



Bylaws of the UK Equality Dance Council

Accepted by the Committee on 5 January 2024

The following bylaws of the UK Equality Dance Council (UKEDC) are approved by the elected Committee and should be read in conjunction with the Constitution. Changes can be made by a majority vote by the UKEDC Committee. The general membership may put forward proposals to amend the bylaws as an agenda item at the AGM.

1. Membership

- a. Members have to be over 16 years of age.
- b. The Annual Membership fee for Ordinary Members and Founder Members is £15 which will be reviewed annually at the AGM. Honorary Members do not pay an annual subscription.
- c. The Affiliated Membership fee is £25 per annum to be reviewed as above.
- d. UKEDC's membership year runs from 1 April to 31 March and annual subscriptions are payable by 1 April each year. New members joining mid-term may apply to the treasurer for a reduction in the membership fee at the treasurer's discretion.
- e. If subscriptions are more than 3 months overdue, membership will cease. Only paid up members can vote.
- f. For the purposes of Article 4.c of the Constitution, unless otherwise notified in writing by the Committee, Membership Applications will be automatically deemed to be accepted by the Committee two weeks after the Committee has received such membership details as are required by the Committee through the Membership Application Form, (or other appropriate method as determined by the Committee), **and** the treasurer has received payment of the appropriate Membership Fee.
- g. Under article 4.d of the Constitution, the Committee may decide to reject an application for membership or, under Article 4.e.iv) to exclude a Member. Such decisions are expected to be exceptional and require a two thirds majority of the Committee in favour. A membership application may be rejected no later than two

weeks after the date on which the Committee receives the membership details and the payment of membership fees as set out in 1.vi. above.

2. AGM

- a. The date of the AGM is to be set by the Committee and at least 21 days' notice of the AGM is to be given to Members as outlined in the Constitution. Notice will normally be given by email unless otherwise requested.
- b. The AGM may be held as an online meeting in order to maximise attendance from Members unless otherwise stated in the notice of the AGM.
- c. Any Member may submit an agenda item to be sent to the Secretary at least 10 days before the AGM.
- d. The Committee may direct that any agenda item may not be included in the AGM if it appears that such a item is irrelevant to the objects of the Council or is put forward for scandalous or frivolous purposes.
- e. The proposer of a motion shall speak for no-more than 10 minutes. Following the proposal of the motion, the debate shall be open to the meeting and the Chair will govern the debate in a timely fashion.
- f. With the exception of votes to elect Committee members as detailed below, voting shall be at the discretion of the Chair by show of hands at the meeting, including through a previously appointed proxy.
- g. At least 2 tellers shall be appointed by the Chair to count the votes and if there is any doubt, a recount shall be made.
- h. A minimum of 20% of the Members must participate in voting during the meeting in person or through proxy in order to conclude valid decisions (quorum).
- i. The agenda of the AGM should include at least the following: Election of Committee Members (in the years when an Election is held), Annual Reports by the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, and review of the annual membership fee.
- j. As per Article 4.c of the Constitution, new Members must be accepted (as defined in 1.f. above) at least two weeks prior to any AGM to be able to vote at that AGM. For the avoidance of doubt, existing members must simply be fully paid up before the start of the AGM.

3. Election of the Committee

- a. Nominations will be requested from the Membership and must be received at least 28 days prior to the AGM. Candidates nominated must give their permission

prior to nomination. To assist voters, candidates will be requested to submit a short biography by the date nominations close.

- b. Committee elections will be held solely by electronic/postal means. It will not be possible to cast votes for the Committee elections during the AGM. This is to ensure the confidentiality of the election process as a secret and secure ballot cannot be held as part of an online AGM. There will be no proxy voting for the Committee election as all Members will be able to vote electronically in advance of the meeting.
- c. The Committee elections will be held using a secure online platform that ensures no-one can see how any Member voted and the results will not be released until the end of the voting period.
- d. An electronic ballot paper will be made available to Members by email at least 14 days prior to the AGM and will close 24 hours prior to the start time of the AGM. Postal voting to an independent address will be available on request. Postal votes received less than 24 hours before the AGM start time are invalid.
- e. A minimum of 20% of the Council's Members must participate in the election (quorum).
- f. Current members of the Committee do not need to be nominated. They will automatically stand for re-election unless they have declined.

4. Referendums

- a. Details of any referendum will be sent to the current membership list by email. Reasonable time must be allowed for members to take part in the referendum.
- b. Referendums will be held solely by electronic/postal means. There will be no proxy voting for referendums as all Members will be able to vote electronically.