

VETERINARY CARDIOVASCULAR SOCIETY CONSTITUTION Nov 2025

The Society shall be known as the Veterinary Cardiovascular Society.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Society shall be to promote the study and development of veterinary cardiology in all species.

All members of the Society are expected to conduct themselves with respect, integrity, and professionalism and to uphold the values and reputation of the Society at all times.

3. MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership of the Society shall be open to members of the veterinary and medical professions, including veterinary students and veterinary nurses and to other suitably qualified workers who are interested in the above aims. All members of the society shall have voting rights at the AGM.
2. Applications for membership of the Society must be submitted on the official application form on the website or from the Honorary Treasurer. Candidates will normally be elected by a simple majority of those present at the next Annual General Meeting.
3. Any person wishing to resign from the Society shall give notice in writing to the Honorary Secretaries.
4. Membership shall be revoked if membership fees are not settled within a month of due date.
5. Membership may be withdrawn by a majority vote of the committee if a member is deemed not to have conducted themselves with respect, integrity, and professionalism or has failed to uphold the values and reputation of the Society.
6. The committee shall have the power to propose to the Annual General Meeting that honorary life membership be conferred upon individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to veterinary cardiology.

4. OFFICERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Officers of the Society shall be previously elected members and shall comprise:

1. a) The Chairperson

The Chairperson shall be elected for a three-year period and will be eligible for re-election for a further three-year period. If a chairperson is unable to be present at a particular meeting of the Society, a temporary Chairperson shall be appointed for that meeting.

2. b) The Honorary Secretaries (2)

The Honorary Secretary shall be elected for a three-year period and will be

eligible for re- election for a further three-year period. The various roles of the Honorary Secretary may be split between 2 individuals.

3. c) The Honorary Treasurers (2)

The Honorary Treasurer shall be elected for a three-year period and will be eligible for re- election for a further three-year period. The Honorary Treasurer shall submit an audited statement of the Society's accounts for the preceding twelve months at the Annual General Meeting, for approval by the meeting.

4. d) The Proceedings Editor and website manager

The Proceedings Editor and website manager shall be elected for a three-year period and will be eligible for re-election for a further three-year period.

In addition other roles may be proposed to the society from time to time and job share arrangements may be made if agreed at an AGM

The Chairperson shall be responsible for nominating a temporary Honorary Secretary, Treasurer or Proceedings Editor in the event of indisposition of one of these officers.

The Committee shall have the power to co-opt further members or to set up sub-committees for special purposes, provided that if these members or sub-committees are to continue to serve in the next year, they shall be submitted to the Annual General Meeting for approval and election by the Society's members.

Members of the standing breed schemes sub-committee shall be approved by the Officers and should include at least the Chairperson and/or Honorary Secretary, and be submitted for approval by the members at an AGM every three years.

5. ELECTIONS

Nominations for the election of Officers must be proposed and seconded and have the consent of nominees. Any necessary elections shall be held at the Annual General Meeting. It is preferable for the terms of office of the various committee members to overlap, to provide continuity within the committee.

6. SUBSCRIPTION

1. The amount of the annual subscription for the succeeding year shall be reviewed annually by the Honorary Treasurer and approved at the Annual General Meeting.
2. Subscriptions shall be due at the beginning of the financial year , or, in the case of new members, upon election
3. Members whose subscriptions have not been paid within one month of due date shall cease to be members.
4. The onus is with the individual member to maintain his or her subscription
5. Should the Society be declared insolvent, all members shall be held to be equally responsible for the Society's debts, up to a maximum sum of twice the annual subscription per member.

7. MEETINGS

1. a) The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held no less than nine months and not more than fifteen months after the previous Annual General Meeting. The business shall normally include:
 - I. The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting
 - II. The Chairperson's report
 - III. The Honorary Secretary's report
 - IV. The Honorary Treasurer's report
 - V. Reports from any sub-committees, including the breed schemes sub-committee
 - VI. Examinations report (optional)
 - VII. Election of Officers and Committee Members
 - VIII. Election of new members
 - IX. Appointment of the Honorary Auditor
 - X. Confirmation of the date and place of the next Annual General Meeting
 - XI. Any other business

2. A Special General Meeting may be called by the Chairperson whenever they think fit, or if convened by the Honorary Secretary on the instruction of the Committee or on receipt of a request made and signed by at least six members, stating the subject intended for discussion. The Special General Meeting shall be held not later than twenty-one days after the receipt of such instructions or request. No business shall be transacted at the Special General Meeting other than that for which the meeting has been called.
3. At the Annual General Meeting or at any Special General Meeting, the necessary quorum shall be thirty members of the Society.
4. d) The normal method of communication with members shall be by email, and it is the responsibility of members to provide a valid email address and to inform the committee if this changes

8. VISITORS

Members may normally introduce visitors to any meeting, but one of the Officers should be notified.

9. CONSTITUTION

1. a) A copy of the Constitution shall be available on the Society website and available to any member on request from one of the officers.
2. b) No alteration shall be made to these rules except by a two-thirds majority of those present at the Annual General Meeting (or any Special General Meeting) of the Society, and then only if notice of intention to alter the rule or rules concerned has been given to members in advance.

10. AFFILIATION WITH OTHER SOCIETIES

The Society may elect to form an affiliation or other suitable relationship with other Societies having aims and objectives related to and compatible with those of the Society.

Approved at the AGM 7th Nov 2025