

RULES AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

Incorporation of Skinners

OF GLASGOW,

AS APPROVED OF BY THE COURT OF SESSION,

THE 5TH DECEMBER, 1857.

GLASGOW:
JAMES MACNAB, LAW PRINTER, 11 MILLER STREET.

MDCCCLXXIV.

TO THE
Deacon, Collector, Master Court, and Freemen
 OF THE
INCORPORATION OF SKINNERS.

GENTLEMEN,

It is with pleasure I am at length enabled to circulate among you a complete copy of the **RULES AND REGULATIONS** of your ancient Incorporation, as collated from the Minute Books and other records. After much consideration by your Master Court, and after being revised and approved of by repeated General Meetings, and receiving the approval also of the Trades' House, an application was made to the Court of Session to have the whole approved of, and the Court remitted to the Registrar of Friendly Societies to examine the Rules. He reported favourably; and, by judgment dated 5th December, 1857, the Supreme Court "Approved of the Bye-Laws, Rules, and Regulations, and interposed their authority to the said Bye-Laws, Rules, and Regulations, in terms of the Act 8 and 9 Victoria, cap. 17, entitled 'An Act for the Abolition of the exclusive privilege of trading in Burghs in Scotland.'"

In the hope that this revised constitution will tend to the good of this Incorporation, with which I have been so long pleasantly associated, and the extension of its many benefits, I remain,

DEACON AND GENTLEMEN,

Your obliged and faithful Servant,

ROB. LAMOND, *Clerk.*

1st January, 1858.

1857
 1920
 section 4

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

1. The affairs of the Incorporation shall be managed by a Master Court, consisting of the deacon, collector, late deacon, late collector, and ten masters—in all fourteen members, of whom five shall be a quorum. The deacon, collector, and masters shall be elected at a general meeting of the members whose names stand on the last qualified roll specially convened for that purpose, on the first Friday after the 15th September in each year.

Constitution
of Master
Court.

2. No person shall be eligible for the office of deacon, unless he has held the office of collector for at least one year, and been honourably discharged of his intromissions, and been a whole year out of that office.

Qualifica-
tions of
deacon and
collector.

No person shall be elected to the office of collector unless he has been for two years a member of the Master Court.

The deacon may be re-elected for a second year or oftener.

It shall not be lawful to re-elect the collector until he has been two years out of office.

3. Immediately after the masters are elected, the qualified members present at that annual meeting shall elect one of the members enrolled on the last qualified Roll of the Incorporation, capable of holding office in the Trade, to represent the Incorporation in the Trades' House,—one of them to be delegate on the Gorbals Lands—one of them to be director of the Trades' School—and two of them to be keepers of the keys of the box—and also one of the representatives of the Trades' House to be a member of the Committee for the management of the Trades' Hall Buildings in Glassford Street; and also a clerk and an officer to the Incorporation.

Representa-
tive to
Trades'
House, &c.,
to be elected.

Mode of
voting at
general
meetings.

Deacon to
have a cast-
ing vote.

Vacancies to
be supplied
by Master
Court.

4. The votes of members at the election of office-bearers, and in all other cases where a division may arise, shall be taken by a show of hands, or, on the requisition of any one member, by the roll being called by the clerk, who shall mark and declare the votes. In all cases where the votes are equal, the deacon, or preses for the time, shall have a casting vote, besides his deliberative vote.

In the event of the death, resignation, or other disqualification of the deacon or the collector, or any of the representatives to the Trades' House, a general meeting of the Incorporation shall be called by the Master Court, at which the vacant office shall be filled up, *ad interim*, until the next annual meeting for election purposes; and in the event of a vacancy occurring in any of the offices of master, clerk, or officer, the Master Court shall fill such vacancy until the next annual meeting for election purposes.

Quarterly
Courts.

5. There shall be four stated quarterly meetings of the Master Court held as early in the months of February, May, August, and November, as the deacon shall find convenient, and not later than the second Thursday in each of these months, to be termed the Candlemas, Whitsunday, Lammas, and Martinmas Courts, for the purpose of transacting the ordinary business of the Incorporation, and at which the rolls of the pensioners shall be made up, the collector's accounts examined, the claims for admission of new members considered, and all other matters affecting the interests of the Incorporation decided.

Deacon may
call special
meetings.

Besides these stated meetings, the deacon may call special general meetings of the Incorporation or Master Court at any time he considers proper; and in case of the absence, indisposition, or refusal of the deacon to call any special meeting of the Incorporation or Master Court, it shall be lawful for any six Members of the Incorporation, or any two members of the Master Court, as the case may be, to require the clerk to call such meeting, and he shall call the same accordingly, specifying the objects of such meeting in the notice of it.

