

Registered Number: 206877

Articles of Association

of

The Girls' Brigade England and Wales
(operating as GB Ministries and/or GBM)

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND
NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL

THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

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Ref: SET/28044.0013

PART A. INTRODUCTION

1 INTERPRETATION

1.1 In these Articles:

“the Act”	means the Companies Acts (as defined in Section 2 of the Companies Act 2006) insofar as they apply to the Charity and any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof for the time being in force
“the Articles”	means these Articles of Association of the Charity
“the Board”	means the board of Trustees of the Charity and (where appropriate) includes a Committee and the Trustees acting by written resolution
“Board Meeting”	means a meeting of the Board
“Business Day”	means any day other than a Saturday, Sunday, bank holiday or public holiday in England and Wales
“Chair”	means (subject to the context) either the person elected as chair of the Company under Article 27 or where the chair of the Charity is not present or has not taken the chair at a meeting means the person who is chairing a Board Meeting or General Meeting at the time
“Charity Commission”	means the Charity Commission for England and Wales
“Clear Days”	in relation to a period of notice means the period excluding the day when the notice is given or deemed to be given and the day for which it is given or on which it is to take effect
“Committee”	means a committee of the Board exercising powers delegated to it by the Board
“Companies House”	means the office of the Registrar of Companies
“the Charity”	means the company intended to be regulated by the Articles
“GB Regulations”	means the standing orders of the Charity made under Article 38 for the governance of the Charity
“General Meeting”	means a meeting of Members
“including”	means “including without limitation” and “include” and “includes” are to be construed accordingly

“Member”	means a member for the time being of the Charity who is admitted under Article 6
“the Memorandum”	means the Memorandum of Association of the Charity
“the Network”	means the committee of the Charity established under Article 29 and known as the Girls' Brigade England and Wales Network
“the Objects”	means the objects of the Charity set out in Article 3
“Observers”	means those persons (other than Trustees) present under Article 29 at a Board Meeting
“Registered Office”	means the registered office of the Charity
“Secretary”	means the secretary of the Charity including a joint, assistant or deputy secretary
“Trustee”	means any director of the Charity who is appointed under Article 19
“United Kingdom”	means Great Britain and Northern Ireland
“Vice-Chair”	means a person elected as a Vice-Chair of the Charity under Article 27
“Working Party/Group”	means a body established by the Board to make recommendations to the Board but without decision-making powers.

1.2 In the Articles:

1.2.1 terms defined in the Act are to have the same meaning;

1.2.2 references to the singular include the plural and vice-versa and to the feminine include the masculine and neuter and vice-versa;

1.2.3 references to “organisations” or “persons” include corporate bodies, public bodies, unincorporated associations and partnerships;

1.2.4 references to legislation, regulations, determinations and directions include all amendments, replacements or re-enactments and references to legislation (where appropriate) include all regulations, determinations and directions made or given under it;

1.2.5 references to articles are to those within the Articles; and

1.2.6 headings are not to affect the interpretation of the Articles.

1.3 For the avoidance of doubt the system of law governing the Memorandum and the Articles is the law of England and Wales.

1.4 None of the model articles in the Companies (Model Articles) Regulations 2008 applies to the Charity.

2 NAME

The name of the Charity is The Girls' Brigade England and Wales. It will also operate as and be known as GB Ministries or GBM.

3 OBJECTS

The Charity's Objects are for the public benefit:

- 3.1 to promote, extend and maintain Christian faith and values primarily amongst girls and women; and
- 3.2 to promote the effective use of resources by the provision of services to organisations and individuals involved in the promotion of the Christian faith amongst children, young people and adults.

4 POWERS

The Charity may do anything that a natural or corporate person can lawfully do which is not expressly prohibited by the Articles in order to further the Objects (but not otherwise) and in particular it has powers:

Staff and volunteers

- 4.1 to employ staff or engage consultants and advisers on such terms as the Board thinks fit and to provide pensions to staff, their relatives and dependants;
- 4.2 to recruit or assist in recruiting and managing voluntary workers, including paying their reasonable expenses;

Property

- 4.3 to purchase, lease, exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any real or personal property rights or privileges (including shared or contingent interests);
- 4.4 to construct, alter, improve, convert, maintain, equip, furnish and/or demolish any buildings, structures or property;
- 4.5 to sell, lease, license, exchange, dispose of or otherwise deal with property (subject to the restrictions in the Charities Act 2011);
- 4.6 to provide accommodation for any other charitable organisation on such terms as the Board decides (including rent-free or at nominal or non-commercial rents) subject to the restrictions in the Charities Act 2011;

Borrowing

- 4.7 to borrow and give security for loans;

Grants and loans

- 4.8 to make grants, donations or loans, to give guarantees and to give security for those guarantees (subject to the restrictions in the Charities Act 2011);

Fundraising

- 4.9 to raise funds, to invite and receive contributions;

Trading

- 4.10 to trade in the course of carrying out the Objects and to charge for services;

Publicity

- 4.11 to hold, conduct or promote meetings, conferences, lectures, exhibitions or training courses and to disseminate information to publicise the work of the Charity and other organisations operating in similar fields;

- 4.12 to promote or carry out research and publish the results of it;

Contracts

- 4.13 to co-operate with and enter into contracts with any person;

Bank or building society accounts

- 4.14 to draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, execute and issue promissory notes, bills, cheques and other instruments and to operate bank or building society accounts in the name of the Charity;

Investments

- 4.15 to:

4.15.1 deposit or invest funds;

4.15.2 employ a professional fund-manager; and

4.15.3 arrange for the investments or other property of the Charity to be held in the name of a nominee in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as trustees of a trust are permitted to do by the Trustee Act 2000

Insurance

- 4.16 to insure the assets of the Charity to such amount and on such terms as the Board decides, to pay premiums out of income or capital and to use any insurance proceeds as the Board decides (without necessarily having to restore the asset);

- 4.17 to insure and to indemnify the Charity's employees and voluntary workers from and against all risks incurred in the proper performance of their duties;

