or to appoint a new trustee to fill a vacancy must be given by posting it on the notice board in the Society's premises at least two (2) weeks before the General Meeting at which the proposal is to be discussed. The result of such General Meeting shall then be notified to the Registrar of Societies.

11.5 The address of each immovable property, name of each trustee and any subsequent change must be notified to the Registrar of Societies.

VISITORS AND GUESTS

Visitors and guests may be admitted into the premises of the Society but they shall not be admitted into the privileges of the Society. All visitors and guests shall abide by the Society's rules and regulations.

PROHIBITIONS[#]

13.1 Gambling of any kind, excluding the promotion or conduct of a private lottery which has been permitted under the Private Lotteries Act Cap 250, is forbidden on the Society's premises. The introduction of materials for gambling or drug taking and of bad characters into the premises is prohibited.

13.2 The funds of the Society shall not be used to pay the fines of members who have been convicted in court of law.

13.3 The Society shall not engage in any trade union activity as defined in any written law relating to trade unions for the time being in force in Singapore.

13.4 The Society shall not attempt to restrict or interfere with trade or make directly or indirectly any recommendation to, any arrangement with its members which has the purpose or is likely to have the effect of fixing or controlling the price or any discount, allowance or rebate relating to any goods or service which adversely affect consumer interests.

13.5 The Society shall not indulge in any political activity or allow its funds and/or premises to be used for political purposes.

13.6 The Society shall not hold any lottery, whether confined to its members or not, in the name of the Society or its office-bearers, Committee or members unless with the prior approval of the relevant authorities.

13.7 The Society shall not raise funds from the public for whatever purposes without the prior approval in writing of the Head, Licensing Division, Singapore Police Force and other relevant authorities.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

14.1 No alteration or addition/deletion to this Constitution shall be made except at a general meeting and with the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members present at the General Meeting, and they shall not come into force without the prior sanction of the Registrar of Societies.

INTERPRETATION

15.1 In the event of any question or matter pertaining to day-to-day administration which is not expressly provided for in this Constitution, the Committee shall have power to use their own discretion. The decision of the Committee shall be final unless it is reversed at a General Meeting of members.

DISPUTES

16.1 In the event of any dispute arising amongst members, they shall attempt to resolve the matter at an Extraordinary General Meeting in accordance with this Constitution. Should the members fail to resolve the matter, they may bring the matter to a court of law for settlement.

DISSOLUTION

17.1 The Society shall not be dissolved, except with the consent of not less than three-fifths ($\frac{3}{5}$) of the total voting membership of the Society for the time being resident in Singapore expressed, either in person or by proxy, at a General Meeting convened for the purpose.

17.2 In the event of the Society being dissolved as provided above, all debts and liabilities legally incurred on behalf of the Society shall be fully discharged, and the remaining funds will be disposed of in such manner as the General Meeting of members may determine or donated to an approved charity or charities in Singapore.

17.3 A Certificate of Dissolution shall be given within seven (7) days of the dissolution to the Registrar of Societies.

- END -