
Constitution for the association Nordic Society of Irish Dancers

1. Association

Nordic Society of Irish Dancers (NSID) is a non-profit organisation based in the Nordic countries. (Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.) The society has no affiliation with any religious group or political party.

2. Purpose

The purpose of the society is to promote and support Irish dance, as well as to encourage relationships between *Irish dancers* within the Nordic countries and beyond. This is aided by, among other things, the hosting of The Nordic Feis of Irish Dancing (dance festival and competition).

3. Financial & Activity year

The financial year runs from January 1st to December 31st.

The activity year runs from November 1st to October 31st.

4. Membership

Any person who affiliates with the society and wants to work in accordance with the society's purpose is entitled to join.

A society member has the right to resign his or her membership at any time, by submitting a written resignation either via mail or e-mail. A member who fails to pay the membership ship (see §14. Member fee) is regarded as having submitted her resignation from the society.

A member who has neglected to inform the committee about address changes can not expect to receive information from the society. A member who actively works in opposition to the society or its purpose may be expelled from the society by the decision of the committee.

The society founder is an honorary society member for life and is as such omitted from having to pay any member fees.

5. Annual general meeting

The annual general meeting (AGM) is the society's highest deciding authority and shall be held once each year. The annual general meeting is decisive only if notice to attend has been posted on the NSID website at least 14 days before the meeting.

The meeting documents (agenda and minutes from the previous annual general meeting) will be made available to all members at least 7 days before the annual general meeting.

Motions from members should be submitted to the committee at least 7 days before the annual general meeting. The annual general meeting can be held in person, or through the tools the society makes available through the Internet.

A member who has paid the member fee (see §14 Member fee) according to the constitution is entitled to vote at the annual general meeting. Each member has one vote.

Voting through proxy is only allowed when annual general meeting is held in person. Voting take place openly via the Internet and the voting tools the society makes available through the Internet or through a traditional voting procedure at the annual meeting, with personal and physical presence, or through letter.

A decision is made, where this constitution does not say otherwise, with single majority of votes. At the same number of votes, the opinion that the committee supports is decisive. The annual general meeting is decisive when the number of votes for or against a question is more than 50% of total votes.

At the annual general meeting the committee members, members and auditors have the right of presence, comments and propositions. The committee decides time and venue for the meeting.

The following should always be addressed at the annual general meeting:

1. Opening of Meeting
2. Election of Meeting Officials
 - a Chairperson
 - b Secretary
 - c 2 Persons to approve the minutes
 - d 2 Persons to count votes
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of minutes from last AGM
5. Reports
 - a Activity report
 - b Financial report
 - c Audit report
 - d Exemption from responsibility for the committee
 - e Budget for next year
6. Presentation & election of nominated committee
 - a Members
 - b Auditors
 - c Election Committee
7. Member fee for coming year is set to x euro/kr
8. Private member's bills and other questions
9. Closure of Meeting

Of which items "#6. Presentation & election of nominated committee" shall be treated via voting on the Internet. Internet voting should occur within 3 weeks of the annual general meeting.

Questions or bills under item "#8. Private member's bills and other questions" may be treated via voting on the Internet, if the committee decides so.

In case of an election with only one candidate for a position or a decision with only one option, the candidate is elected and the option is supported if there are more votes for the candidate/option than votes explicitly stating against the candidate/option.

6. Extraordinary general meeting

Extraordinary general meeting (EGM) is convened if three (3) from the committee or at least one fourth of the members demands one. Only matters specified in the notice to attend may be treated at the meeting. In addition, the same rules apply as for the annual general meeting.

7. Committee

The committee is responsible for the continuous activity and the implementation of the motions carried by the members at the annual general meeting. The committee as a whole shall consist of at least four (4) committee members. The committee should consist of:

1. 1 Chairperson
2. 1 Treasurer
3. 1 Information Coordinator
4. 1 Feis Coordinator
5. 4 Members

Job descriptions:

- *The Committee* – Represents the whole society and has the overall responsibility for NSID and the finances. The committee makes sure the Nordic Feis of Irish Dancing follows NSID standards.
- *Chairperson* - Leads the committee meetings and summons the annual general meeting.
- *Treasurer* - is responsible for the NSID finances.
- *Information Coordinator* – Coordinates & encourages the information flow between teachers/groups/members and NSID
- *Feis Coordinator* - Coordinates the overall annually recurring feis tasks. Acts as a link between Nordic Feis committees. Regularly inform the members about the feis. Leads the Feis handbook group.
- *Members* - Do the tasks appointed to them by the committee.