- 4.18 to take out insurance to protect the Charity and those who use premises owned by or let or hired to the Charity;

- 4.19 to provide indemnity insurance for the Trustees in accordance with, and subject to the conditions in, section 189 of the Charities Act 2011;

Other organisations

- 4.20 to establish, promote, assist or support (financially or otherwise) any trusts, companies, community benefit societies, associations or institutions which have

purposes which include the Objects or to carry on any other relevant charitable purposes;

- 4.21 to co-operate or join with any charity, voluntary body or public or statutory authority or any other organisation in any location whatsoever in furthering the Objects or allied charitable purposes, to exchange information and advice and to undertake joint activities with them;
- 4.22 to amalgamate with any charity which has objects similar to the Objects;
- 4.23 to undertake and execute any charitable trusts;
- 4.24 to affiliate, register, subscribe to or join any organisation;
- 4.25 to act as agent or trustee for any organisation;

Reserves

- 4.26 to accumulate income in order to set aside funds for special purposes or as reserves against future expenditure;

General

- 4.27 to do anything else within the law which is incidental and conducive to the Objects.

5 APPLICATION OF FUNDS

5.1 General

The income and property of the Charity must be applied solely towards promoting the Objects and (except to the extent authorised by this Article 5):

- 5.1.1 no part may be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by dividend bonus or profit to a Member; and
- 5.1.2 a Trustee may not directly or indirectly receive any payment of money or benefit from the Charity.

5.2 Benefits to Trustees

Notwithstanding Article 5.1, the Charity may make the following payments or grant the following benefits to Trustees:

Out-of-pocket expenses

- 5.2.1 the reimbursement of reasonable and proper out-of-pocket expenses (including travel and dependants' care costs) actually incurred in enabling them to carry out their duties as Trustees;
- 5.2.2 reasonable and proper out-of-pocket expenses to those Trustees who are engaged by the Charity as volunteers in the work of the Charity and which are actually incurred by them in carrying out their work as volunteers;

Indemnity

5.2.3 an indemnity in respect of any liabilities properly incurred in running the Charity (including the costs of a successful defence to criminal proceedings);

5.2.4 the benefit of indemnity insurance under Article 4.19;

Fees to companies in which Trustees have negligible interests

5.2.5 a payment to a company in which a Trustee has no more than a 1% shareholding;

Interest and rent

5.2.6 reasonable and proper interest on money lent by any Trustee to the Charity;

5.2.7 reasonable rent, service charges or other payments properly payable under the provisions of any lease, agreement for lease or licence in respect of premises let by any Trustee to the Charity or a reasonable hiring fee for premises hired by any Trustee to the Charity;

Beneficiaries

5.2.8 benefits provided in furtherance of the Objects to Trustees who are beneficiaries of the Charity where those benefits are the same as or similar to benefits provided to other beneficiaries;

Supply of goods and services

5.2.9 payments to a Trustee who enters into a contract for the supply of goods or services to the Charity (other than for acting as a Trustee) provided that:

5.2.9.1 the remuneration or other sums paid to the Trustee do not exceed an amount that is reasonable in all the circumstances;

5.2.9.2 the Trustee is absent from the part of any meeting at which there is a discussion of her remuneration or any matter concerning the contract, her performance of the contract, any proposal to enter into any other contract or arrangement with her or to confer any benefit upon her and/or any other matter relating to payment or the conferring any benefit to her;

5.2.9.3 the Trustee does not vote on any such matter and is not counted when calculating whether a quorum of Trustees is present at the meeting;

5.2.9.4 the other Trustees are satisfied that it is in the interests of the Charity to contract with the Trustee rather than with someone who is not a Trustee. In reaching that decision the Trustees must balance the advantage of employing or contracting with a Trustee against the disadvantages of doing so (especially the loss of the Trustee's services as a result of dealing with the Trustee's conflict of interest);

5.2.9.5 the reason for the Trustees' decision is recorded in the minutes of the Board meeting; and

5.2.9.6 at no time shall a majority of the Trustees receive payment pursuant to this Article 5.2.9

The remuneration of a Trustee pursuant to this Article includes the engagement or remuneration of any firm or company in which the Trustee is a partner, an employee, a consultant, a director (except when she is not paid as a director) or a shareholder, unless the shares of the company are listed on a recognised stock exchange and the Trustee holds less than 1% of the issued capital;

Other circumstances

5.2.10 a payment of any contribution to the funds of a charitable organisation whether by way of grant or otherwise even though part of the contribution may be used to pay remuneration or related employment benefit to a Trustee who is an employee of the charitable organisation and any such Trustee shall not be required to account to the Charity for any such remuneration or related employment benefit properly received from such charitable organisation; and

5.2.11 other payments or benefits (approved in writing in advance by the Charity Commission) in exceptional cases;

5.3 The provisions in this Article 5 on the making of payments and the granting of benefits by the Charity to Trustees shall also extend to payments made to Trustees by any other company in which the Charity

5.3.1 holds more than 50% of the shares; or

5.3.2 controls more than 50% of the voting rights attached to the shares; or

5.3.3 has the right to appoint one or more directors to its board;

5.4 For the purposes of Article 5.2 a payment to or a benefit granted to a dependant relative or the spouse of the Trustee shall be deemed to be a payment to the Trustee and shall be permitted to the same extent that payments to or benefits granted to Trustees are permitted;

5.5 Amendments

This Article may not be amended without the prior written consent of the Charity Commission.

PART B. COMPANY MEMBERSHIP

6 COMPANY MEMBERS

The Members are those admitted to membership by the Board in accordance with Article 7 and are the Trustees of the Charity from time to time appointed under Article 19.

