

CONSTITUTION OF KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL NURSES' LEAGUE

1. Title:

The association is known as The King's College Hospital Nurses' League.

2. Aims:

The aims of the League are:

2.1 To form a bond between all Nurses and Midwives who have trained or worked at King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

2.2 To stimulate the professional interest and responsibility of members to the hospital and their profession.

2.3 To maintain a Benevolent Fund to be called 'The King's College Hospital Nurses' League Benevolent Fund' Charity Registration No. 251743. The Fund is used for the assistance of King's Nurses and Midwives, whether members of the League or not.

2.4 To maintain an Educational Grants Trust, to be called 'The King's College Hospital Nurses' League Educational Grants Trust' Charity Registration No. 1024145. The money is used to allocate grants for post-registration education according to the terms of the Trust.

2.5 To hold a Reunion and Annual General Meeting each year.

2.6 To publish a Journal annually.

3. Membership:

Membership will be available to:

3.1 Nurses and Midwives who have trained at King's College Hospital.

3.2 Nurses and Midwives who have undertaken the majority of their pre-registration clinical experience at King's College Hospital during courses at the Florence Nightingale School of Nursing and Midwifery, King's College London, London South Bank University or other Higher Education Institutions associated clinically with King's College Hospital.

3.3 Nurses and Midwives who have trained elsewhere and have worked for the King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust for a minimum of 1 year, and are employed by King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust when taking out membership.

3.4 The Chief Nurse, King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

3.5 Honorary membership: An individual, closely associated with the Hospital and/or League, may be invited by the Executive Committee to become an Honorary member. Honorary members may attend the Annual General Meeting but will have no voting power and are not eligible to hold office or serve on committees.

3.6 Membership List: A membership list will be maintained of names, addresses and email addresses, and will be kept confidential within the League according to current data protection legislation

4. Subscriptions

4.1 Membership of the League is subject to the payment of a subscription.

4.2 The amount of the subscription will be decided by the Executive Committee and reviewed annually.

4.3 The subscription covers the cost of the Journal and the Annual Reunion and contributes to the administrative costs of the League.

4.4 The subscription fee may be waived at the discretion of the Officers.

4.5 Membership will lapse if the subscription is not paid.

4.6 No copy of the Journal will be sent to any member whose subscription is in arrears.

5. Executive Committee:

The League will be managed by an Executive Committee which will include:

5.1 The Officers - President, Deputy President, a maximum of 2 Treasurers, A Secretary and a Membership Secretary a maximum of 2 Editors.

5.2 The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer from the Benevolent Fund sub-committee (referred to as the Trustees, section 7.1 and 7.2)

5.3 The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer from the Educational Grants Trust sub-committee (referred to as the Trustees, section 7.1 and 7.2)

5.4 Representatives of past and present King's Nurses and Midwives:

5.4.1 A maximum of five elected members, who will serve for a term of 5 years. No member will be eligible for re-election within one year. Any two members may nominate a candidate for election to the Executive Committee, providing the nominee's consent has been obtained. The nomination will be made at the Reunion or sent in writing to the Membership Secretary. The election of the nominee will rest with the Executive Committee. In the event of resignation of an elected member, the Executive Committee has power to co-opt a new member to fill the vacancy for the remaining term of office.

5.4.2 Two Nurses or Midwives from King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and 1 from Higher Education. In the event of the resignation of an appointed member, the President has power to co-opt a new member to fill the vacancy.

5.5 The Executive Committee will have the power to co-opt members to assist the Officers where additional help is required. The co-opted members may attend meetings of the Executive Committee and are eligible to vote.

5.6 The Executive Committee will meet at least twice each year. A quorum will be one third of the members.

5.7 At the Executive Committee meeting following the end of the financial year, the Treasurers will present the accounts examined by an Independent Examiner, for the approval of the Committee. The approved accounts will be published in the Journal and will be available, in full, on request from the Treasurers and at the Annual General Meeting.

5.8 Method of election and terms of office:

5.8.1 The President will be elected from among the members of the League. The term of office will be for 5 years and the holder will be eligible for re-election.

One year prior to completion of the term of office, there will be an election by the members at the Annual General meeting for the successor, who as President-elect, will serve alongside the President for the year. The President will be Chairman of all committees.

5.8.2 The Deputy President will be elected by the Executive Committee. The term of office will be 5 years and the holder will be eligible for re-election.

One year prior to completion of the term of office, there will be an election by the Executive Committee for the successor, who as Deputy President-elect, will serve alongside the Deputy President for a year. The Deputy President will be a member of the Executive Committee.

5.8.3 The Treasurers, Secretaries and Editors will be appointed by the Executive Committee, and their appointments will be reviewed at the first meeting of the committee following the Annual General Meeting. The successor of the officer will work alongside the retiring officer for the final year. The officers will be members of the League and will be members of the Executive Committee.

5.9 Patrons

A former President or member, who has made an exceptional contribution to the League, may be recommended by the Executive Committee, as a Patron. Election will be by members at the Annual General Meeting. There will not be more than 3 Patrons.

5.10 Vice-Presidents

An officer who has served the League for, normally, not less than 10 years, may be recommended by the Executive Committee, as a Vice-President. Election will be by members at the Annual General Meeting. There will not be more than 10 Vice-Presidents.

6. Annual General Meeting

6.1 There will be an Annual General Meeting.

6.2 The Officers of the League will present reports at each Annual General Meeting, including a financial report and accounts for the previous year, examined by an Independent Examiner.

7. Sub-committees:

The members of all sub-committees will be appointed by the Executive Committee.

7.1 The King's College Hospital Nurses' League Benevolent Fund, Charity Registration No. 251743, will be administered by the Benevolent Fund sub-committee according to the Trust Deed. The sub-committee will consist of the Trustees who have general control and responsibility for the administration of the charity, and not more than five members, who will meet at least once a year.

7.2 The King's College Hospital Nurses' League Educational Grants Trust, Charity Registration No. 1024145, will be administered by the Education Grants Trust sub-committee according to the terms of the Trust. The sub-committee will consist of the Trustees who have general control and responsibility for the administration of the charity, and not more than five members, who will meet at least once a year.

7.3 The accounts of the above (7.1 and 7.2) will be examined by Independent Examiners, approved by the Trustees and published in the Journal. Full accounts will be available on request from the Treasurer and at the Annual General Meeting.

7.4 The members of the sub-committees may attend meetings of the Executive Committee and are eligible to vote.

8. Journal:

Articles for publication in the Journal and items of news will be sent to the Editors.

9. A general meeting may be called at any time by the Executive Committee at the request of no fewer than 25 members of the League who will notify the Secretary in writing. Notice of at least 14 days must be given and must be accompanied by the Agenda.

10. No addition, rescission or amendment will be made to the Constitution without sanction of members at a general meeting. Notice of any proposed addition, rescission or amendment will be sent to the Secretary at least 6 weeks before a general meeting and, if approved by the Executive Committee, a copy of such proposed addition, rescission or amendment will be sent to each member of the League at least 4 weeks before the date of a general meeting. No such addition, rescission or amendment will become valid unless and until it is passed at a general meeting by two thirds of voting members present.

11. Changes to the provision of nursing education over the past few years and the increasing age profile of League members raise questions about the future viability of the League. Any proposed change will be fully discussed and examined by the Executive Committee and members will be consulted as appropriate.

Ratified at the AGM 11th May 2019