



## **Mafficking Morris: Constitution**

**Adopted on 7th November 2023**

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### **Name: Mafficking**

*(MAFFICK: to celebrate with boisterous rejoicing, rioting and hilarious behaviour on the streets)*

### **Aims and Objectives:**

1. To encourage and promote morris and related activities, for anyone who wants to participate or to spectate
2. To encourage fun, fitness and fellowship amongst the members and to meet with other Morris teams for workshops, ales and festivals
3. To encourage the improvement of standards of dancing and related activities among the team members
4. To encourage an environment for morris and related activities where every Member feels safe, welcomed and respected.

### **Membership**

- 1, Membership is open to all men and women aged over 18
- 2a. Members are permitted to bring under 18's in their care to events. All under 18s will be solely under the responsibility of their parent / guardian who need to accept and acknowledge that many event environments are not suitable for children.
- 2b. If a member's child wishes to dance with the team, they may do so only with permission from both the Squire and Foreman and in all cases, must be over 12 years of age. All responsibility for the child, including their safety and welfare remains with the parent / guardian.
- 2c. Any members under 18 will need to conform to both the Mafficking constitution and kit and will still be required to pay full subs.
- 3, A new member can attend/sit in for three sessions. On the third attendance of the new member, the Squire and Foreman (or officers portraying that role for the session) will decide whether to invite the new person to join the side. An executive officer will then convey this to the new member. The member will then become liable for paying their subscription.
- 4, Sticks: Paid members will be provided with their own stick (when sourced). This stick will then become that members sole responsibility and should be brought to each and every practice and dance event
- 5, The Squire and Foreman will decide when a new member is ready to go into kit for dancing out.
- 6, Please expect to be photographed/videoed when dancing out!

### **Mafficking Kit**

The team's kit theme is "Gothic Victorian". It is highly recommended that members check

with officers before purchasing any kit in case it is not suitable. Members should also consider that Mafficking dances-out throughout the year and their kit should be comfortable in all weathers and temperatures. Footwear must also be in keeping with the kit.

**Kit Stipulations:** Specific articles of clothing for kit are down to each member. The main colour is to be black, however an additional colour and tones thereof is permitted, providing the Gothic Victorian appearance is maintained. A bonnet or top hat is also encouraged to be worn.

**Optional Kit:** Members may also choose to wear bells, bustles, corsets, petticoats, scarfs, shorts, stockings, waistcoats. Face paint and makeup may also be worn, as preferred, with the exception of “blacking out”.

**Conformity and Exceptions:** Tatters and ribbons are also permitted to provide flair. The colour of these will be decided by Officers of the side. This will not affect the optional colour members are allowed to choose.

### **Officers of the Side**

**Squire:** The Squire is responsible for the running of the side and acts as spokesperson for the side. The other officers are accountable to the squire. When on a tour or a booking the squire is in charge and in consultation with the foreman decides on the order of dance and who should dance”.

**Bag/Secretary:** Is responsible for the organisations bookings and in liaison with other teams and organisations. They will keep an up-to-date membership list and will identify who is eligible to vote. The Secretary will keep an up-to-date list of assets of the team and note who holds those assets.

**Treasurer:** The treasurer is responsible for looking after the financial needs of the side and proposing how that might be met from the income generated from bookings and subscriptions. They are responsible for collecting subscriptions, managing the team bank account and collecting fees from paid bookings. They will provide an annual statement of accounts at the AGM and will make recommendations on the level of subscriptions.

**Foreman/woman/Dance Teacher:** The Foreman is responsible for identifying dances, teaching and improving the standard of dancing and dance interpretation. They will be responsible in consultation with the squire for deciding when new members are ready to go into kit, what dances should be performed at a booking or tour, and which dancers should do them.

***Bank signatories will be a minimum of two serving officers***

### **Non-executive officers**

Stick Gatherer

Publicity and marketing

Web Site

Social Media

### **AGM**

Officers from October 2025 will be elected annually at the AGM.

During our first year they will remain in place for two years to allow the side to get established. (unless circumstances dictate otherwise.)

Officers will then be elected annually

Maximum length of time an officer can be in post is three years unless there is no one else willing to stand.

**Officers are to present a report to the AGM on their work for the year**

- The AGM will be held during October and should be agreed at the previous AGM
- Team members should be notified at least four weeks in advance, either electronically or verbally

**EGMs** are called at the request of a third of the membership, or the need has arisen to discuss something that affects the smooth running of the Side. The Squire will arrange within six weeks and issue an agenda to the membership. them as separate standing orders for your AGM:

**Only fully paid-up members are eligible to vote**

**The Squire will take the Chair.**

The AGM/EAGM can only go ahead if there is a quorum of the membership (40% of the membership)

If we are inquorate we wait for half an hour, and then cancel the meeting.

Another date is then set a with written notice to all members and consider the new meeting quorate regardless of how many attend.

**Bag/Secretary** should take the minutes

**Counting Votes:** The Members will vote someone in to be Teller, if votes are to be counted.

**Constitutional changes** may be made a minimum of 60% votes by the membership.

**Non constitutional changes**,only require only require a majority vote to pass

**Voting for officers**

- nominations proposed
- and seconded, vote by secret ballot or by show of hands

If necessary the casting vote will be done by the chair

**Standard agenda**

- Apologies for absence
- Minutes of the previous meeting (circulated)
- Matters arising
- Annual reports from executive officers (squire, bag, foreman, treasurer, including account sheet)
- Annual reports from other officers (publicity, sticks, etc.)
- Identification of voters

- Election of Teller
- Election of Officers
- Subscription review
- Kit review
- Practice night and venue
- Motions for discussion
- Any other business
- Thanks to outgoing officers
- Date of the next AGM
- Subscriptions

#### **Paying Subs:**

Payment of subs will be due in October of each year, and will be reviewed annually at the AGM. Unemployed/Minors/Students may have a 50% reduction at the discretion of the Squire.

**Kit:** Failure to wear registered colours/nod to theme may result in the Squire not allowing you to dance out. Please see kit guidelines on page 2.

#### **Assets of the Side**

If the team splits, any assets/funds will be donated to a local recognised charity, and any assets to another Morris side.

If we cease to exist, we will advise the Morris Federation and our dance repertoire will be lodged in their archives.

If current and past members wish to teach our dance repertoire then they may do so. However, past and current members are asked not to teach the dance repertoire to other people while the team continues to function.

- The decision to fold must be taken at an Extraordinary General Meeting
- The assets of the side will be disposed as above
- The name of the team will be given up.
- Dance repertoire will be lodged with the Morris Federation.
- Team records (scrapbooks, dance lists, AGM minutes) will be lodged with the Morris Federation.

“Branded” items still in the team’s possession after offering to members may at the discretion of the EGM be destroyed rather than offered to others.