



THE BRITISH SAN MARTÍN INSTITUTE

In Honour of General José de San Martín, South American Hero, Statesman, and Liberator.

CONSTITUTION OF THE BRITISH SAN MARTÍN INSTITUTE

(Incorporating the modifications adopted on the Annual General Meeting of 25 January 2025)

SMALL CHARITY CONSTITUTION

Suitable for small charities with annual incomes under £5,000 that do not own a building or employ people and do not intend to register with the Charity Commission.

1. NAME:

The charity's name is The British San Martín Institute.

2. THE PURPOSES OF THE CHARITY ARE:

- A. To honour and keep alive the memory of General José de San Martín, South American Hero, Statesman, and Liberator.
- B. To disseminate knowledge about his life, personality and ideas, his military, civilian and moral qualities, by means of lectures, anniversary celebrations, battle commemorations, publications, liaising with Argentine, Chilean, Peruvian, and Ecuadorian friends.
- C. To promote university and other research relating to San Martín and his collaborators, particularly to the Britons who supported him during his campaigns.
- D. Above all, to strengthen the long-lasting friendship which has existed between the United Kingdom and Argentina, Chile, Peru, and Ecuador since the beginning of the 19th century.

3. TRUSTEES:

The charity shall be managed by a committee of trustees who are appointed at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the charity.

4. CARRYING OUT THE PURPOSES:

In order to carry out the charitable purposes, the trustees have the power to:

1. Raise funds, receive grants and donations.
2. Apply funds to carry out the work of the charity.
3. Co-operate with and support other charities with similar purposes.
4. Do anything which is lawful and necessary to achieve the purposes.

5. MEMBERSHIP:

1. The charity shall have a membership. People who support the work of the charity and are aged 18 or over, can apply to the trustees to become a member. Once accepted by the trustees, the British San Martín Institute offer a wide range the membership

The British San Martín Institute (BSMI)

C/O Argentine Embassy in the United Kingdom, 65 Brooke Street, London W1K 4AH

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categories both the United Kingdom and overseas. Membership fees contribute to the functioning of the charity and shall be renewed annually before 1 September. The trustees will keep an up-to-date membership list.

2. The charity offers the following types of membership:

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP:

This type of membership is a distinction granted by the Board of Trustees to relevant individuals and organizations in recognition to their contribution and support to the charity.

Honorific Members are encouraged to participate in Annual General Meetings and in the Trustees Meetings. The nature of their participation is advisory, and do not exercise the right to vote, unless in which refers to the election and appointment of other Honorary Members.

Honorific Members cannot be proposed and elected as members of the Board of Trustees.

BENEFACTOR MEMBERSHIPS:

This type of membership is available to individuals and organizations in the United Kingdom and overseas making a significant monetary annual contribution to the charity that shall be specified by the Board of Trustees.

Benefactor Members are encouraged to participate in the Annual General Meetings and in the Trustees Meetings. The nature of their participation includes the right to exercise the right to voice and vote.

Benefactors Members can be proposed and elected as members of the Board of Trustees.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP:

This type of membership is available to individuals in the United Kingdom and overseas making a monetary annual contribution to the charity that shall be specified by the Board of Trustees.

Individual Members are encouraged to participate in Annual General Meetings and in the Trustees Meetings. The nature of their participation includes the right to exercise the right to voice and vote.

Individual Members can be proposed and elected as members of the Board of Trustees.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP:

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Associate Members are encouraged to participate in Annual General Meetings and in the Trustees Meetings. The nature of their participation is advisory, and do not exercise the right to vote.

Associate Members cannot be proposed and elected as members of the Board of Trustees.

3. Members of the charity have the right of using the pin of the British San Martin Institute.

4. The Board of Trustees may decide to remove a member if they believe it is in the best interests of the charity. The member has the right to be heard by the trustees before the decision is made and can be accompanied by a friend.

6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – AGM:

1. The AGM must be held every year, with 14 days' notice given to all members telling them what is on the agenda. Minutes must be kept of the AGM.
2. There must be at least 8 members present at the AGM.
3. Every member has one vote.
4. The trustees shall present the annual report and accounts.
5. Any member may stand for election as a trustee.
6. Members shall elect between 3 and 10 trustees to serve for a period of 3 years, with the possibility to stand for re-election, with a maximum of 9 years.

7. TRUSTEE MEETINGS:

1. Trustees must hold at least 3 meetings each year. At their first meeting after the AGM, they will elect a chair, treasurer, and secretary. Trustees may act by majority decision.
2. At least 3 trustees must be present at the meeting to be able to take a decision. Minutes shall be kept for every meeting.
3. If trustees have a conflict of interest, they must declare it and leave the meeting while this matter is being discussed or decided.
4. During the year, the trustees may appoint up to 2 additional trustees. They will stand down at the next AGM.
5. The trustees may make reasonable additional rules to help run the charity. These rules must not conflict with this constitution or the law.

8. MONEY AND PROPERTY:

1. Money and property must only be used for the charity's purposes.
2. Trustees must keep accounts. The most recent annual accounts can be seen by anybody on request.

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3. Trustees cannot receive any money or property from the charity, except to refund reasonable out of pocket expenses.
4. Money must be held in the charity's bank account. All cheques must be signed by 2 trustees.

9. **GENERAL MEETINGS:**

If the Trustees consider it is necessary to change the constitution, or wind up the charity, they must call a General Meeting so that the membership can make the decision. Trustees must also call a General Meeting if they receive a written request from the majority of members. All members must be given 14 days' notice and told the reason for the meeting. All decisions require a two thirds majority. Minutes must be kept.

1. **Winding up** – any money or property remaining after payment of debts must be given to a charity with similar purposes to this one.
2. **Changes to the Constitution** – can be made at AGMs or General Meetings. No change can be made that would make the organisation no longer a charity.
3. **General Meeting** – called on written request from a majority of members.
4. Trustees may also call a General Meeting to consult the membership.

10. **SETTING UP THE CHARITY:**

This constitution was adopted of 29th April 2014 by the people whose signatures appear below. They are the first members of the charity and will be the trustees until the AGM, which must be held within one year of this date.

Signed (Print name and address) – (Originally signed on 29th April 2014)

The Baroness Hooper

Alan Tabbush, OBE

Richard Street

John Wilson