7 ADMISSION OF COMPANY MEMBERS

7.1 A person may not be admitted a Member:

7.1.1 unless she has signed a written application to become a Member in such form as the Board requires;

7.1.2 if she has ceased to be a Member by reason of her being removed as a Trustee under Article 21.1.5 or Article 21.1.7 or Article 21.1.8;

7.1.3 unless she is aged 18 or over; or

7.1.4 if she would immediately cease to be a Member or Trustee under the Articles;

7.2 Since Members are also Trustees the Board must ensure that it takes into account (to the extent the Board considers it practicable to do so) the need for Members and Trustees to contribute to the skills mix and balance of the Board as a whole;

7.3 Charity membership is personal and not transferable.

8 TERMINATION OF COMPANY MEMBERSHIP

A person will cease to be a Member:

8.1 on delivering written notice of resignation to the Registered Office; or

8.2 if she ceases to be a Trustee.

9 LIABILITY OF COMPANY MEMBERS

9.1 The liability of the Members is limited.

9.2 Every Member promises, if the Charity is wound up whilst she is a Member or within one year after ceasing to be a Member, to contribute such amount as is required up to a maximum of £1 towards the costs of:

9.2.1 winding up the Charity;

9.2.2 the payment of the debts and the payment of the costs, charges and expenses of liabilities incurred whilst the contributor was a Member; and

9.2.3 the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

PART C. GENERAL MEETINGS

10 GENERAL MEETINGS

- 10.1 The Board may call a General Meeting at any time, to be held at such time and place as the Board decides subject to Article 11.
- 10.2 On receiving a requisition from the percentage of Members required under the Act the Board must promptly convene a General Meeting.

11 NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS

- 11.1 Every General Meeting must be called by at least 14 Clear Days' notice.
- 11.2 A General Meeting may be called by shorter notice if this is agreed by a majority in number of the Members who may attend and vote and who together hold 90% or more of the total voting rights of all of the Members at the General Meeting.
- 11.3 The notice must specify:
 - 11.3.1 the time, date and place of the General Meeting;
 - 11.3.2 the general nature of the business to be transacted; and
 - 11.3.3 if a special resolution is proposed, the fact that the proposed resolution is a special resolution and the wording of the resolution.
- 11.4 Subject to the Act no business may be transacted at a General Meeting except that specified in the notice convening the meeting.
- 11.5 Notice of a General Meeting must be given to all of the Members, the Trustees and the Charity's auditors (if any).
- 11.6 The accidental omission to give notice of a General Meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of a General Meeting by, any person entitled to receive notice will not invalidate the proceedings at that General Meeting.

12 QUORUM

- 12.1 No business may be transacted at a General Meeting unless a quorum is present.
- 12.2 The quorum for General Meetings is six or a majority (50% plus one) (whichever is the lesser) of the Members for the time being present in person or by proxy provided that there shall always be a representative of the Network (through the presence of a Network Trustee) in attendance for a quorum to be present.
- 12.3 A Member may be part of the quorum at a General Meeting if she can hear, comment and vote on the proceedings through telephone, video conferencing or other communications equipment.
- 12.4 If a quorum is not present within 15 minutes from the time of the General Meeting or

a quorum ceases to be present during a General Meeting it must be adjourned to such time and place as the Board decides.

- 12.5 If at the adjourned meeting there are again insufficient Members present within 15 minutes from the time of the adjourned General Meeting to constitute a quorum then those Members who are present (provided that they number at least four) shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of allowing any business of the adjourned meeting to be conducted.
- 12.6 Reasonable notice of an adjournment of a General Meeting because of a lack of quorum and the time and place of the adjourned General Meeting must be given to all Members.

13 CHAIR AT GENERAL MEETINGS

- 13.1 The Chair is to chair General Meetings.
- 13.2 If the Chair is not present within 15 minutes from the time of the General Meeting or is unwilling to act then the Vice-Chair, if any, must chair the General Meeting.
- 13.3 If neither the Chair nor the Vice-Chair, if any, is present and willing to act within 15 minutes from the time of the General Meeting, the Members present must choose one of their number to chair the General Meeting.

14 ADJOURNMENT OF GENERAL MEETINGS

- 14.1 The Chair may, with the consent of a General Meeting at which a quorum is present (and must if so directed by the General Meeting), adjourn it to a time and place agreed by the General Meeting.
- 14.2 The Chair may also adjourn a General Meeting if it appears to the Chair that for any other reason an adjournment is necessary for the business of the meeting to be properly conducted.
- 14.3 The only business that may be transacted at an adjourned General Meeting is that left unfinished from the General Meeting that was adjourned.
- 14.4 It is not necessary to give notice of a General Meeting which is adjourned under Article 14.1 or 14.2 unless it is adjourned for 30 days or more in which case seven Clear Days' notice must be given.
- 14.5 Resolutions passed at an adjourned General Meeting are to be treated as having been passed on the date on which they were actually passed.

15 VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS

- 15.1 Resolutions are to be decided on a show of hands unless a ballot is properly demanded. Subject to the provisions of these Articles or of any statute such a resolution may be passed by a simple majority of the votes cast at a General Meeting including proxy votes.
- 15.2 Each Member present in person or by proxy has one vote both on a show of hands

and a ballot.

- 15.3 If there is an equality of votes on a show of hands or a ballot the Chair is not entitled to a second or casting vote and resolutions which fail to achieve the required majority will be lost.
- 15.4 An objection to the qualification of any voter may only be raised at the General Meeting at which the vote objected to is tendered. Every vote not disallowed at the General Meeting is valid. An objection made in time must be referred to the Chair whose decision is final.
- 15.5 A declaration by the Chair that a resolution has been carried (or not carried) unanimously, or by a particular majority, which is entered into the minutes of the meeting is conclusive evidence of the fact unless a ballot is demanded.

16 **BALLOTS**

- 16.1 A ballot may be demanded by the Chair or by any two Members before or on the declaration of the result of a show of hands.
- 16.2 A demand for a ballot may be withdrawn before the ballot is taken. If the demand for a ballot is withdrawn the result of the show of hands will stand.
- 16.3 The demand for a ballot will not prevent the General Meeting continuing to transact business other than in relation to the question on which the ballot is demanded.
- 16.4 A ballot is to be taken as the Chair directs. The Chair may appoint scrutineers (who need not be Members) and set a time and place to declare the result. The result will be the resolution of the General Meeting at which the ballot was demanded but will be treated as passed when the result is declared.
- 16.5 A ballot on the election of a chair or an adjournment must be taken immediately. A ballot on any other question may be taken either immediately or at such time and place as the Chair directs.
- 16.6 At least seven Clear Days' notice must be given of the time and place at which the ballot is to be taken unless the time and place are announced at the General Meeting at which it is demanded.

