



CONSTITUTION OF THE BRISTOL JUNIOR LAWYERS DIVISION ('BRISTOL JLD')

1 NAME:

- 1.1 The name of the organisation is Bristol Junior Lawyers Division (but may be abbreviated to 'Bristol JLD').

2 OBJECTS

- 2.1 The objects of Bristol JLD are to promote the benefit of junior lawyers in the greater Bristol area.

3 POWERS

- 3.1 In furtherance of the said objects, but not otherwise, Bristol JLD shall have power to:
- (a) raise funds and invite or receive donations and contributions, whether by subscription or otherwise;
 - (b) open and administer one or more bank account(s) in the name of Bristol JLD, with at least two signatories (or more at the discretion of the committee), one of whom shall be the Treasurer;
 - (c) organise social, networking, educational, training and other events for its members;
 - (d) represent the interests of its members to other local and national representative bodies;
 - (e) support such community groups and organisations, charitable trusts, associations or institutions as are appropriate to its membership;
 - (f) employ such persons or retain such services as are necessary for the proper pursuit of the objects; and
 - (g) do all such other lawful things as shall further the objects of Bristol JLD.

4 SUBSCRIPTIONS

- 4.1 The Committee may, at any time and at its absolute discretion, contact any individual(s) or organisation(s) to request that they make a voluntary contribution to Bristol JLD, with such funds to be held by Bristol JLD and employed so as to further the objects of Bristol JLD.

5 SPONSORSHIP

- 5.1 The Committee may, at any time and at its absolute discretion, enter into any sponsorship arrangement with any individual(s) or organisation(s) where such arrangement is deemed to be in furtherance of the objects of Bristol JLD.

6 MEMBERSHIP

- 6.1 Membership is automatically extended, irrespective of sex, sexual orientation, race, nationality, age, or political, religious or other opinion to all student members of the Law Society, students registered on an accredited CPE or LPC course, paralegals, trainee solicitors, and qualified solicitors up to 5 years PQE resident or employed within the greater Bristol region area (as decided at the absolute discretion of the Committee).
- 6.2 Membership may, at any time, be extended to any further categories of members or any individuals at the absolute discretion of the Committee where this is deemed to be in furtherance of the objects of Bristol JLD.

7 COMMITTEE

- 7.1 Bristol JLD shall be run on a day to day basis by a committee ('the Committee') who will conduct the affairs of Bristol JLD at their absolute discretion in accordance with this Constitution.
- 7.2 The Committee shall hold such meetings and form such sub-committees as it deems necessary (at its absolute discretion) to discuss and manage the affairs of Bristol JLD and to determine any questions arising.
- 7.3 The Committee shall be composed of members of Bristol JLD assuming the following roles:
- (a) Chair; Vice-Chair; Secretary; Treasurer; and
 - (b) Any other roles as may be deemed advantageous to the furtherance of the objects of Bristol JLD as decided at the absolute discretion of the Committee (which may include such roles as a dedicated *ball coordinator*; a *social events coordinator*; an *educational or careers events coordinator*; an *IT or communications coordinator*; representatives to *Bristol Law Society*, the *National Law Society/JLD* or other appropriate bodies; a representative for *qualified solicitors*; a representative for *small firms, public sector and in-house lawyers*; a representative or representatives for *students*; and *general committee members or sub-committee members*).
- 7.4 Members of Bristol JLD may, at the absolute discretion of the Committee, assume more than one role on the Committee where this is deemed to be in furtherance of the objects of Bristol JLD (as decided at the absolute discretion of the Committee).
- 7.5 Members of Bristol JLD may, at the absolute discretion of the Committee, share a role on the Committee where this is deemed to be in furtherance of the objects of Bristol JLD (as decided at the absolute discretion of the Committee).
- 7.6 If a casual vacancy occurs in any of the Committee roles at any time, the Committee may appoint any member of Bristol JLD to fill the vacancy.

