

Ossett and District Camera Club

Club Rules and Objectives

1. Name

The club shall be known as The Ossett and District Camera Club, herein referred to as the club.

2. Affiliation

The club shall be affiliated to the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (PGAB), through the club's membership of the Yorkshire Photographic Union (YPU).

3. Objectives

The objectives of the club are:

- a) To promote the interests of all aspects of photography.
- b) To encourage and support the development of photography skills among its members.
- c) To organize competitive and non-competitive events for the participation of members.
- d) To encourage participation and interaction with other clubs with and associations with similar interests.
- e) To maintain a friendly and positive atmosphere for the benefit of all members.

4. Meetings and venue

Meetings are held on Thursday evenings at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. Meetings are held each week from September to May with a break over the Christmas period. Informal social events are held in various locations on an ad-hoc basis and a digital evening is held on the first Tuesday of every month, its aim is to promote and improve the digital skills of club members.

5 Programmes

The annual programme of events is distributed to existing members prior to the start of the season on payment of the annual subscription and to new members on joining. A draft of the programme will be available to all members at the end of the previous season.

6. Membership

6.1. Membership is open to anyone who is interested in, or practising the art of photography, as an amateur or professional and who actively supports the clubs objectives. Persons who are not themselves photographers, but are interested in the subject may be admitted as associate members; members under the age of 18 shall be classed as Junior Members and must be accompanied by a parent/legal guardian, or a responsible person, at all club events.

Associate members may not hold office on the committee, vote at General Meetings or enter competitions

6.2. Details of membership, subscription and competitions may be held on a computer, it is therefore a condition of membership of the club that members agree to this. The data will be held in accordance with the Data Protection Act.

6.3. Prospective members may attend 3 meetings before deciding to join. After 3 meetings an individual's attendance is conditional on payment of all membership subscriptions and fees.

6.4. The Committee shall have the power, after due consideration, to terminate membership and reserves the right to refuse or review any individual's membership at any time.

6.5. Life Members/Vice Presidents may be elected at the discretion of the committee, subject to the ratification of the membership at the next General Meeting.

6.6. Membership expires on 31st August and is then subject to renewal for the following year, with the exception of Life Members/Vice Presidents, (see Para 7 subscriptions).

6.7. A copy of the club rules shall be made available to all new members on joining the club and to all members following any authorised amendments or additions.

6.8. The club is an equal opportunities club.

6.9. The club recognises that all members have a responsibility to ensure the safety of themselves and other members, and should ensure that club activities are conducted in a safe and secure environment.

7. Subscriptions

Annual subscriptions are set at the Annual General Meeting; Life Member/Vice Presidents membership is subscription free.

8. Management Committee

The club management committee consists of:-

- President – Chairperson.
- Vice President – Deputy Chairperson.
- General Secretary.
- Treasurer.
- Projected Image Competition Secretary.
- Prints Competition Secretary.
- Programme Secretary.
- Publicity Secretary.

- 3 x Representatives elected at the AGM.

Powers of the Committee; for the purpose of achieving or furthering the objects stated in these rules, the committee shall have the power:

- a) To purchase, sell, lease or rent club property, providing that this is in accordance with the principles of the club.
- b) To invest the monies of the club in equipment or facilities and hold club monies in a bank account.
- c) To do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the objectives of the club.

9. Conditions of Office

9.1. The election of all officials for the following year shall be held at the Annual General Meeting, held in May. Any changes resulting from the election results take effect from the start of the following season. The exceptions to this are:-

- a) The President shall serve for a period of 2 years. The President elect shall be elected 2 years before they take office and shall serve as Vice-President during that period. In the absence of the President the Vice President shall act on their behalf.
- b) The Treasurer; due to the laws and rules regarding bank accounts the incumbent shall normally remain in office until they offer their resignation. Should any member wish to take on this role they may stand for election at the AGM else they shall stand for re-election every 3 years.
- c) The Print and Projected Image secretaries. It is necessary to start booking judges as soon as competition dates are known, which is before the start of a season.
- d) The Programme Secretary, the outgoing overlapping with the incoming by one season. This is to allow the incoming a season to plan the following season. During the first season the incoming's duty is to plan the programme for the following season, while the outgoing administers the current season.

9.2. Positions are subject to re-election at the AGM. Members may stand for re-election indefinitely except that the President may not stand for re-election at the end of their term. The names of nominees must be submitted to the club secretary 2 weeks prior to the AGM.

9.3. In the event of limited numbers a member may hold more than one position.

9.4. Six members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

10. Duties and Conduct of the Committee

The duties and conduct of the committee are covered in a separate document referred to as The Committee Rules. This document is available to members on request.

11. Annual General Meeting (AGM)

11.1. The AGM shall be held towards the end of the club season usually in May.

11.2. The AGM shall:-

- a) Receive and approve the minutes of the preceding AGM.
- b) Receive the reports of the committee including a statement of accounts for the preceding year duly audited.
- c) Approve the selection of auditor for the season.
- d) Debate and decide by vote on any agenda item proposals.
- e) Conduct election for club committee members as necessary.

11.3. Items for inclusion as proposals in the agenda must be notified to the club secretary or a committee member two weeks ahead of the AGM; else the item shall be raised under Any Other Business (AOB).

12. Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)

An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be held at any time at the discretion of the club committee. Club members may also call an EGM provided a minimum of 6 members support the motion and the request is passed to the club secretary no less than 14 days before the requested date of the meeting.

13. Amendments to Club Rules

Alterations or additions to these rules shall be subject to approval at an AGM or EGM.

14. Dissolution of the Club

14.1. The decision to dissolve the club may only be taken at an EGM or AGM and only in the event of a two thirds majority decision to do so when the funds of the club are insufficient for the club to meet its liabilities, or the club membership falls below six. Once the decision has been taken, the committee shall wind-up and dissolve the club and notify the Yorkshire Photographic Union.

14.2. On dissolution the committee shall sell any or all club assets in order to discharge debts or other club liabilities. After discharging all debts and liabilities of the Club, the remaining assets are to be disposed of in the following order:

- a) Offered for sale to club members.
- b) Offered for sale to non-club members.
- c) Given or transferred to a voluntary organisation having similar objectives to those of the Club or to a charity approved by the remaining membership.

No member shall obtain any asset from the club free of charge.

The proceeds from any above sales shall be transferred to a charity organization(s) approved by the remaining membership.

15. Insurance

The club shall maintain liability insurance in accordance with the PAGB recommendations.