Difference between Trust and Society

Basis of Difference	Trust	Society
Statute/Legislation	Private trusts are governed by Indian Trust Act, 1882. Public charitable trusts do not have a national level governing law.	Societies Registration Act, 1860
Minimum number of members	Two	Seven
Geographical area of activities	All India (no need to mention this in the Trust Deed)	A separate registration for All India level is required (8 members from different states required)
Nature of control	One man control, i.e. Settler	Democratic system. Decisions are made by voting. Power struggle may ensue.
Amendments	Can easily be done via a supplementary trust deed	Relatively more difficult. Both Memorandum of Association and Rules and Regulations need to be changed
Names	Easily available	A bit difficult to get the desired name
Bank a/c operation	Controlled by one person, Settler	Two persons, either President or Secretary and Treasurer
Office holders' tenure	Trustees generally hold office for the whole life	Members hold office for a period of time and may stand for re-election
Winding-up	Trust is generally irrevocable, Cannot be wound-up.	Can be wound up if 3/5th of the members so desire
Family members	Can become trustees	Registrar objects on family members becoming part of the Governing Body
Governed by	Board of Trustees	Governing Body
Main documents	1. Trust Deed	1. Memorandum Of Association 2. Rules and Regulation
Objectives	Can be general	Have to be specific