8 GENERAL MEETINGS OF BRISTOL JLD

- 8.1 At any time, the Committee may, at its absolute discretion, call a general meeting of Bristol JLD to conduct any such business as the Committee deems to be in furtherance of the objects of Bristol JLD (a 'General Meeting').
- 8.2 The Committee shall take all reasonable steps to publicise the time, place and purpose of any General Meeting to as many members of Bristol JLD as reasonably possible at least 14 days in advance of such meeting.
- 8.3 *Annual General Meeting:*
- (a) In any event, Bristol JLD will hold at least one general meeting every 18 months (and normally annually) at which the Committee will be elected (the 'AGM').
 - (b) The procedure and voting mechanism for AGM will be decided, in advance, by the Committee (at its absolute discretion).
 - (c) Any current Committee members will stand down immediately following the AGM (unless re-elected to the same or another Committee Role).

9 RULES OF PROCEDURE AT ALL MEETINGS

9.1 Voting

Unless decided otherwise by the Committee (at its absolute discretion) or otherwise specifically provided for, any question arising at any meeting of Bristol JLD or the Committee shall be decided by a simple majority of those present and voting (with the Chair casting a deciding vote if necessary).

9.2 Minutes

The Secretary shall make notes of any question arising at any meeting of Bristol JLD or the Committee (along with any decisions taken) and shall circulate these to the Committee within a reasonable period of time.

10 FINANCE

- 10.1 All money raised by or on behalf of Bristol JLD shall be applied to further the objects of Bristol JLD and for no other purpose, PROVIDED THAT nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of reasonable and proper remuneration of bona fide expenses to any member of the Committee or members of Bristol JLD (as decided at the absolute discretion of the Committee).
- 10.2 The Treasurer will maintain records of all income and expenditure by Bristol JLD and will, upon request, provide the Committee with a statement summarising all of Bristol JLD's assets and liabilities within a reasonable period of time (as decided at the absolute discretion of the Committee).

11 TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

11.1 Membership of Bristol JLD or the Committee may be resigned by any member of Bristol JLD or the Committee upon written notice to the Committee.

11.2 At any meeting of the Committee, the Committee may terminate or suspend the membership of any member of Bristol JLD or terminate or suspend any member of the Committee, where:

- (a) the Committee deems, at its absolute discretion, (i) that the member's conduct is prejudicial to the interests and objects of Bristol JLD and (ii) that it is in the best interests of Bristol JLD that the member's membership of Bristol JLD and/or the Committee is terminated;
- (b) the member has been given such notice as deemed reasonable (at the absolute discretion of the Committee) of the intention to terminate or suspend such membership; and
- (c) the member or, at the option of the member, a member's representative (who need not be a member of Bristol JLD) has been given an opportunity to make representations to the Committee in advance of any decision being taken.

12 DISSOLUTION

12.1 If the Committee determines at any time, at its absolute discretion, that on the ground of expense or otherwise it is necessary or advisable to dissolve Bristol JLD it must call a General Meeting.

- (a) If such decision shall be confirmed by a simple majority of those present and voting at the General Meeting, the Committee shall have power to dissolve Bristol JLD and to dispose of any assets held by or in the name of Bristol JLD.
- (b) Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be applied as the General Meeting may resolve.

13 ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

13.1 If the Committee determines at any time, at its absolute discretion, that it is necessary or advisable to amend this constitution it shall call a General Meeting (or refer the matter to the next AGM).

13.2 If such decision shall be confirmed by a simple majority of those present and voting at the General Meeting (or AGM), this constitution shall be amended and the Committee shall endeavour to publicise such changes to the members of Bristol JLD.

14 INTERPRETATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

14.1 Any question arising as to the interpretation of this Constitution shall be determined at the absolute discretion of the Committee and the Committee's determination shall be final.

Signed by NOT AVAILABLE FOR SIGNATURE (Chair) this ____ day of _____ 20__

on behalf of Bristol JLD and the Committee: NOT AVAILABLE FOR SIGNATURE (signature)