**Stirling University Scottish Nationalist Association Constitution**

**1. Name**

The name of the society shall be the “Stirling University Scottish Nationalist Association”, hereinafter known as the Society, other abbreviations include ‘SUSNA’

**2. Aims**

The Society’s aims shall be:

1. To promote unity in the Scottish Nationalist movement
2. The furtherance of self-determination of nations.
3. The furtherance of Scottish interests.
4. To promote the establishment of an independent Scotland.
5. The furtherance of the cause of Scottish Independence within and outwith the University of Stirling.

**3. Membership**

a) Membership shall be open to all registered students at the University of Stirling. The General Meeting (GM) may award honorary membership. Non-students can join the Club/Society, but will have non-voting status and be ineligible to run for a Committee position.

b) A fee shall be charged for membership, set annually by the Club/Society Annual General Meeting. The price shall be the same for student and non-student members. The fee must not fall lower than the minimum advised by the Students’ Union.

c) The Club/Society may waive this fee with ED&I Accreditation by submitting such an application to the Communities Zone Executive Committee.

d) To purchase membership to a Club/Society, the ‘Clubs & Societies Membership’ option must also be purchased. This must be paid regardless of the Club/Society’s individual fee.

**4. The Committee**

a) The Committee shall consist of the following minimum, core positions that must be held be different members:

1. President

* The President will oversee the work of all other committee members.
* The President will ordinarily chair committee meetings.
* The President sets the tone and direction of the society.
* The President has responsibility for maintaining the society’s relationship with external SNP societies and branches.

1. Secretary

* The Secretary shall take minutes at all committee meetings and at the AGM or and EGM of the society.
* The Secretary is responsible for the booking of rooms within the University for society events.
* The Secretary is responsible for the publicity of the society, in print and online.

1. Treasurer

* The Treasurer manages the society’s budget, the consent and signature of the Treasurer is required for the release of any society funds.

b) The Committee shall also include the following non-core Committee positions:

1. Vice President

* The Vice-President will assume the responsibilities of the President in their absence or following a termly delegation of responsibilities.
* The Vice-President will assist the president in their various endeavours.
* The Vice-President will, to the best of their ability, attend all Scottish National Party Student events and ensure at least the same number of people as committee positions also attend.

1. Campaigns & Publicity Officer

* The Campaigns and Publicity Officer will organise the campaigns of the society.
* The Campaigns and Publicity Officer will organise the promotion and publicity regarding these campaigns.

1. Equalities Officer

* The Equalities Officer shall be responsible for ensuring that issues of diversity and equality are recognised.
* The Equalities Officer shall look to build involvement with under-represented groups in the organisation.
* The Equalities Officer shall be responsible for maintaining ties with LGBT and gender equality rights movements on campus.

1. Social Secretary

* The Social Secretary shall be responsible for organising social events for the society.

In addition the Society may create and elect any other offices as required.

c) If within the period of an academic semester, a committee member fails to attend three committee or general meetings of the society without having had apologies for their absence accepted, they will at the discretion of the majority (50% +1) of the committee be considered to have resigned from their position.

**5. Committee Meetings**

The Committee is recommended to meet at least once a month, or if a meeting is called by a committee member. Notes and minutes of these meetings should be made available upon request by Club/Society members.

**6. Elections**

The Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) or in the case of a vacancy arising mid-term, at an Emergency General Meeting (EGM). Candidates must have purchased membership to the Club/Society prior to the election.

Procedure for election of Committee Members:

1. A meeting must reach a quorum of 50% +1 of the active student membership before elections can take place (or 25% +1 if an ED&I accredited society).
2. One member of the elected Committee will act as Returning Officer in the election, unless a Union Officer is present to carry out this role. The RO will be tasked with conducting the election, counting the votes and announcing the result. They will abstain from voting.
3. There will be a secret ballot for all elections regardless of whether the election is contested. Re-Open Nominations will be a valid candidate in all elections.
4. A system of Simple Transferable Vote (STV) will be used to determine the winner of the election.
5. The President is responsible for ensuring an updated Committee List, in Excel format, is emailed to the Union as soon as possible.

**7. General Meetings**

A General Meeting shall be held at least once each semester and shall be convened upon receipt of a request signed by eight persons or 10% of the membership (which ever figure is the least).

**8. Annual General Meeting**

1. The AGM shall be held by the 1st April. This date may be moved to a later date at the discretion of the VP Communities. When informed, the Union will endeavour to send an Officer to oversee.
2. The Committee shall be elected by the procedure outlined in Point 6b.
3. The Treasurer will present a yearly summary of the Club/Society’s financial position.

**9. Affiliations**

The society shall be affiliated to the ‘Federation of Student Nationalists’ and ‘Stirling Students for Independence’.

In regards to the Federation of Student Nationalists, SUSNA reserves the right to appoint a delegate from the society to attend meetings.

SUSNA adopt the One in Five Charter which to aims to:

* Keeping venues accessible.
* Ensuring all needs of members are met.
* Society roles are flexible to empower members
* Where needed, materials is available in a variety of formats.
* SUSNA commits to challenging issues and barriers effecting disabled Scots.

The society shall also be affiliated to the University of Stirling Students’ Union and abide by its regulations. The society may be affiliated to such organisations as a GM shall deem desirable, any decision from a GM to affiliate/disaffiliate must be passed with a two-thirds majority. The Club/Society must update their constitution with any organisations that they become affiliated to and any changes to the constitution must be approved by the CZEC or Sabbatical team if the CZEC is for any reason unavailable.

**10. Equipment**

An annual inventory shall be submitted to the Students' Union by 31st May each academic year. All new equipment must be added to the inventory throughout the year by completing the appropriate form and submitting it via email to the Activities & Volunteer Coordinator and VP Communities. All property and equipment must be insured through the Union’s policy.

**11. Data Protection**

The Club/Society will comply with the relevant data protection, privacy and data handling policies of the Students’ Union, as outlined here: [www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/privacy/](http://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/privacy/)

**12. Equality, Diversity & Inclusion**

The Club/Society will adhere to the [Union’s ED&I Policy.](https://www.stirlingstudentsunion.com/pageassets/aboutus/governanceandplanning/Equality-Diversity-and-Inclusion-Policy-March-2017.docx)

**13. Changes to the Constitution**

Changes to the constitution must be passed by a simple majority either at an AGM, an EGM or GM of the society. For a constitutional change to be binding it must subsequently be approved by the Communities Zone Executive Committee.