



Association of Biodynamic Massage Therapists

Constitution

1. Name

The name of the Association shall be "Association of Biodynamic Massage Therapists" hereafter "the Association".

2. Aims

The Association shall be a professional organisation that seeks to promote biodynamic massage, encourage high standards in its practice, and support its members in establishing and maintaining appropriate practices in the UK.

3. Objectives

3.1 to hold regular meetings for members and to be a forum for sharing ideas, feelings and talking about issues that arise in practice; to invite speakers to meetings; to organise discussions; to provide a supportive network for members;

3.2 to produce a newsletter;

3.3 to make available good value insurance;

3.4 to provide information to the general public and to relevant professionals (doctors, psychotherapists etc) about the physiological and psychological benefits of biodynamic massage, to organise working parties and other initiatives to promote biodynamic massage, to support the use of biodynamic massage in private practice, in complementary health centres, in the community and in general health care, in the voluntary sector and in the NHS;

3.5 to maintain a register of members working as qualified biodynamic massage therapists;

3.6 to encourage high standards in the practice of massage and to uphold the Code of Ethics and to have a Complaints Procedure;



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- 3.7 to send representatives to national bodies such as the General Council for Massage Therapies (GCMT) and others; to participate in debates on the formal accreditation of massage; to take any necessary steps to ensure that members can practice legally when the expected EC regulations are introduced;
- 3.8 to provide information on biodynamic massage training courses which meet GCMT standards;
- 3.9 to update and develop biodynamic massage and encourage research programmes exploring its value.

4. **Membership**

Membership of the Association shall be open to women and men, training or trained in biodynamic massage at training organisations that meet GCMT standards and maintain regular formal contact with the Association.

Members shall be welcomed without discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation, race or ethnic origin or physical disability.

Members shall be expected to practice massage in accordance with the Code of Ethics, to follow the procedures of and abide by any sanctions arising from the use of the Complaints Procedure, to actively support the aims of the Association; to comply with GCMT post-graduate training requirements and those of their training organisation.

There shall be four categories of membership, defined as follows:

- a. **Full membership**
- b. **Associate/Student membership**
- c. **Honorary membership** - from time to time the executive committee may confer honorary membership on senior members in recognition of the advice and help they give the association and their consultative role. Non-fee paying.



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- d. **Affiliated membership** for any member of the public who is interested in our work, whether qualified or not.

Membership is renewable annually before the AGM on payment of subscription. Failure to pay subscription or to meet post-graduate requirements may result in membership not being renewed. Three months notice of non-renewal to be given if subscriptions are not paid. Only full members may vote.

5. **Management**

The management of the training organisation shall be committed to an Executive Committee.

- 5.1 The Executive Committee shall consist of a minimum of four members, who shall be full members of the association;
- 5.2 The Executive Committee shall include an honorary Chairperson, a Secretary, a Treasurer (the officers) and others, who shall all be elected to their respective positions at an AGM;
- 5.3 A quorum of the Executive shall be one half of the members, including two of the officers;
- 5.4 The term of office of members of the Executive Committee shall be one year;
- 5.5 The Executive Committee shall have power to co-opt up to three persons to serve on the Executive Committee in a non-voting capacity for a fixed term not exceeding the period up to the following AGM;
- 5.6 The Executive Committee shall meet at least four times a year. At least ten days' notice of a meeting shall be given;
- 5.7 Questions arising at any meeting, if put to the vote, shall be decided by a simple majority. Chairperson of any such meeting shall have no vote except a casting vote in the case of a tie;
- 5.8 The Executive Committee shall cause proper minutes to be made of all proceedings. The minutes shall be signed by the Chairperson of the succeeding meeting, with the consent of that meeting, as being a true record.



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6. Relationship with training organisations

- 6.1 The Association will recognise and accept as members anybody who has been trained by a Biodynamic Massage Training Organisation which complies with GCMT standards. The executive committee will take steps annually to satisfy themselves that the Training Organisations are continuing to meet GCMT standards;
- 6.2 It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committee to maintain regular and effective communication with the training organisations and with GCMT and other professional bodies;
- 6.3 The Association may organise discussions, invite speakers and arrange relevant workshops from time to time but they will not run training events;
- 6.4 The Association is not responsible for providing supervision, further training or revision days. Members are required to make their own arrangements for supervision and any further training that is necessary.

Functions of Officers

The **Chairperson** shall:

- a. Ensure that the work of the association is carried on in accordance with its aims and objectives;
- b. Ensure that the business of the Executive Committee is carried on in an orderly and effective manner;
- c. Ensure that any publication issued in the Association's name or with its support reflect its concerns in a balanced and proper manner.

The **Secretary** shall:

- a. Be responsible for the reception, recording and acknowledgement of administrative and membership fees, donations and all other income;
- b. Deal with correspondence in consultation with the Chairperson where necessary;



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- c. Keep proper records of all meetings of the Association;
- d. Invite the nominations of persons to membership of the Executive Committee at the AGM when positions become vacant.

The **Treasurer** shall:

- a. Be responsible for the reception, recording and acknowledgement of administrative and membership fees donations and all other income;
- b. Be responsible for the payment of accounts submitted to the Association, as directed by the executive committee;
- c. Bring to each meeting of the Executive Committee a statement of the association's financial position.

8. **General meetings**

- 8.1 In October of each year the Secretary shall call an Annual General Meeting at which the Chairperson shall present a report and the Treasurer shall present an audited statement of accounts for the last complete financial year.
- 8.2 Four weeks notice of a General Meeting shall be given.
- 8.3 A quorum for a General Meeting shall be twenty percent of the total membership of the Association and shall include one half of the Executive Committee.
- 8.4 Resolutions may be introduced by the Executive Committee, or, if duly seconded, by any member of the Association. Resolutions shall be passed by a majority vote, except for any entailing an amendment of the constitution. The chairperson of any such meeting shall have no vote except a casting vote in the case of a tie.
- 8.5 At a written request, signed by 8 members of the Association, the Secretary shall call an Extraordinary General Meeting.



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9. **Accounts**

9.1 The Association shall keep a bank account for which the officers shall be signatories.

9.2 The financial year shall be from 1 October to 30 September.

9.3 The income of the Association shall be devoted solely to the promotion of the aims of the Association. This includes all proper expenses of administration and management of the association.

10. **Dissolution**

The Association may be dissolved by a two-thirds majority of members voting at an AGM or special General Meeting. Any remaining funds shall be devoted to purposes in accordance with the aims and objectives in a manner decided by the executive committee.

11. **Constitution**

This constitution may only be altered by a resolution of a General Meeting, passed by two-thirds majority of those present.

Date 5th August 2012