

Constitution of the Association of Young Irish Archaeologists

1. The name of this association shall be the Association of Young Irish Archaeologists, hereafter referred to as the 'Association'.

2. (i) The purpose of the Association shall be the forwarding of communication and cooperation between interested parties, the provision of a forum for new ideas, and the fostering of interest and enthusiasm for Archaeology at 'junior' level in Ireland.

(ii) For the purpose of article 2 (i) above, 'junior level' shall be interpreted as undergraduate and postgraduate students, junior members of local Archaeological Societies and interested individuals- those new to the field of archaeology in Ireland.

(iii) Membership of the Association shall comprise of two classes.

a. those who, on payment of the required fee to the Archaeological Society of the University, Institute or College, automatically become members of the Association.

And

b. those who must apply for membership by submitting their name and address and required fee to the Membership Coordinator/Treasurer of the National Committee.

(iv) Each society that wishes to be involved in the activities of the Association will be required to pay an annual fee, which will be determined each year by the National Committee. Those not affiliated to a university archaeological society will also pay a required fee, also to be determined by the incoming National Committee and submitted to the Membership Coordinator/Treasurer.

3. The business of the Association shall consist principally of seminars, joint field trips, publication and the Annual Conference.

4. (i) The business of the Association shall be conducted by the National Committee who will at all times represent the interests of the members.

(ii) The National Committee shall consist of two representatives from each society (as defined below) to be nominated by that society (preferably a Postgraduate Association representative and the Auditor/Chairperson). Officers of the National Committee can be removed from their posts upon acknowledgement by other National Committee officers of conduct unbecoming a National Committee officer and/or the neglect of duties. A two-thirds majority of the National Committee is required for the removal of a committee member.

(iii)

a. It is the responsibility of each outgoing Society to ensure that a new Association Representative is elected prior to the dissolution of said society (before the dissolution of the outgoing National Committee).

b. It is the responsibility of each Society, before dissolution, to forward names, addresses and contact numbers of their representatives to the Secretary of the National Committee. This information will be presented to the Chairperson of the outgoing National Committee whose responsibility it will be to facilitate the establishment of the new National Committee. (These stipulations will be written into the constitution of each Society involved).

(iv) For the purposes of this article, section (ii), the word 'Society' shall be interpreted as indicating the University Archaeology Societies of National University of Ireland, Dublin (NUID), Queens University, Belfast (QUB), National University of Ireland, Cork (NUIC), National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG), and Trinity College Dublin (TCD), on condition that they have paid the required membership fee.

(v) Provision may be made from time to time for representation of other areas, societies, or types of member not already provided for in this constitution.

(vi)

a. The hosting of the Association's annual conference is to rotate annually between the member societies on the basis of NUID – QUB – NUIC – NUIG – TCD.

b. If the designated society is unable to host the conference, it is deemed the responsibility of the National Committee to inform the next society on said rotation (see 4(vi)a.) that they shall host the conference

(vii) Responsibility for the annual publication lies with the host centre, the editor of such publication to be elected by the host centre.

(viii) Any financial profit/loss made from the annual conference and/or publication shall remain with the host centre

5. (i) The officers of the National Committee shall consist of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Membership Coordinator/Treasurer, Conference Organiser and Secretary. The post of Secretary should be filled, each year, by the Association representative from the host centre in order to facilitate regular communication between officers of the National Committee and the Conference Organiser, who should also be from the host centre. The latter may be the auditor/chairperson of that centre's society (already and officer of the National Committee) or a specially appointed officer (see 5 (ii) below)

(ii) Provision may be made from time to time, at the discretion of the National Committee, for the creation of posts of special responsibility for the performance of specific functions

(iii) Notification of the automatic members shall be forwarded to the Membership Co-ordinator within three weeks of the first meeting of the National Committee every year. Additions of both class A and B members may be made throughout the year.

(iv) Officers (except the Secretary and the Conference Organiser) of the National Committee may hold office for two consecutive terms (in the same post or a different one) and shall be eligible for re-election after two further terms have expired.

(v) At least three meetings, through four are suggested, of the National Committee shall be held per annum, the first meeting of the new committee in November (to be attended by at least one member of the previous committee), a second meeting at the end of January to finalise details of the annual conference, a meeting at the annual conference at the beginning of February, and a final meeting in April to distribute the Proceedings of the conference. Four, one representative of each society, shall constitute a quorum for such meetings.

(vi) The Annual General Meeting of the Association members shall be held during the Annual Conference of the Association. Provision is also made for the convening of an extraordinary General Meeting. Notice of such is to be provided to members at least three weeks in advance of the proposed date. Application for convening an E.G.M can be made to the National Committee at least 5 weeks in advance of proposed date. The Committee shall then notify members.

(vii) At least three weeks notice shall be given of meetings of the National Committee.

6. (i) This constitution shall take effect from 6th February, 2000.

(ii) Amendments to this constitution may be made at the Annual Conference under the following conditions.

That notice of intent to propose such amendments shall be given in writing to the Chairperson one month prior to the Annual Conference.

That a two-thirds majority of the members present, consenting to such amendments, is obtained.