

Notes to accompany proposed revisions to By-Laws

Refer to document 230607 RPS By-Laws (rev3a) FOR AGM 2023 [SH]

By-Law 4

Addition of 'Designation' to title to accommodate By-Law 4.3.

By-Law 4.1

This revision reinforces the requirement that holders of Imaging Science qualifications must remain in membership of the RPS in order for the relevant post-nominals to be used. Furthermore it ensures that those holding Imaging Science Qualifications cannot 'drop' use of their Imaging Scientist post-nominals and use only their Distinction post-nominal.

By-Law 4.2

This revision reinforces the requirement that holders of Creative Industry qualifications must remain in membership of the RPS in order for the relevant post-nominals to be used.

By-Law 4.3

The Royal Charter granted to the RPS provides (under Clause 10) for the RPS to award the designation of Chartered Status subject to a change in the By-Laws to allow that award. Chartered Status for photographers and imaging scientists - together with a professional qualification pathway - is considered by the Board and the Executive to be an important feature of the forward plan of the RPS in respect of professional membership. This revision has been requested by advisers to the Privy Council to enable the award of Chartered Status. Furthermore it ensures that any changes to the RPS Chartered Photographer Regulations may be made only with agreement of the Privy Council. Note that the professional qualification pathway is not dependent upon the RPS gaining Privy Council approval for the award of Chartered Status.

By-Law 4.4

This revisions ensures that any award of Licentiate may only be made in accordance with Regulations rather than on the decision of the Board. (Note that the RPS Distinctions Department is concluding the writing of the Regulations for ratification any the Board of Trustees).

By-Law 4.5

This revisions ensures that any award of Associate may only be made in accordance with Regulations rather than on the decision of the Board. (Note that the RPS Distinctions Department is concluding the writing of the Regulations for ratification any the Board of Trustees).

By-Law 4.6

This revisions ensures that any award of Fellowship may only be made in accordance with Regulations rather than on the decision of the Board. (Note that the RPS Distinctions Department is concluding the writing of the Regulations for ratification any the Board of Trustees). The revision also removes the reference to Honorary Fellowship as this is out of place under this By-Law.

By-Law 4.7

This revisions is to include Imaging Scientists and Creative Industry qualifications, and includes Chartered Status to the provisions of this By-Law. The revision also reflects the correct use of Licentiate (rather than Licentiateship) and Associate (rather than Associateship).

By-Law 5.2

This revision clarifies the correct usage of the 'HonMemRPS' post-nominal in respect of any other post-nominals granted by the RPS.

By-Law 5.5

A substantial revision and reorganisation of the rules governing the RPS Awards was concluded in June 2022. The new Regulations governing the RPS Awards was ratified by the Board of Trustees on 23 September 2022. This revision is to add the Eastlake Medal (formerly the RPS Outstanding Service to Photography Medal) to the scope of awards and to remove ambiguity over the number of Honorary Fellowships that may be awarded to teams, and whether individual members of the team will have the right to use the HonFRPS post-nominal designation.

By-Law 5.6

This revision is to accommodate the Eastlake Medal to the scope of awards.

By-Law 9.1

This revision seeks to enact the recommendation of the Board to reduce the number of Trustees from twelve to nine in order to more closely comply with the provisions of the By-Laws of 2004 (although see notes to proposed revision to By-Law 9.3 of the 2021 By-Laws). A smaller Board will also reduce governance costs. The Board of Trustees considers a Board of nine Trustees to be perfectly adequate for the good governance of the RPS, particularly with the skills-based Trustee recruitment and election process developed by the RPS Nominations Committee.

By-Law 9.2

By-Law 13.1 of the 2004 By-Laws provides for a Board (known as the 'Council') comprising ten Trustees. However, Members of the RPS have voted to eliminate the position of Vice President (and later President Elect) and to replace this position with a Deputy Chair of Trustees nominated by the Board from amongst their number (under provision of By-Law 12.2 of the 2021 By-Laws). The Deputy Chair is an administrative deputy for the President at General Meetings or Board meetings (By-Law 12.3) and is not a President designate.

Under provision of the 2004 By-Laws (and eliminating the office of Vice President / President Elect), the Board (Council) would therefore be of nine Trustees:

Under ByLaw 2004:10.1 & 13.1(i)	President (elect)	
	Vice-President (post subsequently eliminated)	
	Treasurer (appoint)	
Under ByLaw 2004:13.1(ii)	Elected Members:	Four in number
Under ByLaw 2004:13.1(iii) & 13.5	Co-opted (Appointed) Members:	Three in number

By-Law 11.4

At a time of significant financial challenge for the Society, this revision seeks to ensure continuity of effective governance by electing a President with current experience as a Trustee of the RPS and thereby having familiarity with the challenges and with the transformation agenda. This will avoid any compromise in the continuity of effective governance. This revision also deals with a situation that could arise if a sitting Honorary Treasurer was elected to become President.

By-Law 13.4

This revision ensures that the appointment of an Honorary Treasurer is always for a three year term (per By-Law 13.1) irrespective of the point during an election cycle at which they are appointed.

By-Law 14.3

This revision seeks to remove an unnecessary use of the word 'Elected'.

By-Law 16.3(b)

This revision is to ensure consistency with the revisions proposed for By-Law 9.2.

By-Law 21.1

Since establishing a Nominations Committee - a decision which flowed out of the Governance Review which itself was an action subsequent to the investigation into the conduct of the Election 2019 - this Committee has certainly proved its worth. The workload of the Committee is such that it would benefit from having six substantive members rather than four. This revision seeks to enable this.

By-Law 36.1

This revision moves the 'definitions' table to the head of the document.