Duties such as: Web maintenance, Member directories. NSID accessories etc. are divided by the committee itself among the committee members. The committee may also appoint functionaries for different tasks.

Each committee member has one vote each. If parity of votes, the chairperson has the casting vote.

Each committee member will serve for one financial year, but can be re-elected. For the purpose of continuity, at least one member of the committee should serve for two sequential years. The committee shall, to the greatest extent possible, consist of at least one representative from each Nordic country. If a committee position is or becomes vacant the committee has the right to assign the tasks of that position to another committee member.

8. Committee meeting

The committee is decisive if notice to attend has been sent out to all committee members and at least half of the voting entitled committee members are present.

A meeting may take place through personal meeting, telephone meeting, e-mail and/or through meeting via the Internet. The committee shall meet at least twice a year. Where a vote is even with the same number of votes, the chairperson has the casting vote.

9. Tasks of the committee

The committee represents the society, manages the society's matters and makes decisions for the society in the matters regulated by this constitution. It is the duty of the committee to:

- Work for the society's purpose
- Carry out decisions made by the general meeting
- Care for the society's finances and bookkeeping
- Write the activity report and annual report and to present it at the annual general meeting of the society
- Carry out other duties according to this constitution
- Appoint working teams and responsible members for different tasks
- Inform members and potential members of the activity of the society
- Appoint a Feis committee

10. Committee's and Local Committee's fee

Nordic Society of Irish Dancers is a non-profit organisation and as such, all work is on behalf of the organisation and is voluntary and no salary will be paid.

11. Sign in society's name

The Chairperson and the Treasurer has the overall right to sign in the society's name. Any NSID committee member can, by the committee, be appointed the right to sign in the society's name.

12. Auditors

The annual general meeting shall appoint two (2) auditors, one of which is permanent and the other, deputy.

13. Audit

The committee's activity and the society's accounts shall be revised yearly by two appointed auditors. Activity report and annual report shall be delivered to the auditors for revision before April 1st. The auditors shall, at least three weeks before the annual general meeting, deliver audit reports.

14. Member fee

The member fee is decided by the annual general meeting. Member fees are valid from annual general meeting until next annual general meeting.

15. Change of constitution

This constitution may only be changed on an annual general meeting. In the notice to attend, the change of constitution must be mentioned if it is to be dealt with at the meeting.

To change the constitution 2/3 of the total votes must vote for the change. To change paragraphs: 2 (Purpose), 15 (Change of constitution) and 16 (Dissolution) the decision must be taken at two consecutive annual general meetings.

16. Dissolution

Dissolution of the society may only occur by decision on an annual general meeting where 2/3 of total membership assents to dissolution. In the notice to attend the dissolution of the society must be mentioned if it is to be treated at the meeting. The meeting decides how the society's assets shall be treated.

17. Language of the constitution

The constitution shall be written in English and in case of a dispute the English version of the constitution shall be consulted and conclusive.

18. Society's symbol

The following is the logotype of the society, yellow text on blue background and with a garland in red, white and yellow, all colours originating from the flags of the Nordic countries.



19. Local branches

Each country where the Nordic Society of Irish Dancers is active is regarded to be a local branch of the Nordic Society of Irish Dancers. Such a branch, being a registered or a non-registered association, uses the NSID constitution and is therefore directly considered NSID's representation in that country.

A branch that actively works in opposition to the NSID, or the constitution of the NSID, may be expelled from the society.

20. Nordic Feis

The NSID Committee appoints Feis Committee including Head of Feis Committee & Feis Treasurer. They are responsible to NSID. The Feis Committee shall work in accordance with NSID's Feis Handbook. The NSID Feis Committee Coordinator should per default always be a part of that Feis Committee.

Custom for the association Nordic Society of Irish Dancers

1. Annual general meeting (§5)

It is adequate to hold the annual general meeting before or in connection with The Nordic Feis of Irish Dancing.

2. Nordic Feis of Irish Dancing's symbol

The logotype of the Nordic Feis of Irish Dancing uses the same kind of garland logotype as the Nordic Society of Irish Dancers, but the logotype colours are the colours of the flag of the host country (where the feis is being held).

The text within the logotype is: "Nordic Feis", "Irish Dancing" and the year the feis is being held, in the middle. This is the only Nordic Feis logotype that shall be used.

Host city name can be added under the year in the middle of the logotype (if there is room) or as separate text below the feis logotype as the below example shows:



Copenhagen