

Rules for Play Selection – Horncastle Theatre Company

1) PREAMBLE

This document forms an addendum to the Constitution of Horncastle Theatre Company, which specifies that it may be adopted or amended at any Annual General Meeting, without notice.

2) SHORTLISTING OF PLAYS

- a. The Managing Committee shall arrange for regular play readings to take place during the year.
- b. Any member of the Company, at any time, may submit ideas for future productions to be read.
- c. A play must have been read by a minimum of four paid up members together, and comments written in the book provided, before it may be added to the Shortlist of productions for future consideration by the Managing Committee.
- d. A person wishing to direct a play may also be required to present a proposal to the Committee for consideration for the Shortlist.

3) SELECTION OF PLAYS FOR PRODUCTION

- a. Plays which are to be considered for production must first be included in the Shortlist.
- b. The Committee shall select a programme of productions for the coming 12 months 1 April to 31 March, which shall be voted on at the December business meeting except for –
- c. The annual pantomime which shall be selected at the June business meeting.
- d. The Managing Committee shall make the final decision on the selection of plays for production.
- e. The selection shall be of a play, and not the director. As such, should the play selected be for any reason de-selected, the director shall have no automatic right to select a different play.
- f. If a play is for any reason de-selected, or becomes unavailable for performance, the selection shall be re-opened to the Managing Committee, which may make a unilateral decision on a replacement. This may be presented to an AGM, EGM or business meeting if appropriate.
- g. Furthermore, the Management Committee may remove or replace the director at any time and for any reason, as laid out in the constitution.

4) SELECTION CRITERIA

- a. It is the obligation of the person proposing to direct a production to ensure to the best of their ability that the performing rights are available prior to entering it into the selection process.
- b. It shall be the obligation of the Company and Managing Committee to ensure that the plays selected constitute a balanced and varied programme of theatrical experience, respecting both the need to entertain and challenge audiences and Members; the duty to safeguard the Company's continued financial viability; and practical requirements including set, costume and casting.
- c. This obligation shall include a consideration of fairness of opportunity for all acting members.
- d. The Managing Committee shall have a duty to objectivity in the selection of plays, and to be guided by the will of the Company.
- e. A person wishing to direct a play may also be required to present a proposed budget for the production.
- f. Where required for the production, a person wishing to direct a play may be required to appoint a musical director or choreographer prior to its selection.
- g. Any person wishing to direct a play must have previously co-directed a production of the Company, unless by special dispensation from the Committee.

FLOWCHART FOR PLAY SELECTION

