

MALTA STUDY CIRCLE

Rules: Revised 2022

1. Name: The name of the Society shall be the 'Malta Study Circle' and will be referred to in these rules as the 'Circle'.
2. Objects: The objects of the Circle shall be:
 - a) To bring together through the Circle website, correspondence and personal contact those interested in the postal history and postage stamps of Malta.
 - b) To encourage the study of the above subjects.
 - c) To spread and circulate knowledge of Maltese philately through the preparation and publication of Study Papers.
 - d) To publish a newsletter, journal or similar publication; the aim is to publish 3 times a year, but this may be more or less as determined by the Editor based on availability of material.
3. Membership: All those interested in the objects of, and willing to accept the Rules of the Circle, are eligible for membership. Applications for membership must be made in writing or by email to the Membership Secretary with the appropriate remittance. To be accepted, the application must be approved by the Membership Secretary on behalf of the Circle Committee. The Membership Secretary must report immediately to the members of the Committee any application that he/she does not wish to accept on their behalf. The decision of the Committee shall be final.
4. Honorary Membership: The Committee may confer Honorary Membership on anyone that it deems has been or will be of outstanding service to the Circle and any such decision shall be published in the Journal.
5. Associate Membership: The Committee may offer free Associate Membership to any person who or organisation which can offer special services to the Circle. Such Membership would not include receipt of any Circle publication (except in pdf form if requested), nor access to the Members Section on the Circle website. Free Associate Membership may be withdrawn at any time by the Committee.
6. Resignations: A member wishing to resign should return promptly any property of the Circle in his/her possession and subscriptions paid will be forfeited.
7. Subscriptions: The amount of the subscription and the date on which it is due shall be decided by the Committee, based on a recommendation from the Treasurer. Those members whose subscriptions are overdue three months will cease to be members.
8. Meetings: There should be at least two meetings of the Circle per year; meetings will preferably be held in person, but where this is not practicable, a virtual meeting will be regarded as fulfilling this commitment. One of the meetings should be the Annual General Meeting, the main business of which should be the election of officers and members of the Committee as well as the presentation of audited financial accounts. Notice of the Circle's meetings should be advised in the preceding edition of the Circle journal or by email notification. Notice of the Annual General Meeting should be given to all members no less than a month before the meeting. A member wishing to bring an important motion before a meeting should forward the motion in writing or by email in time for it to be included in the notification before the meeting. The Chairman of the meeting may decline to include in the agenda an important resolution that he feels has been submitted without due notice. Should the Chairman feel that a motion on the agenda of a meeting should be placed before and voted on by all members, the Secretary shall contact all members by email with a copy of the text of the motion. The quorum for an Annual

General Meeting and an Ordinary Meeting shall be seven and five members respectively.

9. President: The Circle may have a President.

10. Officers and Committee: The management of the Circle and control of finance shall be in the hands of a Committee consisting of :

- a) The Chairman who shall be responsible for the conducting the meetings and Committee meetings of the Circle.
- b) The Secretary who shall be responsible for the giving notice and preparing the agenda of meetings and Committee meetings and the production of minutes of these meetings.
- c) The Membership Secretary who shall be responsible for the enrolment, registration and registration of members.
- d) The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of subscriptions and the handling of the property and monies of the Circle and for the presentation of a properly audited statement of the Circle's finances at the Annual General Meeting.

And the following:

Auctioneer
Website Manager
Press and Publicity member.
Journal Editor
Librarian and Publications member
Programme/Events Co-ordinator.

A member may hold more than one of the above offices at any time.

The officers and other Committee members shall be elected by and out of the Circle's members at the Annual General Meeting; they shall hold office for one year and be eligible for re-election. The President and immediate past Chairman will be ex-officio members. The Committee shall have powers to co-opt. The quorum of the Committee shall be five members.

11. Finance

- a) A bank account shall be opened in the name of the Circle.
- b) The financial year end shall be December 31st.
- c) The Income and property of the Circle wherever derived shall be applied solely towards promoting the objects of the Circle as set forth above and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly to any member or members of the Circle except in payment of legitimate expenses incurred on behalf of the Circle.

12. Withdrawal of Membership: The Committee may withdraw membership from a member if it is considered that his or her membership is prejudicial to the Circle.

13. Copyright : The Circle retains, on behalf of the author(s), the copyright of any article, paper or handbook it may publish. This copyright shall be relinquished to the author(s), on written request.

14. Alteration and Interpretation of these Rules: Any alteration to these rules can only be made at the Annual General Meeting of the Circle and notice of the proposed alteration shall be given more than a month before the meeting. The Committee through the Chairman shall be responsible for interpreting these rules.