**The Performing Arts Society**

**Definitions**
Activities Executive - the elected students representing Clubs and Societies as outlined in bye-law 11:2

**1 Name, Aims and Objectives**

1.1 The name of the Club/Society is Leeds University Union *Performing Arts Society*.

1.2 The objectives of the Club/Society are:-

1.2.1 To run weekly workshops in singing, acting and dancing in a friendly and encouraging environment.

1.2.2To offer performance opportunities to all our members without the barrier of an audition process.

**2 Membership**

2.1 Membership takes effect on completion of registration online with the Club/Society.  Where relevant this will include payment of the Club/Society membership fee.

2.2. Providing funds permit, committee members receive free membership while they hold their role.

2.3 Categories of membership and associate rights.  **Members only have the rights outlined in the relevant box.**

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|  | Category | Rights |
| 2.2.1 | **Full Membership** may be granted only to current Members of Leeds University Union.  Members are as defined in the Articles. | * To attend all meetings and take part in society activities
* To vote on all questions of policy within the club/society
* To nominate candidates for election as Core Officers and Committee Members of the club/society
* To vote to appoint the Core Officers and the Committee Members of the club/society
* To hold office on and stand for election as a Core Officer or Committee Member of the club/society
* Membership fees and participation in activities may be subsidised using LUU grants
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| 2.2.2 | **Alumni Membership** may be granted to graduates of the University of Leeds  | * To attend all meetings and take part in society activities (other than competing in external competitions)
* To hold office on and stand for election as a Committee Member of the club/society
* Membership fees and participation in activities *cannot* be subsidised using LUU grants.
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| 2.2.3 | **Honorary Life Membership** may be granted to a person that the club/society wishes to honour for services to the group | * To attend all meetings and take part in society activities (other than competing in external competitions)
* Membership fees and participation in activities *cannot* be subsidised using LUU grants.
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| 2.2.4 | **Ex-Officio** members will be the Activities Officer and the relevant Activities Executive representative  | * To attend all meetings and take part in society activities
* To vote on all questions of policy within the club/society
* To nominate candidates for election as Core Officers and Committee Members of the club/society
* To vote to appoint the Core Officers and the Committee Members of the club/society
* Membership fees and participation in activities may be subsidised using LUU grants
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| 2.2.5 | **Public Membership** may be granted to any member of the public with permission of the Activities Officer where there is good reason for granting such permission. | * To attend all meetings and take part in society activities (other than competing in external competitions)
* Membership fees and participation in activities *cannot* be subsidised using LUU grants.
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**3 Club/Society Committee Members**

3.1 The Committee shall consist of the three Core Officers, and up to 5 Additional Members.

3.2 The three Core Officers must be Full Members as outlined in paragraph 2.2.1.

3.3 Any Additional Committee Members must be either Full, Associate or Alumni Members as outlined in paragraphs 2.2.1 to 2.2.3.

3.4 All Committee Members will be appointed by a vote of Full Members at the AGM or an EGM.  Where a Club/Society wishes to appoint Associate Members or Alumni Members to Additional Committee roles, the appointment will need to be approved by the Activities Officer to ensure there is good reason not to offer the role to a Full Member.  In any case, the majority of committee members must be Full Members of the Club/Society.

3.5 The term of office of all Committee roles will be approximately twelve months.  Ordinarily Officers will only serve for one term in any role.

**4 Core Officer Roles and Duties**

4.1 The Core Officers have overall responsibility for the good running and financial oversight of the Club/Society for the benefit of its members and in line with the stated aims and objectives.

* 1. The primary duties and responsibilities of Core Officers are:
		1. Attending all relevant committee training and ensuring an awareness of the requirements placed upon them as Core Officers
		2. Being a signatory to the Club/Society LUU cash office account.
		3. Ensuring the Club/Society meets the requirements of the annual compliance check against all relevant LUU policy as determined by the Activities Officer and in accordance with relevant legal requirements as determined by the Head of Student Activities
		4. Ensuring the Club/Society LUU webpage, and, if applicable, own website and/or Facebook or similar social media sites, are maintained in line with relevant LUU policy.
		5. Running and attending all committee meetings and AGMs in line with the rules outlined in this constitution.
		6. Dealing with any complaints or disciplinary matters in line with the rules outlined in this constitution.
		7. Attending Executive Category Meetings (at least one Core Officer must attend); and
		8. Ensuring consultation with Full Members regarding their views on Ideas going to Better Union Forums.
		9. Passing on the views of Full Members regarding Ideas to the relevant member of the Activities Executive, ideally at the Activities Assembly.
		10. Failure to fulfil these duties may result in a motion of no-confidence and removal from office by an EGM or the Activities Officer
	2. **The three Core Officer** individual roles and duties in addition to those outlined in 4.2:

