

UKSEDS Constitution

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1 Title

1. The name of the organisation shall be “UK Students for the Exploration and Development of Space”, herein specified as “UKSEDS”.

2 Objectives

1. The charity’s objects (“the objects”) are:
 - (a) The advancement of education for the public benefit, in particular but not exclusively in relation to space and planetary science, astronomy and technology and their significance to life on earth by making a forum for the communication and exchange of ideas between students, educational establishments, industry and the general public.
 - (b) To act as a resource for young people in the UK with an active interest in space and space related subjects by providing advice and assistance to improve their knowledge base, skillsets and hands-on experience levels as a means of:
 - i. advancing in life and helping young people by developing their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals;
 - ii. advancing education;
 - iii. relieving unemployment and raising awareness of possible career opportunities.

3 Charitable Affiliations

1. From time to time and in the best interest of UKSEDS the membership may vote to affiliate to a charity with similar aims and objectives. The nature of the affiliation may be defined by a Memorandum of Understanding. Each full member shall have a vote and a simple majority of those voting shall be required (voting may be electronic). A similar vote shall be required to withdraw from such an affiliation, unless the charity in question itself decides to withdraw.
2. Where such an affiliation exists or comes into being the committee are responsible for ensuring that all relevant requirements of the current Charities Act and all other relevant legal and regulatory requirements relating to charities are complied with. The committee must make any such required changes to the Rules and Regulations on a timely basis. Where an affiliation ceases such additional rules and regulations will be removed.

4 Membership

1. Membership is open to anyone in accordance with the Rules and Regulations which may be amended by the committee from time to time as required

5 Branches

1. Branches may be established in accordance with the Rules and Regulations

6 Officers

1. The affairs of UKSEDS shall be managed by a committee whose members have been elected at an AGM. In extraordinary circumstances voting may be electronic.
2. This committee should comprise of the following:
 - (a) Chair
 - (b) Vice-Chair
 - (c) Secretary
 - (d) Treasurer
3. These roles are explained within the Rules and Regulations.
4. Any nominee for the position of Chair of the UKSEDS National Committee must be an existing member of the UKSEDS National Committee. If no such person stands for election, then this requirement shall be withdrawn.
5. Other committee roles are permitted.
6. The committee have the power to co-opt any suitable UKSEDS members (as defined in the Rules and Regulations) to serve on the committee until the next AGM. Such members may attend committee meetings and take part in discussions, but do not have a vote.
7. Further details regarding the removal of committee members, quorum, powers and administrative matters related to the committee are set out in the Rules and Regulations.

7 Trustees

1. The Board of Trustees will consist of the executive of UKSEDS (as outlined in the Rules and Regulations) and at least one and up to two representatives of the wider UK space sector. The later to be selected by the committee and approved by the membership at the next AGM.

2. The role of the Board will be to provide advice and support as necessary to the committee. The committee will retain responsibility for the day to day running of UKSEDS.

8 Finance

1. UKSEDS will be financed by membership fees, sponsorship, grants, sale of service or goods by UKSEDS, donations and such other methods as the committee may from time to time deem appropriate.
2. The income of UKSEDS shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objectives.
3. Committee members may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses paid from their own money on behalf of UKSEDS.
4. Committee members should not receive payment or fees for their services as a committee member or benefit from any other financial transactions with UKSEDS.
5. Committee members may benefit from UKSEDS projects and activities on the same basis as other members, without privilege.

9 AGM

1. The AGM will be held once a year at a venue and time decided by the committee. The membership of UKSEDS must be given reasonable notice of the venue and time.
2. The business of the AGM will include:
 - (a) Reports on the activities of UKSEDS given by the committee and any other relevant persons.
 - (b) A new committee shall be voted in.
 - (c) Any other business raised at the meeting.
3. Major actions should be taken only after passing a vote. Voting rights are set out in the Rules and Regulations.

10 Dissolution

1. If the members resolve to dissolve the charity the trustees will remain in office as charity trustees and be responsible for winding up the affairs of the charity in accordance with this clause.
2. The trustees must collect in all the assets of the charity and must pay or make provision for all the liabilities of the charity.

3. The trustees must apply any remaining property or money:
 - (a) directly for the objects;
 - (b) by transfer to any charity or charities for purposes the same as or similar to the charity;
 - (c) in such other manner as the Charity Commission for England and Wales (“the Commission”) may approve in writing in advance.
4. The members may pass a resolution before or at the same time as the resolution to dissolve the charity specifying the manner in which the trustees are to apply the remaining property or assets of the charity and the trustees must comply with the resolution if it is consistent with paragraphs (a) - (c) inclusive in sub-clause (3) above.
5. In no circumstances shall the net assets of the charity be paid to or distributed among the members of the charity (except to a member that is itself a charity).
6. The trustees must notify the Commission promptly that the charity has been dissolved. If the trustees are obliged to send the charitys accounts to the Commission for the accounting period which ended before its dissolution, they must send the Commission the charitys final accounts.

11 Alteration of the Constitution

1. Alterations to the constitution must be voted for by the membership of UKSEDS, as defined in the Rules and Regulations, requiring a simple majority of those attending or participating. This may be at an AGM or otherwise. Notification of the change must be given to the membership at least two weeks before any such a change. Voting and consultation may be electronic, and in such cases the voting period must last at least one week.