Clerk may do
so on requisition.

At all meetings of the Master Court, the deacon, or in his absence the last deacon, and failing him, the collector, or failing him, the last collector shall preside. At all other meetings, the same persons in their order; and in case of the presence of none of these, the master then present who has been longest a member of the Incorporation shall preside.

6. The Master Court shall have the disposal of the funds of the Incorporation, and the power of deciding on the claims of new applicants, considering the petitions from persons applying for the benefit of the funds, recommending members for the pensions or other grants by the Trades' House, appointing to vacancies in the Trades' School, and generally the management of the Incorporation affairs.

In all matters the Incorporation shall have a control over the proceedings of the Master Court.

Powers and
duties of
Master
Court.

7. An annual meeting of the Incorporation shall be held on the same day as the Lammas Court is held, at which the qualified roll shall be made up by the Master Court, containing the names of those members who have been on the roll for at least one year and a day, and who shall have paid all annual payments, and be otherwise free of debt to the trade, and who are not pensioners of the Incorporation, or of the Trades' House. Such persons only whose names are on the qualified roll shall be entitled to vote, or be voted upon at any meeting of the Incorporation. But members residing in the country, and having no place of business within the parliamentary boundaries of the city, may have their names added, on application, at any time before the general annual election, on payment of all arrears and debts.

At Lammas
Court meet-
ing qualified
roll to be
made up.

Members on
roll alone to
vote.

8. The collector shall, before entering upon office, at the expense of the Incorporation, and to the satisfaction of the Master Court, find security for such sum as shall be fixed from time to time.

Collector to
find security.

He shall manage the whole cash transactions of the Incor-

His duties.

Monies to be
lodged in
bank.

poration, and shall keep regular and distinct accounts of his intronmissions; he shall make all disbursements sanctioned by the deacon and Master Court, and open an account with such chartered or joint-stock bank as the Master Court may direct, and deposit therein from time to time all monies that may come into his hands, exceeding £50 sterling, which account shall be kept in name of the deacon and collector for the time being, and their successors in office, for behoof of the Incorporation, and shall only be operated upon by orders or cheques signed jointly by the deacon and collector.

Farther
duties of
collector.

9. The collector shall, at each stated quarterly court, submit his books to the Master Court, and shall annually make up a correct statement of all his intronmissions, embracing an account of the revenue and expenditure for the preceding year; which statement, together with the relative vouchers, shall be then examined and docketed by a committee of three of the Master Court, to be appointed at the Lammas Court, previous to the same being submitted to a meeting of the Master Court called by the deacon for that purpose, and to be held at least eight days before the day of the annual election.

Accounts to
be docketed
by a committee.

Application
of funds of
Incorporation.

10. According to usage, and in terms of the Letter of Guildry, dated 6th February, 1605, the funds of the Incorporation shall be exclusively appropriated, after defraying expenses of management, and of defending its rights and interests, to charitable, benevolent, and any other good and pious uses, which may tend to the advancement of the common weal of the Burgh, but primarily to the support of indigent members, widows of members, and orphans of members under fifteen years of age, with power in extreme cases to make allowance to children even above 15 years of age; but all grants or allowances shall be at the discretion and during the pleasure of the Master Court, and shall not in any one year exceed the free annual income of that year; and no portion of the funds shall be expended unless the

same has been previously agreed to at a regularly constituted meeting of the Master Court, and entered on the minutes.

11. The Master Court may award an allowance to members in decayed circumstances, taking into consideration the age, period of membership, character, and status in life, and the office or offices held in the Incorporation, of the party. Members who have held the office of deacon, and the widows of deacons, if otherwise considered proper objects, and so long as the latter remain unmarried, shall have the benefit if deemed expedient, of more favourable consideration than other claimants. Orphan children of members (until the youngest attain the age of fifteen years, or even older, as aforesaid), may collectively receive a similar amount to, but no more than that which the parent would have received if in life. No applicant, of whatever class, shall be deemed to have right to any pension or allowance whatsoever; and the granting, withholding, increasing, diminishing, or suspending the same, shall be in the entire discretion of the Master Court, subject as aforesaid, to the control of the Incorporation. In the case of members, no application shall be entertained unless they have been five years on the roll.

Persons who
may receive
relief.

Members.
Widows.

Orphan
children.

All applications for aid from the funds must be lodged with the deacon or collector, and be accompanied by a declaration of the party, stating age, means of support, residence, and other circumstances, according to a printed form to be furnished, and such application shall be carefully examined by a committee of the Master Court to be appointed for that purpose.