17 **PROXIES**

- 17.1 A Member may validly appoint a proxy by notice in writing which:
- 17.1.1 states the name and address of the member appointing the proxy;
 - 17.1.2 identifies the person appointed to be that member's proxy and the General Meeting in relation to which that person is appointed;
 - 17.1.3 is signed by or on behalf of the member appointing the proxy, or is authenticated in such manner as the Trustees may determine; and
 - 17.1.4 is delivered to the Charity in accordance with the articles and any instructions contained in the notice of the General Meeting to which they relate.
- 17.2 A proxy need not be a Member. The Board may from time to time prescribe a form

to appoint a proxy by standing orders made under Article 38. A proxy may not appoint another proxy.

- 17.3 The document appointing a proxy may instruct the proxy which way to vote on particular resolutions.
- 17.4 A proxy will only be valid if the document appointing a proxy (and any power of attorney or other authority (if any) under which it is signed) or a properly certified copy is deposited at the Registered Office at least 24 hours before the starting time for the General Meeting or adjourned General Meeting at which the proxy proposes to vote.
- 17.5 No document appointing a proxy will be valid for more than 12 months.
- 17.6 A vote given or ballot demanded by proxy is to be valid despite:
- 17.6.1 the revocation of the proxy; or
 - 17.6.2 the death or insanity of the principal
- unless written notice of the death, insanity or revocation is received at the Registered Office before the start of the General Meeting or adjourned General Meeting at which the proxy is used.
- 17.7 A proxy form will not be valid for any part of a General Meeting at which the Member who appointed the proxy is present.

18 COMPANY MEMBERS' WRITTEN RESOLUTIONS

- 18.1 A written resolution approved by a simple majority (or in the case of a special resolution by a majority of not less than 75%) of eligible Members (provided that those Members would constitute a quorum at a General Meeting) is as valid as if it had been passed at a General Meeting provided that:
- 18.1.1 a copy of the proposed resolution has been sent to every eligible Member;
 - 18.1.2 a simple majority (or in the case of a special resolution a majority of not less than 75%) of Members have signified their agreement to the resolution; and
 - 18.1.3 such agreement is contained in an authenticated document that has been received at the Registered Office within the period of 28 days beginning with the circulation date.
- 18.2 A resolution under Article 18.1 may consist of several documents in similar form each approved by one or more Members.

PART D. DIRECTORS

19 APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

- 19.1 Subject to Article 19.2, each of the Members is to be a Trustee and vice versa.
- 19.2 On or before the appointment of a person as a Trustee the person must confirm her consent to be appointed as a Trustee in whatever format the Board may require and provide the information necessary to register the person online at Companies House as a Trustee. The appointment of any person as a Trustee, who has not complied with the requirements of this Article 19.2 within one month of appointment, is to lapse unless the Board resolves that there is good cause for the delay.
- 19.3 A person may not be appointed as a Trustee:
- 19.3.1 unless she is 18 or over; or
- 19.3.2 if she would immediately cease to hold office under the Articles.
- 19.4 Save for those persons named in Article 19.8 below who are the Trustees at the date of adoption of these Articles, the Board is to comprise:
- 19.4.1 up to four Trustees ("the Network Trustees") elected and appointed by the Executive Committee of the Girls' Brigade England and Wales Network ("the Network") established under Article 29 and regulated by rules set out in the Girls' Brigade Regulations; and
- 19.4.2 up to six other persons appointed by the Board who are not also members of the Executive Committee of the Network.
- 19.5 The Executive Committee of the Network may remove any of the Network Trustees whom it has appointed under Article 19.4.1.
- 19.6 The Executive Committee of the Network may appoint any person as a Network Trustee in substitution for a Network Trustee it has removed under Article 19.4.1 or who has ceased to be a Network Trustee under Article 21.
- 19.7 The appointment or removal of a Network Trustee appointed under Article 19.4.1 is to take effect when the Executive Committee of the Network delivers written notice of appointment or removal addressed to the Secretary to:
- 19.7.1 the Registered Office; or
- 19.7.2 a Board meeting; or
- 19.7.3 the Secretary in person.
- 19.8 The Initial Trustees ("the Initial Trustees") as at the date of adoption of these Articles are:-
- Mrs Amanda Allchorn who shall hold office until the end of the Board Meeting in or closest to November 2019;

Mrs Elizabeth Sarkodie who shall hold office until the end of the Board Meeting in or closest to November 2019;
Mrs Elizabeth Insley who shall hold office until the end of the Board Meeting in or closest to November 2019;
Mrs Sarah Hamlyn who shall hold office until the end of the Board Meeting in or closest to November 2018;
Miss Vivienne Aitchison who shall hold office until the end of the Board Meeting in or closest to November 2018;
Dr Kenneth Poulter who shall hold office until the end of the Board Meeting in or closest to November 2018; and
Mrs Barbara Darby who shall hold office as a Network Trustee until the end of the Board Meeting in or closest to March 2018.
Mrs Joanne Greengrass who shall hold office as a Network Trustee until the end of the Board Meeting in or closest to November 2018
Dr A Heaford who shall hold office as a Network Trustee until the end of the Board Meeting in or closest to November 2018
Mrs Sally Claydon who shall hold office as a Network Trustee until the end of the Board Meeting in or closest to November 2017

- 19.9 Subject to Article 19.8, Trustees shall serve for a period of three years and shall be eligible for re-election once. A Trustee who has served for two consecutive terms may not be re-appointed for a third consecutive term. However, a Trustee who has served two consecutive terms may be re-appointed after an interval of at least one year and if so re-appointed, will be deemed, for the purpose of calculating the number of consecutive terms served, to be serving her first term as a Trustee.
- 19.10 A casual vacancy in the office of Trustee appointed in accordance with Article 19.4.1 may be filled by the Board who shall have power to co-opt persons to fill such vacancy but any Trustee appointed to fill such a vacancy shall vacate office at the end of the next meeting of the Executive Committee of the Network.

