



Colchester Operatic Society Youth Section Rules

Date Adopted: 22nd March 2022

1. Title

The section shall be called 'Colchester Operatic Society 2nd Edition' abbreviated to 'CO2'.

2. Aims and Objectives

- a) To support and uphold the Aims and Objectives of Colchester Operatic Society (COS) with emphasis on the promotion of interest in all aspects of the theatre for young people and to act as a feeder for the Society.
- b) To ensure that in accordance with current safeguarding legislation and guidelines chaperones are provided as necessary for all Society and CO2 business following the "Good Practice" laid down in said guidelines.
- c) To produce an annual musical show and to perform it in front of the general public in a venue to suit the production.

3. Management

CO2 shall be managed by a Management Committee consisting of a member of the Executive Committee as the appointed Chair, the COS treasurer, Business Manager and other members deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.

4. Election of Management Committee

- a) The COS Executive Committee will elect a CO2 Chair and the rest of the Management Committee shall be invited or appointed by the CO2 Chair following ratification by the Executive Committee at or before the first meeting of the Management Committee.
- b) A Members Representative can be elected annually by the CO2 membership at the first full company call, subsequent to the formation of the Management Committee. Each member will be given due notice of the election. Each candidate must be a CO2 member and must be 16 years old or over. Each candidate must be proposed and seconded and supported by a further six members signatures. The members representative will be invited to attend management committee meetings.
- c) All Management Committee members must be approved by the Executive Committee.

5. Meetings

- a) Meetings shall be held monthly and called by the CO2 secretary. The quorum shall be the greater of four members or 50% of the Committee
- b) All business conducted by the Management Committee shall be reported to the Executive Committee via written minutes before the next Executive Committee meeting.

6. Finance

All business and funding of CO2 shall be under the direction and subject to the financial rulings of the Executive Committee.

7. Membership

The age group will be from 11 to 23 years with flexibility at each end of the age range according to casting requirements and as directed by the Management Committee. All



rules of membership detailed in the main COS constitution (rule 9) shall apply to members of CO2, with the CO2 management committee managing admission (rule 9.1. b), duty (rule 9.3) and termination (rule 9.4). Membership, as a Junior Member of COS shall be attained:

- a) by auditioning for a part in the main yearly CO2 production This will mean paying a non-refundable workshop/audition fee. If the audition is successful a membership fee as determined at the AGM will be required
- b) by applying to the CO2 Membership Secretary if membership is desired in order to take part in associated activities.

Membership of COS covers CO2 membership. When CO2 members become 16 years of age, they may automatically become members of COS.

8. Selection of Show

The Management Committee will select and recommend the next production from a short list of shows, taking into consideration, before the final recommendation, casting, venue, cost, etc. The resulting recommendation must be ratified by the Executive Committee.

9. Auditions

- a) Auditions will be held at a time and venue as directed by the Management Committee. b) For the benefit and in consideration of the age of the auditionees, auditions will be closed.
- b) The conduct of the auditions will be under the direction of the Auditioning Panel, which will consist of the Chair, Director, Musical Director, Director's Assistant and other members agreed by the Executive Committee.
- c) The Auditioning Panel shall have the power to ask individuals to re-audition and/or to invite players outside the age group to play parts not cast from the original auditions, with the agreement of the Executive Committee.

10. Obligations of Cast

- a) Cast Members shall, to the best of their ability, play the Parts assigned to them whether principal or chorus and obey the directions given at all rehearsals and performances.
- b) All cast members will be subject to a probationary period and if in the opinion of the Management Committee the Member is not proficient or has not attended sufficient rehearsals for which the member has been called they will be taken out of the cast and replaced as required.
- c) Failure to attend three rehearsals without providing an explanation deemed satisfactory by the CO2 Committee shall necessitate the forfeit of the assigned part by the offending Member.
- d) All members of the company shall exhibit polite consideration to all involved with the production affording all participants, both severally and equally, due courtesy and respect at all times.

11. Register of Attendance

The Membership Secretary shall keep a record of attendance at rehearsals.

12. Alteration to Rules

No changes may be made to these rules unless agreed by the Executive Committee, upon which all members will be notified.