

# *South East Regional Teachers' Association (SERTA)*

## **Constitution**

1. The Group shall be known as the "South East Regional Teachers' Association" (SERTA).
2. The purposes of the group shall be:
  - a. To foster the continuing development of Scottish Country Dance (SCD) teachers
  - b. To provide workshops on the theory and pedagogy of teaching SCD
  - c. To provide a forum for teachers to meet, exchange ideas and share experiences
  - d. To develop support structures for new teachers
  - e. To keep a database of members
3. Membership shall be open to all teachers of SCD and leaders of SCD groups (whether RSCDS qualified or not) and those wishing to learn how to teach SCD, provided they have paid the SERTA annual subscription, which shall be recommended by the committee for approval at the General Meeting (GM).
4. Non-members of SERTA, may attend workshops on payment of a supplementary fee to be recommended by the Committee.
5. A Biennial General Meeting will take place.
6. The Association shall be led by a committee who shall have overall responsibility for managing the affairs of SERTA. The committee shall be the office bearers and a maximum of four committee members. The Committee has power to appoint volunteers to hold responsibility for specific functions. The Committee can comprise qualified and non RSCDS qualified teachers/leaders of groups but at least one member of the committee should be an RSCDS qualified teacher.
7. The office bearers shall comprise a chairperson, a secretary and a treasurer, who shall be elected to stand for a term of office. On completion of a term of office they shall be ineligible to stand for any position for a period of two years, unless no other SERTA member is willing to stand.
8. The committee members shall be elected to stand for a term of office not exceeding four years but in the first term of office this may be extended to avoid the whole committee requiring election in succeeding years.
9. The end of the financial period shall be 31st January biennially, beginning 31st January 2018. A General Meeting will be held the following March.
10. A member not present at the General Meeting may not be nominated for any election, unless he or she has given written consent prior to the meeting. A vacancy caused by an office bearer or committee member resigning prior to the completion of their term of office may be filled on a temporary basis, through co-option by the committee, until the next General Meeting, when an election shall be made for the rest of the term of office.
11. All elections and motions previously notified to members shall be determined by a majority vote at the Biennial General Meeting held in March.
12. The committee shall be responsible for:
  - a. keeping funds in a bank account, withdrawals being authorized by two office bearers
  - b. arranging for an independent examination of the income and expenditure statement to be presented at the GM
  - c. making preparation for two SERTA meetings each year; and a short GM at the spring meeting biennially
  - d. using regional representatives to enable domestic arrangements at each meeting.
13. The Constitution of SERTA shall only be altered by Resolution passed at General Meeting and only after receiving the vote of a simple majority of the members present and entitled to vote.
14. An Extraordinary General Meeting can be called by the committee or by 10 members of the Association for the next workshop.
15. In the event of the group winding up, after all debts and liabilities have been paid, the remaining assets shall be donated to the RSCDS.

Above Constitution agreed unanimously at the General Meeting held on Sunday 18th March 2018.