Scottish Society Abu Dhabi

Constitution

Version Number	Issue Date	Reviewed By:	Approved By Members	Revision History
ADSS001-01	DRAFT 02062025	Suzanne Kelleher, Jane Taylor, Catriona Beattie	AGM	Original issue
SSAD001-02	Revised 08/06/2026	SSAD Committee	AGM	1, 3.4, 5.1, 5.3, 7.2

1. Name

The name of the society shall be The Scottish Society Abu Dhabi hereafter referred to as The Society.

2. Definitions

"In writing" shall mean communications by hard copy sent by hand or electronic copy sent by email.

3. Objectives

The objectives of the Society shall be:

3.1 To foster social relations amongst Scottish people, their families and anyone interested in Scotland and Scottish culture in Abu Dhabi.

3.2 To foster Scottish cultural activities and institutions.

3.3 To arrange for the appropriate celebration of the Scottish anniversaries (e.g., Burns Supper and St Andrew's Ball).

4. Membership and Subscriptions

4.1 Ordinary membership of The Society shall not be confined to Scottish people only. Society membership shall be open to anyone Scottish, of Scottish descent or with an interest in Scotland.

4.2 The Chieftain and Vice Chieftain shall be Scottish.

4.3 Members shall pay an annual subscription as set by the Committee.

4.4 Subsequent subscriptions shall be paid to the Membership Secretary and shall be due on the 1st of January each year. New applications received on / from 1st November of any given year will be entitled to membership until the subsequent year renewal date. New members will be assigned a membership number and receive a unique membership card. A notice shall be sent by email to all new members confirming their membership and including an electronic copy of the Constitution.

4.5 Members shall give notice in writing to the Honorary Secretary or Membership Secretary, of any change of e-mail address or telephone numbers; otherwise, the Committee will not be responsible for the delivery of any communications.

4.6 Members whose subscriptions are in arrears shall have no vote at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting and any member in arrears may be removed from the membership at the discretion of the Committee.

4.7 If any member conducts themselves in an improper manner, or in any way that may bring, or potentially bring, the reputation of The Society into disrepute, they shall be liable to be expelled and have their name struck off the membership list. The power of expulsion from The Society shall be vested in the Committee, of which not less than three quarters of the Committee must be present, to consider such expulsion. A majority of two-thirds of the attendees must be in favour of such expulsion.

5. Committee

5.1 The management and control of the affairs of The Society shall be vested in a Committee consisting of a Chieftain (or in their absence a nominee from the Committee) who will act as a Chairman, a Vice-Chieftain, an Honorary Secretary, and an Honorary Treasurer (collectively the Office Bearers) and preferably not less than five members. All Committee members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. In cases of an equal number of votes being cast for a particular Committee member position, the Chieftain shall have the casting vote. Five members of the Committee, including at least two Office Bearers shall form a quorum. All Committee members are elected for a one-year term.

5.2 Retiring Committee members shall be eligible for re-election. Nominations for Committee members shall be lodged in writing with the Honorary Secretary, suitably proposed and seconded, at least seven days prior to the Annual General Meeting. Nomination of, and subsequent election of, a member to the Committee in absentia is permissible if the written consent of the candidate has been received by the Honorary Secretary.

5.3 The Committee, which shall meet as the business of The Society demands, shall conduct The Society's affairs and have power to fill any vacancy, which occurs in its number during the year, by co-opting a Society member onto the Committee.

5.4 Minutes of the proceedings of all General and Committee meetings shall be recorded in a Minute File, and a General Report and Financial Statement of the affairs of The Society shall be submitted to the Annual General Meeting of the Members.

5.5 All sums of money received, and all payments made on behalf of The Society shall be recorded by the Honorary Treasurer who shall submit an independently reviewed Annual Statement of Account for the financial year 31st December each year for members' information to the AGM.

5.6 The Committee may, at its absolute discretion, refuse to accept a guest at any Society event of function if the guest:

a) are a person who has previously been removed from membership of the Society; or

b) a person who continues to be indebted to the Society after due notice of such indebtedness has been given.

6. Annual and Extraordinary General Meetings

6.1 The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held in in June each year for the passing of Accounts, the election of Committee members and for general business. A Quorum shall be 20% of the current membership of The Society. Any member wishing to bring forward a Resolution on any subject not in included in the Agenda, shall send notice of such motion to the Honorary Secretary at least 7 days before the meeting. The new Committee shall take over after the Annual General Meeting each year and shall continue in office until the following Annual General Meeting.

6.2 Requisite notice of a General Meeting will be deemed to have been given if notices in writing are sent to members at least 14 days prior to the date of the meeting.

6.3 An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called at any time, with not less than 14 days' notice, in accordance with paragraph 6.2, by the Committee or on the written request of not less than ten members who shall explain their objectives at the time of writing. A quorum for an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be 20% of the membership.

6.4 Business of whatever nature connected with The Society may be discussed at an Annual General Meeting, but no business shall be discussed at an Extraordinary General Meeting other than that for which the meeting was convened.

6.5 Questions at General Meetings on which a vote may be taken shall be decided by a show of hands, except that in the case of elections of members of the Committee, it shall be by way of secret ballot. In the event of a tied vote, the Chieftain shall have the casting vote.

7. Other Matters

7.1 No part of the Constitution shall be altered unless the proposed amendments have been submitted in writing to the Honorary Secretary and circulated to all members at least 14 days before a General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting and subsequently approved by a majority vote. Notice in accordance with paragraph 6.2 is required.

7.2 Should, at any time, the circumstances make it necessary to wind up the affairs of The Society, authority is vested in the Committee to assign any surplus funds or other assets of The Society to registered UAE Charities. Individual assets, gifted by members of The Society, should be returned to the donors or disposed of under their authority wherever possible.