Form of application
for relief.

On due intimation of the death of a member being received by the deacon, or collector, an allowance may be given for funeral charges, to be paid by the collector, on an order by the deacon, collector, and one master, such allowance not to exceed, in the case of deacons or their widows, £5, and other members or their widows, £3.

Allowance
for funerals.

All persons receiving stated aid from the funds shall be visited at least once a-year by a committee of the Master Court, who shall report in writing at a Quarterly Court on

Pensioners
to be visited
by a committee.

the whole circumstances, so that if any change, either by reduction, abrogation, or increase of the allowance is expedient, it may be ordered by the meeting.

Annual payment.

12. Each member shall pay annually two shillings into the funds at the Lammas Court meeting of the Incorporation, and no member in arrear of such payment shall be entitled to vote, or be voted upon, or be entered on the qualified roll. Any member, upon payment of a principal sum of 40s. at any Lammas Court, shall be freed from the payment of these annual payments for life.

Applicants for admission as free members.

13. It shall not be lawful to the Incorporation, or to the deacon or masters thereof, to admit, or enrol, or receive any person whatever as a member of the Incorporation who is not a burgess of Glasgow, of either the merchant rank or trades rank, and who does not prove the fact by exhibiting his burgess ticket, or a proper certificate thereof, at his admission.

It shall not be lawful to any person who now is, or who shall hereafter be admitted a Member of the Incorporation, to hold office as deacon or collector thereof, or to be elected representative of the trade in the Trades' House, or to be delegate on the Gorbals Lands, or director of the Trades' School, unless he is a burgess of Glasgow of the craft rank, as a Skinner, or shall have paid, or shall pay to the collector of the Trades' House, the sum exigible at the time as the entry-money as a burgess of the craft rank of Glasgow as a Skinner.

Every applicant for admission into the Incorporation must make a declaration of his name, age, calling, and other circumstances, agreeably to a printed form to be furnished, and such application shall be considered at the first Master Court after it has been received, and thereafter laid on the table till the following Master Court, when it shall be determined on.

All members who may be hereafter admitted must have been entered with the Incorporation a year and a day before any of their sons or sons-in-law can be admitted members.

14. All sons and sons-in-law of members shall be entitled to become members. The entry-money for a son or son-in-law of a member shall be the sum of £3, if the party shall be then under 25 years, and if above that age the sum specified in the schedule (A) hereunto annexed, as applicable to the age of the party, besides such fees to the clerk and officer as may be appointed.

Sons and sons-in-law shall be admitted.

Their freedom fine.

15. The Master Court shall have full power to admit strangers as members, who shall pay an entry-money of £50, or such farther sum as may from time to time be enacted by a regulation proposed at one Master Court, and agreed to at the following, and sanctioned by a vote of the Incorporation. But no stranger shall be admitted a member above 50 years of age, and who shall not produce to the Master Court a certificate by a medical party of the state of his health being good, and free from known disease.

Strangers may be admitted.

Their freedom fine.

Restriction on admission.

Every applicant for admission under this and the preceding article shall produce, along with his application, a valid certificate of his age, or such other evidence thereof as the court may deem sufficient.

16. Applications for admission for the benefits of the Trades' Free School must be made to the director appointed by the Incorporation, in a form to be furnished, which shall be filled up and returned, and submitted by the school director with a report to the next Master Court ensuing a vacancy.

Trades' free school.

The collector and school director respectively shall, at each quarterly court, submit the deaths of members and pensioners and vacancies in the school, which shall be minuted.

Deaths to be reported.

17. It is hereby provided and declared, that nothing contained in any of the foregoing Rules shall interfere with, or affect in any degree, the rights and privileges of the Trades' House of Glasgow, all which are hereby declared to be fully reserved.

SCHEDULE (A).

Age next Birthday.	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
25	3	0	0
26	3	5	0
27	3	10	2
28	3	15	8
29	4	1	4
30	4	7	4
31	4	13	8
32	5	0	4
33	5	7	4
34	5	14	8
35	6	2	4
36	6	10	6
37	6	19	0
38	7	8	0
39	7	17	4
40	8	7	0
41	8	17	4
42	9	8	2
43	9	19	0
44	10	11	6
45	11	4	0
46	11	17	2
47	12	11	0
48	13	5	6
49	14	0	8
50	14	16	8
51	15	13	6
52	16	11	2
53	17	9	8
54	18	9	2
55	19	9	8
56	20	11	2
57	21	13	8
58	22	17	4
59	24	2	2
60	25	8	2