

## The WITAN Constitution

### 1.0 Purpose of the Constitution

To set down in writing the organisation and financing of Witan camps and the Witan Fund and the procedures to be used; for the use of those involved or interested now or in the future. This version is correct as at July 1990.

### 2.0 Definitions

#### 2.1 WITAN

This is the name given to an international Scout and Guide gathering for young adults and students (aged 18 and above). These gatherings usually take the form of a two week summer camp held once every two years in a different country. The Witan organisers are free to organise their own programme but are guided by the past Witan and the previous Plenum. This structure may be altered by the Plenum. At least every alternate Witan should be held in Europe to ensure continuity.

#### 2.2 WITAN FUND

This is an accumulated fund from past Witan held at present in a bank account in London. Its aim is to provide organisers of bona fide international Scout and Guide events for young adults and/or students with short term financial assistance.

#### 2.3 PLENUM

This is a meeting of all the participants of the Witan to:

- a) decide future Witan
- b) to elect the trustees
- c) discuss any business relating to the Witan Fund
- d) provide a forum for discussion

#### 2.4 Trustee

Trustees or nominees are elected at the Plenum from the past, present and future Witan organisers. Their term of office runs for six years. They are responsible for controlling the Witan Fund.

#### 2.5 TREASURER

The Treasurer is appointed by the Plenum and the Trustees to operate the Fund their control. The term of office is six years after which the Treasurer may seek re-election at the Plenum or the Plenum may elect a new Treasurer.

### 3.0 Organisation

3.1 The organisation of Witan must include means of operating the Witan Fund on a democratic basis.

3.2 Nominees/Trustees from different countries are to be elected by the Plenum of the Witan to be responsible for the control of the Fund and ensuring continuity between events.

3.3 The present structure consists of elected Trustees from past, present and future Witan organising committees, re-elected at each Witan event by the Plenum.

3.4 The Fund is controlled by the Trustees and operated by the Treasurer. 3.5 The Fund must fulfil its two objectives:

- a) it must be readily available for use by Witan organisers
- b) part or all of the Fund must be kept in a savings account or investment in order to maintain its buying power.

#### 4.0 Procedures

- 4.1 An organising committee must first apply to the Treasurer for a loan from the Witan Fund. Once the Treasurer has obtained at least two Trustees approval, the loan can be granted and the money withdrawn from the Fund.
- 4.2 Witan organisers are expected to repay the loan as soon as possible after the event and must submit audited accounts to the Treasurer and the Trustees, preferably within one year after the event, and to the next Plenum.
- 4.3 All correspondence should be made through the Treasurer.
- 4.4 The Fund is presently kept in an account at Lloyds Bank, 112 Victoria Street, London. The Treasurer may invest the money not required for loans with the prior consent of the Trustees.
- 4.5 If the Treasurer or a Trustee wishes to resign before the next Plenum, he/she shall nominate another person and notify the Treasurer and the Trustees (as relevant) who may appoint the nominee or a candidate of their own choice.
- 4.6 A Plenum report must be sent to the Treasurer and all the Trustees by the Witan organisers. This report must be presented to the following Plenum for approval and it should be available on request to any relevant Scout and Guide organisation.
- 4.7 This Constitution requires the Trustees' approval for any changes unless the change will materially affect the aim of the Fund in which case the Plenum must give approval for the change.
- 4.8 In the event of there being no Plenum or Trustees, decisions regarding the Witan Fund will rest jointly with the World Scout Bureau and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.