20 OBLIGATIONS OF DIRECTORS

- 20.1 The Board must set out in writing the principal obligations of every Trustee to the Board and to the Charity. The statement of Trustees' obligations is not intended to be exhaustive and the Board may review and amend it from time to time.
- 20.2 The statement of the obligations of the Trustees to the Charity must include:
- 20.2.1 a commitment to its values and objectives;
 - 20.2.2 an obligation to contribute to and share responsibility for the Board's decisions;
 - 20.2.3 an obligation to read Board papers and to attend meetings, training sessions and other relevant events;
 - 20.2.4 an obligation to declare relevant interests;
 - 20.2.5 an obligation (subject to any overriding legally binding requirement to the contrary) to keep confidential the affairs of the Board;
 - 20.2.6 an obligation to comply with statutory and fiduciary duties, including:
 - 20.2.6.1 to act in the best interests of the Charity;

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- 20.2.6.2 to declare any interests a Trustee may have in matters to be discussed at Board meetings and not put herself in a position where her personal interest or a duty owed to another conflicts with the duties owed to the Charity;
 - 20.2.6.3 to secure the proper and effective use of the Charity's property;
 - 20.2.6.4 to act personally;
 - 20.2.6.5 to act within the scope of any authority given;
 - 20.2.6.6 to use the proper degree of skill and care when making decisions particularly when investing funds; and
 - 20.2.6.7 to act in accordance with the Articles; and
- 20.2.7 a reference to obligations under the general law.
- 20.3 A Trustee must sign and deliver to the Board a statement confirming she will meet her obligations to the Board and to the Charity within one month of her appointment.

21 RETIREMENT AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

- 21.1 A Trustee will cease to hold office if:
- 21.1.1 she dies;
 - 21.1.2 she ceases to be a Trustee under the Act or is prohibited by law from being a Trustee or is disqualified from acting as a charity trustee under the Charities Act 2011;
 - 21.1.3 in the reasonable opinion of the Board, she becomes incapable of fulfilling her duties and responsibilities as a Trustee because of illness or injury and the Board resolves that she be removed as a Trustee;
 - 21.1.4 she is declared bankrupt or makes any arrangement or composition with her creditors;
 - 21.1.5 she is in the opinion of the Board guilty of conduct detrimental to the interests of the Charity and the Board resolves by a 75% majority of the Trustees present and voting at a properly convened Board Meeting that she should be removed provided that the Trustee concerned has first been given an opportunity to put her case and to justify why she should not be removed as a Trustee;
 - 21.1.6 she resigns by written notice to the Charity at the Registered Office;
 - 21.1.7 she is absent without good reason from all Board Meetings held over a six month period and the Board resolves (by a 75% majority of the Trustees present and voting at a properly convened Board Meeting) that she should cease to be a Trustee;
 - 21.1.8 she fails to sign a statement of her obligations under Article 20 within one month of her appointment and the Board resolves that she be removed;

21.1.9 her term of office comes to an end and she is not re-appointed in accordance with Article 19; or

21.1.10 she ceases to be a Member.

22 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND BOARD MEMBER CONDUCT

22.1 Declaration of interests

22.1.1 If a Trustee is in any way, directly or indirectly, interested in a proposed transaction or arrangement with the Charity, she must declare the nature and extent of that interest to the other Trustees.

22.1.2 In accordance with the Act, the declaration may be made at a Board Meeting or by written notice.

22.1.3 If a declaration of interest proves to be or becomes inaccurate or incomplete a further declaration must be made.

22.1.4 Any required declaration of interest must be made before the Charity enters into the transaction or arrangement.

22.1.5 A declaration is not required in relation to an interest of which the Trustee is not aware or where the Trustee is not aware of the transaction or arrangement in question. For this purpose a Trustee is treated as being aware of matters of which she ought reasonably to be aware.

22.1.6 A Trustee need not declare an interest:

22.1.6.1 if it cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interests; or

22.1.6.2 if, and to the extent that, the other Trustees are already aware of it (and for this purpose the other Trustees are treated as being aware of anything of which they ought reasonably to be aware).

22.2 Authorisation of direct conflicts of interest

A Trustee may enter into a transaction or arrangement with the Charity only if and to the extent that such an arrangement is authorised by Article 5.

22.3 Authorisation of indirect conflicts of interest

22.3.1 Where, for whatever reason, a Trustee has any form of indirect interest in relation to a transaction or arrangement with the Charity (which shall include a conflict of duty) and the transaction or arrangement is not authorised by virtue of any other provision in the Articles then it may be authorised by those Trustees not having a conflict provided that:

22.3.1.1 the Trustee with the conflict (and any other interested Trustee) is not counted when considering whether or not there is a valid quorum for that part of the meeting and does not vote in relation to the matter giving rise to the conflict; and

22.3.1.2 the Trustees who do not have a conflict in relation to the matter in question consider it is in the best interests of the Charity to authorise the transaction.

22.3.2 The Trustees who do not have a conflict in relation to the matter in question may, in their absolute discretion, determine that the Trustee with the conflict and/or any other interested Trustee should absent herself from the part of the meeting at which there is discussion concerning the transaction or arrangement giving rise to the conflict.

22.4 **Complaints about conduct**

22.4.1 If the Chair receives a written complaint identifying the complainant and alleging conduct by a Trustee that in her reasonable opinion is detrimental to the interests of the Charity and suggests that there is a prima facie case for the complaint to be investigated in accordance with the provisions of this Article she may suspend the Trustee concerned.

22.4.2 Conduct detrimental to the interests of the Charity includes:

22.4.2.1 any breach of a Trustee's obligations as set out in the statement of obligations of Trustees signed by her under Article 20 or otherwise; and

22.4.2.2 conviction of any offence which has or is likely to bring the Charity into disrepute.

