



MISSION, VISION, VALUES and CONSTITUTION

VISION

Together we ensure the future of organists

MISSION

To develop members' skills and knowledge through schooling to holistically improve the quality of organ playing and organ maintenance

VALUES

At SAKOV we value ...

Commitment

Artistic excellence and inspiration

Integrity, accountability and stewardship

Inclusiveness and diversity

Our rich tradition

The Southern African Church and Concert Organists' Society (SAKOV) was established on 10 May 1980. It functions as a professional body that facilitates subject-related liaison between organists and other parties interested in organ and church music. The society provides subject-specific information and guidance to promote organ music and liturgical practice in southern Africa.

The society's official academic journal, *To the Director of Music/Vir die Musiekleier*, has been accredited with the Department of Higher Education since 2010. Members are also exposed to the latest information and news about church and organ music, via information sessions that are offered annually in the thirteen SAKOV regions in southern Africa and Namibia, as well as via regular newsletters. Special projects, such as music publications and CDs, are also made available to members.

SAKOV has the interests of the church musician and organist at heart and endeavours to establish responsible guidelines and to make recommendations for the collaboration between different role players involved in church music, but also in terms of organist's salaries and service contracts. SAKOV wants to be a home for all organists as well as ministers, music groups, church councils and organ builders.

1. Name

- 1.1. The name of the society is “Southern African Church and Concert Organists’ Society” or “Suider-Afrikaanse Kerk- en Konsertorrelistevereniging (hereafter ‘society’).
- 1.2. The abbreviation “SAKOV” will be used for both the English and Afrikaans designations.

2. Aims

The society’s aims are as follows:

- 2.1. the promotion of organ playing and other facets of church and organ music;
- 2.2. to act in accordance with the interests of members in general and the designation of church organist in particular;
- 2.3. the promotion of organ-building practices and maintenance of instruments in southern Africa.

3. Functioning

The society’s goals are reached by means of the following:

- 3.1. the publication of an accredited academic journal, *Vir die Musiekleier/To the Director of Music*, and the distribution of the *Nuusbrief*;
- 3.2. the organisation of symposia and refresher courses at national and regional level;
- 3.3. holding meetings in the form of an Annual General Meeting (AGM), special and regional meetings, as well as management meetings; and
- 3.4. any other activities that help to meet the aims of the society and to further the interests of its members such as organ viewings, organ tours, organ safaris, organ symposia, organ marathons, concerts, workshops, etc.

4. Membership

- 4.1. Membership of the society is divided into two categories: members and honorary members.
- 4.2. Members
 - 4.2.1. All persons who have held full time or part-time (stand-in) organist positions, as well as persons (non-organists) or bodies (for example, church councils, choirs and/or societies) whose interests include organ and church music in general.
 - 4.2.2. Members join by completing the prescribed form and paying annual membership fees.
- 4.3. Honorary members
 - 4.3.1. Persons whose activities, according to the opinion of the executive committee of the society, have made significant contributions to the

furthering of organ and church music in southern Africa, may be elected as honorary members.

4.3.2. Honorary members are elected by way of a written nomination from a SKOV-member and seconded by a SAKOV-member. Such nomination is, together with the recommendation of the SAKOV management, submitted during the annual general meeting.

4.3.3. This nomination is approved during the annual general meeting by a standard majority vote.

5. Membership fees

5.1. Members are obligated to pay the prescribed annual membership fees on or before the end of March.

5.2. Membership fees are annually determined at the annual general meeting.

5.3. Honorary members are exempted from paying membership fees.

5.4. Notification of an address change given to the treasurer of the society remains the responsibility of each member, although the regional representative can offer assistance in this regard.

6. Annual general meeting, special and regional meetings

6.1. The annual general meeting

6.1.1. The annual general meeting occurs annually during the last six months of the financial year (1 January to 31 December) at a venue determined at the previous annual general meeting and/or by the executive committee.

6.1.2. The secretary of the executive committee convenes the meeting on behalf of the executive committee and disseminates written notification as well as the agenda to each member.

6.2. Regional meetings

6.2.1. Regional meetings can be held on request from the regional representative or a member of that region.

6.2.2. The regional representative will give sufficient notice of the meeting and keep the executive committee informed about the agenda and decisions of said regional meeting.

7. The Management

- 7.1. The management consists of the executive committee and the regional representatives.
- 7.2. The Executive Committee consists of 4 (four) members:
 - 7.2.1. Chairman
 - 7.2.2. Vice-Chairman
 - 7.2.3. Secretary
 - 7.2.4. Treasurer
- 7.3. The following regions are represented by a regional representative at management level:
 - 7.3.1. Johannesburg, East and West Rand
 - 7.3.2. KwaZulu-Natal
 - 7.3.3. Limpopo
 - 7.3.4. Mpumalanga
 - 7.3.5. Namibia
 - 7.3.6. Northern Cape
 - 7.3.7. North-West
 - 7.3.8. Eastern Cape
 - 7.3.9. Pretoria
 - 7.3.10. Southern Cape
 - 7.3.11. Vaal Triangle
 - 7.3.12. Free State
 - 7.3.13. Western Cape
- 7.4. The chairman, the vice-chairman and the secretary are elected every three years by all members by a process of general notification and written nominations. The results of such an election are announced at the upcoming annual general meeting or by means of a newsletter or electronic notification.
- 7.5. The executive committee appoints the treasurer, the Editor: *Nuusbrief* and the Editor: *Vir die Musiekleier/To the Director of Music*. These persons may also act as regional representatives.
- 7.6. The editorial positions of the various publications may be filled by a member already serving on the executive committee, or by another member.
- 7.7. The Chairman acts as convener of the executive committee and the management team. The chairman and another member of the management must sign all documents and – in the case of it being a financial document, also by the Treasurer.
- 7.8. A quorum at the executive committee consists out of 3 (three) members and at management level out of 5 (five) members.
- 7.9. Regional representatives are elected for a period of 3 (three) years during an official

regional gathering at which a regulatory quorum is present. A quorum consists of 10% of the members of the region. Power of attorney may not be used for the purposes of election.

- 7.10. In exceptional cases, a regional representative's term may be extended by a further 3 (three) years.
- 7.11. The regional representative may, in accordance with the needs of the region, appoint an ad hoc sub-committee.
- 7.12. At least one regional gathering must be arranged and presented annually by the regional representative. At its conclusion, a report should be sent to the editor of the *Nuusbrief* as soon as possible for publication purposes.
- 7.13. Regional representatives should assist with the collection of membership fees and the recruitment of new members for the specific region.
- 7.14. It is expected of the regional representatives to attend the annual general meeting. A pro rata contribution to travel and accommodation costs will be made by the society.

8. The auditor of the society

- 8.1. The executive committee appoints a registered auditor for a period of 3 (three) years.
- 8.2. The auditor will audit the financial statements of the society and report on these to the executive committee and at the annual general meeting.

9. Funds

- 9.1. All funds are deposited into a current account in the name of the society.
- 9.2. The treasurer and any other member of the executive committee will jointly hold account rights.

10. The academic journal *Vir die Musiekleier/To the Director of Music*

- 10.1. Any person may contribute subject-relevant content for publication.
- 10.2. The editorial and administrative organisation rests with the editor in collaboration with an editorial panel.

11. Amendments to the constitution

- 11.1. Changes to the constitution are made at an annual general meeting.
- 11.2. Written suggestions for amendments must be submitted to the secretary of the executive committee as soon as notification of an annual general meeting has been given.

Approved at the 44th Annual General Meeting held on 28 September 2024 in George.