**4.3.1 President/Captain/Chair:**

* Organising and overseeing the running of the Club/Society
* Chairing Committee Meetings, AGMs and EGMs
* Ensuring the production of an annual report
* Ensuring there is an up to date entry in the Club/Society’s LUU webpage.
* Maintaining an up-to-date copy of the Club/Society constitution

**4.3.2 Secretary:**

* Maintaining membership records containing at least the name and membership category of all the Club/Society’s members
* Producing agenda documents for all meetings
* Maintaining a written record of all meetings
* Ensuring only Full Members are given an opportunity to vote in society elections
* In charge of room bookings

**4.3.3 Treasurer:**

* Responsibility for the finances of the Club/Society
* Maintaining up-to-date accounts with the LUU Cash Office only
* Submitting subsidy applications to Activities Executive
* Produce a termly report and yearly budget
* Submitting a detailed statement of accounts for the year to the Club/Society’s Annual General Meeting.

**5 Additional Committee roles and duties:**

5.1 The Club/Society may appoint Additional Committee Members to assist the Core Officers in the running and management of the Club/Society.

5.2 All Additional Committee Members must attend committee meetings, AGMs and EGMs in line with the rules outlined in this constitution.

5.3 Failure to fulfil these duties and those listed in the relevant paragraphs below may result in a motion of no-confidence and removal from office by an EGM or the Activities Executive.

5.4 The Additional Committee roles will be:

**5.4.1 Social Secretary**

* Planning and creating all the social events for the Society
* Making sure everyone feels welcome

**5.4.2 Social Media Sec**

* In charge of running all the society social media accounts from a variety of platforms
* Posting on these accounts with updates regarding classes, socials and performances

**5.4.3 Showcase Secretary**

* This position takes responsibility for all showcase production matters.
* Organising the band, Musical Director and orchestration as well as tech, set and costume. They will be responsible for ensuring all numbers for the showcase are finalised and prepared and have responsibility for any issues relating to that.

**5.4.4 Open Seat**

* To help out with the jobs of all the other committee members
* Also carries out all jobs relating to kit and fundraising:
	+ Organizing fundraisers to raise money for the society or for a charity we want to help out
	+ Working with the social secretary to get in contact with venues and companies to sponsor our society, as well as curating mutually beneficial deals for socials.
	+ Organizing a range of merchandise/kit to be available for the society

**5.4.5 Alumni Rep**

* A graduate will run for this role.
* Running the alumni Facebook page running to keep people up to date with the societies events and progress
* Organising alumni social events
* The liaison between current committee and alumni
* Looking out for opportunities outside of university that might benefit current society members

**6 Elections to Committee Roles**

6.1 The Returning Officer for elections will be the Activities Officer. However, their presence is not required at each election.

6.2 Elections shall take place by a secret ballot of Full members either online or in person.

6.3 Candidates for positions on the Club/Society committee can only be nominated by Full Members of the Club/Society.  For the purposes of clarity, Full Members may nominate themselves.

6.4 Nominations will open at least 10 working days before the AGM or EGM.

6.4.1 For online elections the nominations must be open for at least 10 working days, and the voting period must be at least 24 hours.

6.4.2 For elections in person the nominations must close at least seven days before the AGM or EGM.

6.5 Nominations should be through the official process (i.e. the process which has been approved by the Activities Officer or their nominee) and shared with the Activities Officer or their nominee.

6.6 Newly elected Club/Society Committee members must assume their duties after their handover and before the end of the academic year.  The anticipated date for assuming these duties should be published with the opening of nominations.

**7 Club and Society Formal Meetings**

7.1The Activities Executive may, at its discretion, send an observer to any Club/Society formal meeting

7.1.2 If any Full Member moves a no confidence in the Chair, a vote shall be taken immediately.

7.1.3 If a motion of no confidence in the Chair is passed, a new temporary Chair will be elected by Full Members at the meeting.