22.4.3 Where the Chair is absent or unable or unwilling to act in relation to the complaint or the complaint is about the Chair then the Vice-Chair may exercise the power to suspend the Chair or a Trustee under Article 22.4.1 in the same circumstances as the Chair.

22.4.4 The Trustee whose conduct is complained of must immediately be notified in writing either by the Secretary (if any) or by the Chair or the Vice-Chair of the complaint and of any suspension which if exercised under Article 22.4.1 or Article 22.4.3 will be effective from the date of the notice. During the period of any suspension the Trustee must not:

22.4.4.1 participate in a Board Meeting;

22.4.4.2 authorise or incur expenditure on behalf of the Charity;

22.4.4.3 make use of any property belonging to or in use by the Charity in her capacity as a Trustee;

22.4.4.4 hold herself out as a Trustee of the Charity; or

22.4.4.5 seek to commit the Charity to any obligation.

22.4.5 On receipt of a complaint under Article 22.4.1 the Chair or the Vice-Chair must immediately refer the matter for a fair process of investigation, which may be carried out by a panel established for the purpose, an independent person or persons, or such other body as the Chair or Vice-Chair acting reasonably shall appoint, including under such procedure for dealing with complaints as the Board may from time to time approve.

PART E. BOARD MEETINGS

23 FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD

The Board must direct the Charity's affairs in such a way as to promote the Objects. Its functions include:

- 23.1 defining and ensuring compliance with the values and objectives of the Charity;
- 23.2 establishing policies and plans to achieve those objectives;
- 23.3 approving each year's budget and accounts before publication;
- 23.4 establishing and overseeing a framework of delegation of its powers to Committees and Working Parties (under Article 28) and employees with proper systems of control;
- 23.5 monitoring the Charity's performance in relation to its plans, budget controls and decisions;
- 23.6 appointing (and if necessary removing) employees;
- 23.7 satisfying itself that the Charity's affairs are conducted in accordance with generally accepted standards of performance and propriety; and
- 23.8 ensuring that appropriate advice is taken on the items listed in Articles 23.1 to 23.7 and in particular on matters of legal compliance and financial viability.

24 POWERS OF THE BOARD

- 24.1 Subject to the Act and the Articles, the business of the Charity is to be managed by the Board who may exercise all of the powers of the Charity.
- 24.2 An alteration to the Articles does not invalidate earlier acts of the Board which would have been valid without the alteration.

25 BOARD MEETINGS

- 25.1 Subject to the Articles, the Board may regulate Board Meetings as it wishes provided that they hold at least one Board Meeting per year.
- 25.2 Board Meetings may be called by any Trustee or the Secretary (if appointed).
- 25.3 Seven days' notice of Board Meetings must be given to each of the Trustees but it is not necessary to give notice of a Board Meeting to a Trustee who is out of the United Kingdom.
- 25.4 A Board Meeting which is called on shorter notice than required under Article 25.3 is deemed to have been duly called if at least two Trustees certify in writing that because of special circumstances it ought to be called as a matter of urgency.

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- 25.5 Matters arising at a Board Meeting are to be decided by a simple majority of votes and, subject to Article 25.6, each Trustee is to have one vote.
- 25.6 If there is an equality of votes the Chair is entitled to a second or casting vote.
- 25.7 A technical defect in the appointment of a Trustee or in the delegation of powers to a Committee of which the Board is unaware at the time does not invalidate decisions taken in good faith.

26 QUORUM FOR BOARD MEETINGS

- 26.1 The quorum for Board Meetings is six or a majority (50% plus one) (whichever is the lesser) of the Trustees for the time being present provided that there shall always be a Network Trustee in attendance for a quorum to be present. A Trustee may be part of the quorum at a Board Meeting if she can hear, comment and vote on the proceedings through telephone, video conferencing or other communications equipment.
- 26.2 The Board may act despite vacancies in its number but if the number of Trustees is less than four then the Board may act only to appoint or process the appointment of further Trustees under Article 19.4.
- 26.3 At a Board Meeting which remains inquorate for 15 minutes after its starting time or one which becomes inquorate for more than 15 minutes the Trustees present may act only to:
- 26.3.1 adjourn it to such other time and place as they decide; or
 - 26.3.2 appoint Trustees under Article 19.4.2; or
 - 26.3.3 procure the appointment of Trustees under Article 19.4.1.
- 26.4 If at the adjourned Board Meeting there are again insufficient Trustees present within 15 minutes from the time of the adjourned Board Meeting to constitute a quorum then those Trustees who are present (provided that they number at least five) shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of allowing any business of the adjourned meeting to be conducted.

27 CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

- 27.1 The Charity must have a Chair and may have a Vice-Chair. The Chair and the Vice-Chair, if any, are to be elected by the Board. The Board must decide the period during which they are each to hold office and the precise point at which their term of office ends. Both the Chair and the Vice-Chair, if any, may be re-elected by the Board.
- 27.2 The Chair and the Vice-Chair, if any, may resign from their positions at any time (without necessarily resigning as Trustees at the same time).
- 27.3 Where there is no Chair the first item of business at a Board Meeting must be to elect a Chair in accordance with Article 27.1.
- 27.4 The Chair and the Vice-Chair, if any, may be removed only at a Board Meeting called for the purpose at which a resolution with a majority in favour is passed. The

Chair or the Vice-Chair (as the case may be) must be given an opportunity to say why she should not be removed.

