

## **Byelaw G: Student Groups**

### **1. Establishment**

RHSU has established student groups under its general powers, under clause 3 of the Constitution. These student groups are established under the following principles:

- i. Student groups are ratified by their peers, and can thereby access RHSU support.
- ii. All student groups are student led, and rely on the commitment of volunteers to succeed.
- iii. RHSU supports student groups with funding, expertise, and a sound regulatory framework.

### **2. Ratification**

Student Groups Grant Committee will determine any specific criteria for ratification and will publish the application process to members.

Student Opportunities Council (or alternative body) will receive and support new student group applications, and scrutinise them before voting on their approval using the guidelines provided by the Student Groups Grant Committee.

### **3. Membership**

Ordinary members may join, and lead, a student group, upon completing a membership application process and payment of a fee, to be annually determined by the Students' Union's Management Committee.

Student Opportunities Council (or alternative body) will consider applications from student groups which may wish to have a membership and leadership which share certain protected characteristics. This consideration will require a student group to continue to observe all other regulations and procedures that apply to its operation

### **4. Student leadership**

All student groups must elect their own leadership, who will be accountable to RHSU for the success and good conduct of the club or society. The elected leaders need not be specific positions, but must provide RHSU with evidence that the student group:

- i. Is run democratically.
- ii. Accounts for its finances.
- iii. Keeps accurate records of its activity.
- iv. Acts in line with the aims stated at the time of its ratification.

Student Opportunities Council (or alternative body) will approve and annually review a model student group constitution, which will be used as a template for all new RHSU student groups.

### **5. Funding of student groups**

Student Groups Grant Committee will receive an annual budget for student groups, and set priorities for its distribution. Student Groups Grant Committee will be the principal body to distribute this funding, although it will be required to consider how to best support a participatory budgeting process that involves the wider membership.

### **6. Complaints and Discipline**

The Complaints Procedure in Byelaw K and the Discipline Procedure in Byelaw L are appropriate for use in cases involving student groups.

RHSU would usually expect that a concern involving student groups could be settled informally in the first instance. Any person or group considering a complaint or alleging misconduct is urged to contact RHSU to consider what options for informal resolution may be available.