

SOMETHING TO SING ABOUT (STSA)!

A GLOBAL CHOIR OF CANCER SURVIVORS

CONSTITUTION :

- **Name:**

The name of the body is ***Something to Sing About (STSA)*** founded in 2012 by Dr. Paul Donnellan, Consultant Medical Oncologist, University College Hospital, Galway.

- **Main Objective:**

The main objective for which the body has been established is to:-

benefit the community by the provision of support for patients and survivors of cancer through a shared musical activity and counselling, music therapy, health talks and workshops.

- **Subsidiary Objectives:**

In furtherance exclusively of the foregoing main objective, the body shall have the following subsidiary objectives:-

- a. Promote the health and well being of the participants through music and singing.
- b. Promote and publicise the objectives of the body by organising meetings, concerts, and other appropriate events.
- c. Work together to achieve these objectives, irrespective of age, sex, ethnicity, ability or political view.
- d. Work with other bodies of similar nature, exchanging advice, information and knowledge.
- e. Engage patrons and volunteers as may be necessary (who shall not be members of the committee) to conduct activities to meet the objectives.

- **Powers**

To the extent that the same are essential or ancillary to the promotion of the main objective of the body, as heretofore set out, the body may exercise the following powers:

- a. To raise funds and receive contributions, where appropriate, to finance the main and subsidiary objectives of the body.
- b. To raise funds to finance activities of STSA and cancer research through an STSA-advertised grant-application process.

Membership

- a. Membership of **STSA** shall be open to any cancer survivor or cancer patient.
- b. Members must register with **STSA** on the website www.stsa.ie. (a nominal membership fee may be charged).
- c. Membership must be renewed on an annual basis.
- d. Members may rehearse together in small groups or may join their local **STSA** group. Details of these groups are available on www.stsa.ie.

- e. Members are expected to take part in public performances to raise funds to finance the activities of **STSA**.
- f. Members of **STSA** may be photographed during choir rehearsals and other choir performances which may be published in newspapers, website and other media; names will not appear without the express permission of the individual member.
- g. Members will not take part in public performances as another Choir of Cancer Survivors without informing the **STSA** Committee of their intention to do so.
- h. A member may resign his/ her membership by notifying the Executive Committee.
- i. Members of **STSA** will forfeit membership if they engage in any activity deemed by Executive Committee to be at odds with spirit and aims of **STSA**.
- j. A member shall have the right to appeal via a mutually agreed independent adjudicator.

Officers of the Executive Committee

- a. Executive Committee is formed from **STSA** membership comprising of **Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Lead Music Director, Public Relations Officer, Events Officer** and any **additional officers** the body deems necessary to carry out required activities.
- b. **STSA** members may be elected to Executive Committee if proposed and seconded by Committee members without objection.
- c. **STSA** members will cease to be Committee members if they are absent from Committee meetings on three consecutive occasions without apology, or if they engage in any activity deemed by Committee to be at odds with spirit and aims of **STSA**.
- d. Membership of the Executive Committee shall be made up of no less than four officers.
- e. Officers will be elected for a period of two years but may be re-elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- f. The Committee shall meet at least six times per year, such meetings to enable the body to discuss actions, monitor progress, consider future developments and agree date of following meeting.
- g. Extraordinary General Meetings can be convened with seven days' notice by the **chairperson** and two other officers of the Committee.
- h. The quorum for an Executive Committee meeting is six (6) committee members including the **chairperson** or designated deputy.
- i. The quorum shall not apply to emergency meetings. Decisions taken at emergency meetings will stand until the next general meeting which must be called within one calendar month of the emergency meeting at which point the decision will require ratification from the general meeting. Failure to ratify shall not be retrospective.
- j. It shall be the responsibility of the **chairperson** – (or designated deputy in his/her absence) – to chair all meetings.
- k. Minutes of meeting must be recorded and made available to the Committee.

- l.** Annual General Meeting shall take place not later than three months after the end of the financial year and fourteen days notice must be given prior to such meeting.
- m.** All members are entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting and voting shall be made by a show of hands on a majority basis. In case of a tied vote the **chairperson** or appointed deputy shall make the final decision.
- n.** Attendance at meeting may be by tele-conference.
- o.** Sub-Committees can be formed as per recommendation of the Executive Committee.
- p.** All sub-committees shall be subsidiary to the Executive Committee, reporting back to the Executive Committee.

- **Income and Property**

- a.** The income and property of the body shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its main objective as set forth in this Constitution. No portion of the body's income and property shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the members of the body.

- b.** No officer shall be appointed to any office of the body paid by salary or fees, or receive any remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth from the body. However, nothing shall prevent any payment in good faith by the body of reasonable and proper remuneration to any member of the body (not being an officer) for any services rendered to the body.

- c.** Interest at a rate not exceeding 5% per annum on money lent by officers or other members of the body to the body.

- d.** Reasonable and proper rent for premises demised and let by any member of the body (including any officer) to the body.

- e.** Reasonable and proper out-of-pocket expenses incurred by any officer in connection with their attendance to any matter affecting the body.

- f.** Fees, remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth to any company of which an officer may be a member holding not more than one hundredth part of the issued capital of such company..

- **Winding Up**

- a.** If upon the winding up or dissolution of the body there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, it shall not be paid to, or distributed among, the members of the body.

- b.** Instead such property shall be given or transferred to some other charitable institution or institutions having main objective similar to the main objective of the body.

- c.** The institution or institutions to which the property is to be given or transferred shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property amongst its or their members to an extent at least as great as

is imposed on the body under, or by virtue of, Clause 7 hereof.

- d. Members of the body shall select the relevant institution or institutions at or before the time of dissolution, and if, and so far as, effect cannot be given to such provisions, then the property shall be given or transferred to some charitable objective.

- **Additions, Alterations or Amendments**

No addition, alteration or amendment shall be made to or in the provisions of this Constitution for the time being in force unless the same shall have been previously approved in writing by the Revenue Commissioners.

- **Keeping of Accounts**

- a. The body shall open a bank account in the name of the body to manage accounts.
- b. All monies acquired by the body, including donations, contributions and bequests shall be paid into bank account operated by the Committee in the name of the body.
- c. All funds must be applied to the objectives of the body and for no other purpose. All deeds, cheques, etc., relating to the body's bank accounts shall be signed by at least two of the following members:

Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer

- d. All funds raised by **STSA** groups, sub-groups or Centres shall be disclosed to the Executive Committee. All monies realised shall be lodged to **STSA** bank account and all expenses incurred shall be discharged from said account.
- e. All income/expenditure shall be the responsibility of the Treasurer who will be accountable to ensure that funds are utilised effectively and that the body stays within budget.
- f. An annual financial report shall be presented at the Annual General Meeting.
- g. The body's accounting year will run from the 1st of January to the 31st of December inclusive.
- h. Annual audited Accounts shall be kept and made available to Revenue Commissioners on request

Signed
Chairperson

Signed:
Secretary

Signed:
Treasurer

Date: 26-01-2015