- 27.5 The Chair is to chair all Board Meetings and General Meetings at which she is present unless she does not wish or is not able to do so.
- 27.6 If the Chair is not present within 15 minutes after the starting time of a Board Meeting, or is unwilling or unable to chair a Board Meeting, then the Vice-Chair, if any, must chair the Board Meeting unless she is unwilling or unable to do so.
- 27.7 If both the Chair and the Vice-Chair, if any, are not present within 15 minutes after the starting time of a Board Meeting or both are unwilling or unable to chair the meeting then the Board must elect one of the Trustees who is present to chair the Board Meeting.
- 27.8 The functions of the Chair are:
- 27.8.1 to act as an ambassador for the Charity and to represent the views of the Board to the general public and other organisations;
 - 27.8.2 to ensure sympathy with the aims and Objects of the Charity;
 - 27.8.3 to ensure that Board Meetings and General Meetings are conducted efficiently;
 - 27.8.4 to give all Trustees an opportunity to express their views;
 - 27.8.5 to establish a constructive working relationship with and to provide support for the employees;
 - 27.8.6 where necessary (and in conjunction with the other Trustees) to ensure that, where the post of any employee is or is due to become vacant, a replacement is found in a timely and orderly fashion;
 - 27.8.7 to encourage the Board to delegate sufficient authority to its Committees to enable the business of the Charity to be carried on effectively between Board Meetings;
 - 27.8.8 to ensure that the Board monitors the use of delegated powers; and
 - 27.8.9 to encourage the Board to take professional advice when it is needed and particularly before considering the dismissal of an employee.
- 27.9 The role of the Vice-Chair, (if any,) is to deputise for the Chair during any period of her absence and, for that period, her functions shall be the same as those of the Chair.

28 COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES/GROUPS

- 28.1 The Board may:
- 28.1.1 establish Committees consisting of those persons whom the Board decide;
 - 28.1.2 delegate to a Committee any of its powers; and

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- 28.1.3 revoke a delegation at any time.
- 28.2 The Board may establish Working Parties/Groups consisting of those persons whom the Board decide. A Working Party/Group may not take decisions on behalf of the Board but may consider issues in depth with a view to making recommendations to the Board.
- 28.3 The members of a Committee or a Working Party/Group are to be appointed by the Board but the Board may give a Committee or a Working Party/Group the right to co-opt individuals to its membership. The Board is to determine the chair of each Committee or Working Party/Group.
- 28.4 Each member of a Committee or Working Party/Group (including the Chair) is to hold office from the date of her appointment until the term of office for which she has been appointed expires or until she resigns or is removed by the Board from the Committee or Working Party/Group.
- 28.5 The Board must determine the quorum for each Committee and Working Party/Group it establishes.
- 28.6 The Board must specify the financial limits within which any Committee may function. A Working Party/Group can have no authority to incur expenditure.
- 28.7 Every Committee or Working Party/Group must report its proceedings and decisions to the Board as the Board determines.

29 GIRLS' BRIGADE ENGLAND AND WALES NETWORK

- 29.1 Notwithstanding the generality of Article 28, the Board will establish a Committee to be known as the Girls' Brigade England and Wales Network ("the Network") in accordance with rules to be set out in the standing orders of the Charity as provided under Article 39 to be known as the GB Regulations.
- 29.2 The functions of the Network will be:
- 29.2.1 to work closely with local churches to provide fun, meaningful and life enhancing activities that enable (primarily) girls and women to explore Christian faith and develop life and leadership skills;
 - 29.2.2 to form local, age-specific Girls' Brigade groups to enable this style of children's and youth/young adult work to be organised and thrive; and
 - 29.2.3 to train and commission volunteers ready for their appointment by the local church to establish Girls' Brigade groups as part of church mission in the community.

This work is usually focused within England and Wales, and the local groups operate within a code of good practice (set out within the GB Regulations) established and monitored by the Executive Committee of the Network. This Executive Committee may establish Sub-Committee and Groups to enable it to fulfill its duties. Such Groups will report to the Executive Committee, and be formed as outlined in Schedule 2 of the GB Regulations.

The local Girls' Brigade groups, their members and leaders are considered members of the international Christian youth organisation known as Girls' Brigade International Council (company number 01460734 and charity number 279811) ("GBI"). The Executive Committee of the Network is delegated by the Charity to represent and conduct business on behalf of the Charity, as pertains to the Network,

at meetings of GBI.

- 29.3 This Article 29 may not be amended, repealed or altered unless by a resolution of those Members representing 100% of the total voting rights of the Members who are entitled to vote on a resolution either at a General Meeting or by way of Written Resolution.

30 OBSERVERS

- 30.1 Subject to Article 30.4, the Board may allow individuals who are not Trustees to attend Board Meetings as Observers on whatever terms the Board decides.
- 30.2 Observers may not vote but may take part in discussions with the prior consent of the Chair.
- 30.3 The Board may exclude Observers from any part of a Board Meeting where the Board considers the business is private.
- 30.4 The Board must exclude an Observer from any Board Meeting at which a possible personal benefit to her is being considered.

31 DIRECTORS' WRITTEN RESOLUTIONS

- 31.1 A written resolution approved by all of the Trustees entitled to receive notice of a Board Meeting (provided they would constitute a quorum at a Board Meeting) is as valid as if it had been passed at a Board Meeting.
- 31.2 A written resolution approved by a simple majority of the members of a Committee (provided they would constitute a quorum of that Committee) is as valid as if it had been passed at a meeting of that Committee.
- 31.3 A resolution under Articles 31.1 or 31.2 may consist of several documents in similar form each approved by one or more of the Trustees or Committee Members.

PART F. OFFICERS

32 THE SECRETARY

- 32.1 The Board may decide whether or not a Secretary is appointed.
- 32.2 Where appointed, a Secretary may be removed by the Board at any time.
- 32.3 If a Trustee is appointed as Secretary she may not receive any remuneration for acting in that capacity.