7.1.4 Decision making should ideally be by consensus.  However, if a vote is needed, voting shall be by show of hands unless a secret ballot has previously been requested, and decisions will be made by simple majority by those members having the right to vote as outlined in paragraph 2 of this constitution.  No member has more than one vote.

**7.2 Committee Meetings**
7.2.1 Any Committee Member may call a Committee Meeting.

7.2.2 Committee Meetings shall be open to all members of Committee

7.2.3 The agenda for Committee Meetings should be made available at the start of the meeting.

7.2.4 The quorum for all Committee Meetings shall be two thirds of all Officers who have a vote, or three Officers who have a vote, whichever is greater.

7.2.5 The minutes of any decisions made at the meetings must be accessible via the Club/Society LUU webpage, once ratified as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

**7.3 Annual General Meeting**

7.3.1 The Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held within 395 days of the previous AGM.

7.3.2 Notice of the AGM must be posted on the Club/Society LUU webpage or a member accessible web source, at least 10 working days in advance of the meeting.

7.3.3 The agenda for the AGM must be posted on the Club/Society LUU webpage or a member accessible web source at least seven days in advance of the meeting.

7.3.4 The order of business shall be:

* the President’s/Captain’s/Chair’s report
* the Financial report
* Constitutional Amendments
* Elections
* Any other business

7.3.5 The quorum for the AGM shall be either one third of all the Full Members or 20 Full Members, whichever is the lesser.

7.3.6 If an AGM is declared inquorate, it must adjourn to be reconvened within ten working days.

7.3.7 If a reconvened AGM is declared inquorate, the Club/Society shall report this to the Activities Officer who may authorise an inquorate AGM.

7.3.8 The Club/Society must submit the full agenda and minutes of their AGM to the Activities Executive, if requested by the Activities Executive.

**7.4 Extraordinary General Meetings**

7.4.1 An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be called by either one third of all the Full Members or 20 full members, whichever is the lesser, and/or by the Committee.

7.4.2 Notice of the EGM, together with their agenda, shall be posted on the Club/Society LUU webpage or a member accessible web source within two working days of the meeting being called.

7.4.3 The agenda for the EGM shall be restricted to the motion or business for which the meeting was called.

7.4.4 The quorum for the EGM shall be either one third of all the full members or 20 full members, whichever is the lesser.

7.4.5 If an EGM is declared inquorate it may not proceed.

7.4.6 The Club/Society must submit the full agenda and minutes of their EGM to the Activities Executive, if requested by the Activities Officer.

**8 Miscellaneous Provisions**

**8.1 Constitution**

8.1.1 In case of dispute over a particular interpretation of this constitution, the Activities Officer will be the final arbiter.

8.1.2 The assets or liabilities of the Club/Society shall remain with the Club/Society regardless of any changes to committee, group structure or constitution.

8.1.3 The Club/Society shall be a constituent part of LUU and thus subject to the rulings of Better Union and the Trustees.

8.1.4 In the event of dissolution or abolition of the Club/Society its assets will revert to LUU.

**8.2 Constitutional Amendments**

8.2.1 Constitutional amendments may be recommended either by an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club/Society.

8.2.2 Constitutional amendments may not come into force until they have been approved by the Activities Officer acting on behalf of the Student Executive and Activities Executive.  For clarity approval will be in the form of an email confirmation to the Core Officers of the society with the amended constitution as an attachment.

8.2.3 Proposed constitutional amendments must be published in the agenda for the appropriate General Meeting and cannot be moved under ‘Any other business

8.2.4 Constitutional amendments shall come into effect immediately after Activities Officer approval unless otherwise stated in the amendment.

**8.3 Administration and Finance**

8.3.1 The Club/Society must produce within 24 hours, a detailed statement of accounts to the Activities Executive if requested by the Activities Executive.

8.3.2 The Core Officers shall accept full administrative and financial responsibility for the Club/Society.

8.3.3 Committee members may not receive financial payment or profit as a result of their position on the committee.

8.3.4 Committee members may be reimbursed for any reasonable expenditure on behalf of the Club/Society only after submitting a receipt to the Treasurer.