33 INDEMNITIES FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

- 33.1 The Charity may indemnify any officer or employee (other than a Trustee) against any liability incurred by her in her capacity as such except when that liability is due to her own dishonesty or gross negligence.
- 33.2 Subject to the Act (in particular Sections 232-238 or any section of any other statute amending or replacing Sections 232-238) and Article 33.3, the Charity may indemnify any Trustee against any liability incurred by her in her capacity as such.
- 33.3 The indemnity provided to a Trustee in accordance with Article 33.2 may not include any indemnity against liability:
 - 33.3.1 to the Charity or a company associated with it;
 - 33.3.2 for fines or penalties; or
 - 33.3.3 incurred as a result of her unsuccessful defence of criminal or civil proceedings.
- 33.4 The indemnity provided to a Trustee in accordance with Article 33.2 may include the provision of funds to cover her legal costs as they fall due on terms that the Trustee in question will repay the funds if she is unsuccessful in her defence of the criminal or civil proceedings to which these costs relate.
- 33.5 In respect to its auditor the Charity may:
 - 33.5.1 purchase and maintain insurance for her benefit against any liability incurred by her in her capacity as such; and
 - 33.5.2 indemnify her against any liability incurred in defending any proceedings (whether civil or criminal) in which judgment is given in her favour or she is acquitted or in connection with any application under Section 1157 of the Act or any section of any other statute amending or replacing Section 1157 in which relief is granted to her by the Court.

PART G. STATUTORY AND MISCELLANEOUS

34 MINUTES

- 34.1 The Board must arrange for minutes to be kept of all General Meetings and Board Meetings. The names of the Trustees present must be included in the minutes.
- 34.2 Copies of the draft minutes of Board Meetings must be distributed to the Trustees as soon as reasonably possible after the meeting and in any case seven days before the next Board Meeting (unless the next Board Meeting is an urgent Board Meeting).
- 34.3 Minutes must be approved as a correct record at the next General Meeting (as regards minutes of General Meetings) or Board Meeting (as regards minutes of Board Meetings). Once approved they must be signed by the person chairing the meeting at which they are approved.
- 34.4 The Board must keep minutes of all of the appointments made by the Board.

35 ACCOUNTS ANNUAL REPORT AND ANNUAL RETURN

- 35.1 The Charity must comply with the Act and the Trustees must comply with their obligations as charity trustees under the Charities Act 2011 in:
 - 35.1.1 preparing and filing an annual Trustees' report and annual accounts and sending them to the Charity Commission; and
 - 35.1.2 making an annual return to the Registrar of Companies and the Charity Commission.
- 35.2 The Charity must comply with the Act in relation to the audit or examination of accounts (to the extent that the law requires).
- 35.3 The annual Trustees' report and accounts must contain:
 - 35.3.1 revenue accounts and balance sheet for the last accounting period;
 - 35.3.2 the auditor's report on those accounts (if applicable); and
 - 35.3.3 the Board's report on the affairs of the Charity.
- 35.4 The accounting records of the Charity must always be open to inspection by a Trustee.

36 BANK AND BUILDING SOCIETY ACCOUNTS

- 36.1 All bank and building society accounts must be controlled by the Board and must include the name of the Charity.
- 36.2 A cheque or order for the payment of money must be signed in accordance with the Board's instructions.

37 EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS

Unless the Board decides otherwise, documents which are executed as deeds must be signed by:

- 37.1 two Trustees;
- 37.2 one Trustee and the Secretary (where appointed); or
- 37.3 one Trustee in the presence of a witness who attests the Trustee's signature.

38 NOTICES

38.1 Except for notices calling Board Meetings (which may be in writing but do not have to be) notices under the Articles must be in writing. In this Article writing includes facsimile transmission or email.

38.2 A Member present in person at a General Meeting is deemed to have received notice of the General Meeting and (where necessary) of the purposes for which it was called.

38.3 The Charity may give a notice to a Member, Trustee or auditor either:

- 38.3.1 personally;
- 38.3.2 by sending it by post in a prepaid envelope;
- 38.3.3 by facsimile transmission;
- 38.3.4 by leaving it at her address; or
- 38.3.5 by email.

38.4 Notices under Article 38.3.2 to 38.3.5 may be sent:

- 38.4.1 to an address in the United Kingdom which that person has given the Charity;
- 38.4.2 to the last known home or business address of the person to be served; or
- 38.4.3 to that person's address in the Charity's register of Members.

38.5 Proof that an envelope containing a notice was properly addressed prepaid and posted is conclusive evidence that the notice was given 48 hours after it was posted.

38.6 Proof that a facsimile transmission was made is conclusive evidence that the notice was given at the time stated on the transmission report.

38.7 A copy of the notification from the system used by the Charity to send emails, that the email has been sent to the particular person, will be conclusive evidence that the notice was sent and such notice will be deemed to have been delivered 24 hours after it was sent.

38.8 A notice may be served on the Charity by delivering it or sending it to the

Registered Office.

38.9 The Board may make standing orders to define other acceptable methods of delivering notices.

39 STANDING ORDERS

39.1 Subject to Article 39.4;

39.1.1 the Board may from time to time make, alter, add to or repeal standing orders for the proper conduct and management of the Charity and the principal standing orders of the Charity are to be known as the GB Regulations; and

39.1.2 the Charity in General Meeting may alter, add to or repeal the standing orders.

39.2 The Board must adopt such means as they think sufficient to bring the standing orders to the notice of Members.

39.3 Standing orders are binding on all Members and Trustees.

39.4 No standing order may be inconsistent with or may affect or repeal anything in the Articles.

40 WINDING UP

40.1 The Members may at any time before, and in expectation of, its dissolution resolve that any net assets of the Charity after all its debts and liabilities have been paid, or provision has been made for them, shall on or before the dissolution of the Charity be applied or transferred in any of the following ways:

40.1.1 directly for the Objects; or

40.1.2 by transfer to any charity or charities for purposes similar to the Objects; or

40.1.3 to any charity for use for particular purposes that fall within the Objects.

40.2 Subject to any such resolution of the Members, the Trustees may at any time before and in expectation of its dissolution resolve that any net assets of the Charity after all its debts and liabilities have been paid, or provision made for them, shall on dissolution of the Charity be applied or transferred:

40.2.1 directly for the Objects; or

40.2.2 by transfer to any charity or charities for purposes similar to the Objects; or

40.2.3 to any charity or charities for use for particular purposes that fall within the Objects.

40.3 In no circumstances shall the net assets of the Charity be paid to or distributed among the Members (except to a Member that is itself a charity) and if no resolution is passed by the Members or the Trustees the net assets of the Charity shall be applied for charitable purposes as directed by the court or the Charity Commission.