**8.4 Cash Office**

8.4.1 The Club/Society shall have bank account(s) with the LUU Cash Office only.

8.4.2 At least two Core Officers’ signatures shall be required to make payments from the Club/Society account.

8.4.3 The Club/Society shall keep full, up-to-date accounts of its finances through the LUU Cash Office

8.4.4 LUU Subsidies allocated to the Club/Society may not be spent on perishable goods such as food, drink or tobacco.

8.4.5 The Club/Society Subsidy and/or Grant account will be zeroed at the end of each academic year and the funds returned to LUU.

**9 Marketing and communications**

9.1 The Club/Society will at all times adhere to the LUU Data Privacy and Guidance for Clubs and Societies

9.2 Gryphon Clubs will at all times adhere to The Branding Guidelines agreed by the Leeds Sport partnership.

**10 Complaints**

10.1 Any member has the right to raise a complaint to the Committee, relating to (but not limited to) the following;

10.1.1 The conduct of another member or members of the club or society (while participating in club/society activity)

10.1.2 The delivery of any club/society activity

10.1.3 Any decision taken which impacts on the overall activity of the club/society

10.2 Any member may also raise a complaint to the LUU Student Activities Team regarding the individual or group conduct of a club/society or their members. Complaints raised in this way will be referred to the Committee to handle.

10.3 The Committee should inform the LUU Student Activities Team of any complaints.

10.4 The Committee should work with the member who has raised the complaint to come to an informal resolution, following the LUU good practice guidelines. Resolution of complaints by the Committee should always be the first stage in any issue relating to the society.

10.5 If the Committee and the member who has raised the complaint are unable to come to an informal resolution, they must conduct a fair and impartial investigation. They must consult with the Student Activities Team Manager, or their nominee, before undertaking the investigation.

 10.5.1 The investigation process must follow the Good Practice Guidelines.

10.5.2 If the Committee decides to take disciplinary action as a result of an investigation following a complaint, they must consult the Student Activities Team Manager, or their nominee, at the earliest opportunity otherwise any subsequent decision will be treated as void.

10.5.3 Disciplinary action against a member may include (but is not limited to):

10.5.3.1 Temporary suspension from some or all activity

10.5.3.2 Requirement that the disciplined member issues an apology

10.5.3.3 Requirement that the disciplined member completes mandatory training to prevent an issue reoccurring

10.5.4 In more serious cases, the Committee may choose to permanently suspend a member from some or all activity, or permanently exclude that member from the society. This is covered in section 11 of this constitution.

10.5 Any member impacted by the outcome of a complaint managed by the Committee has the right to appeal the decision. The appeal should be made in writing to the Activities Executive, via the Activities & Opportunities Officer, and should be submitted within 14 days of the original decision.

10.6 If the complainant is unhappy with the Committee resolution to their complaint, they may escalate the issue formally to the Activities Executive.

**11 Suspension and Expulsion**

11.1 Any member, other than Ex-Officio Members, may be suspended or expelled from any or all rights, including membership, for any period by a decision of the Core Officers of the club/society, so long as the decision was made using the procedure outlined in this section.

11.2 The Club/Society Core Officers can suspend or expel any member of the group so long as they have taken explicit advice from the Student Activities Team Manager, or their nominee, *and* informed the individual affected of the reason/s for the decision in writing.

11.3 The Club/Society Core Officers must immediately notify the Activities & Opportunities Officer, in writing, of any suspensions or expulsions with a summary of the reason/s for the decision.

11.4 Suspended or expelled members may appeal a disciplinary decision so long as the request is submitted in writing to the Activities & Opportunities Officer within 14 days of being notified of this decision.

11.5 On receipt of a request for a review, the Activities & Opportunities Officer will:

* acknowledge receipt of the request as soon as reasonably possible;
* notify the Club/Society Core Officers and the Head of Student Activities that a review is taking place;
* if necessary consult with relevant parties regarding the original decision and may take into account new information;
* will, in discussion with the Activities Executive, decide whether to uphold, modify or over-turn the original decision and
* will inform both parties of the outcome of their decision within 14 days

11.6 If the Activities Executive uphold the decision to suspend or expel the member, the matter will be deemed as having been through an LUU disciplinary and appeal and will have no further rights to appeal under the Bye-Laws.