

ABERAERON SPORTS CLUB CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

The name of the Club will be the ABERAERON SPORTS CLUB.

2. INTERPRETATION

In this Constitution and byelaws: -

- Aberaeron Sports Club shall be abbreviated to “the Club”
- Management Committee shall be abbreviated to “the Committee”
- Honorary Secretary shall be abbreviated to “the Secretary”
- Annual General Meeting shall be abbreviated to “A.G.M.”
- Special General Meeting shall be abbreviated to “S.G.M.”

3. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

3.1 To promote, foster and encourage the game of bowls and tennis specifically, but other sports generally in the town of Aberaeron and District.

3.2 To provide and maintain a club house and playing facilities at South Road, Aberaeron, to provide opportunities for recreation, social intercourse and refreshment for the benefit of its members, in a way that is fair to everyone.

4. MEMBERSHIP

4.1 Membership will consist of officers and members of the Club.

4.2 All members will be subject to the regulations of the Constitution and by joining the Club will be deemed to accept these regulations and codes of practice that the Club has adopted.

4.3 Membership fees will be reviewed annually and agreed by the Committee and determined by members at the A.G.M.

4.4 Membership fees will be paid annually which shall be due on 1st April each year.

4.5 Members will be enrolled in one of the following categories: -

Patron

Life Member

Honorary Member

Individual

Senior Citizen (over 65)

Student

Beginner (one year only)

Junior (Primary/Secondary)

Country

Indoor

Social

4.6 The Committee may, at its discretion introduce new classes of membership and may permit reduced memberships for periods of less than the normal membership period.

4.7 If any member fails to pay his/her membership within two months after it has become due they will not be entitled to use any of the Club's facilities until the membership has been paid.

4.8 Any member shall be entitled to introduce two guests to the Club provided that they have not been declined membership or have been expelled from the Club. The member shall enter the name of the guest(s) with his own name in a Visitors Book which shall be kept at the clubhouse. No person during the period 1st April to 31st March may be introduced more than five times.

4.9 In the event of members entertaining or competing against any other like Club, organisation, team or group it shall be sufficient to enter the group by a collective description of the group they represent.

5. ADMISSION OF MEMBERS

A person shall become a member of the Club upon payment to the Membership Secretary of the appropriate membership fee. They must provide details of their name, postal address, email address and contact number when joining the club on the club website or on the appropriate form.

6. HONORARY/LIFE MEMBERS

6.1 The Committee may propose to the A.G.M. nomination(s) for Life Membership of the Club and such membership shall be voted upon by the members at the A.G.M. The Club shall not be permitted to have more than five Life Members at any one time. Life Members will be entitled to vote at all meetings of the Club.

6.2 The Committee may propose from time to time person or persons to be Honorary Members of the Club and stipulate their period of membership. Such members may use the clubhouse facilities and be included on distribution lists, but will not be entitled to vote at

the A.G.M. They will not be entitled to play without becoming a playing member or paying a guest fee.

7. OFFICERS OF THE CLUB

The Officers of the Club will be: -

Patron, President, Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Welfare Officer, Facilities Officer and Public Relations Officer.

8. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

8.1 The Club will be managed through the Committee consisting of the Officers of the Club and eight other members of the Club, elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.

These will comprise, where possible, of two representatives each from the Men's Bowls, Ladies Bowls, Men's Tennis and Ladies Tennis sections. Only these (as detailed in this clause 8.1) will have the power to vote at Committee meetings.

8.2 The Committee shall meet at such times as the Committee shall determine and seven shall be the quorum at all meetings.

8.3 The Committee will be responsible for adopting new policies codes of practice and rules that affect the organisation of the Club.

8.4 The Committee will have the power to appoint Sub-Committees as necessary and appoint advisers to the Committee as necessary to fulfil its business.

8.5 The Committee will be responsible for disciplinary hearings of members who infringe the Club rules /regulations /constitution and will be responsible for taking any action of suspension or discipline following such hearings.

8.6 Any member of the Committee absenting him or herself, without satisfactory reason, from three consecutive meetings of the Committee shall resign his or her position from the Committee thereby creating a casual vacancy.

8.7 The Committee shall have the power at any time to fill any casual vacancy amongst the Officers and Committee. Any Officer or member of the Committee so appointed shall only hold office until the next A.G.M. but shall then be eligible for re-election.

9. FINANCE

9.1 All Club monies will be banked in accounts, in the nominated bank(s), in the name of the Club.

9.2 The Committee will be responsible for the finances of the Club.

9.3 The financial year will be from 1st October to 30th September each year.

9.4 An audited statement of annual accounts shall be prepared for the agreed accounting period and be available to the Committee meeting preceding the A.G.M.

9.5 All cheques drawn against Club funds should hold the signature of a nominated Officer. The same will apply to bank transfers.

9.6 No member of the Committee will have the authority to order or commit the Club contractually to any expenditure to a sum in excess of £1,500, without the prior approval and authorisation of the Committee.

10. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

10.1 An A.G.M. of the Club shall be held in the month of November in each year and fifteen months shall not elapse without an A.G.M.

10.2 Notice of the A.G.M. will be given by e-mail, by display on the club noticeboard and in the membership card if one is in use. The Secretary shall give twenty-one days' notice and shall state in this notice the business to be discussed at such meetings. A balance sheet shall be provided, in advance, if requested by members.

10.3 Any member wishing to raise any matters not included in the normal agenda of the A.G.M. must give notice in writing to the Secretary at least thirty days before the A.G.M.

10.4 The following business will be conducted: -

(i) Reports from Officers of the Committee and a statement of the audited accounts and, if accepted, the passing of the accounts,

(ii) Election of auditors,

(iii) Election of Officers,

(iv) Election of the Committee,

(v) Such other business as will have been communicated to the Secretary and included in the notice of the meeting as previously given to the members at least twenty one days before the A.G.M.

10.5 All members over the age of 18 have a right to vote at the A.G.M. with the exception of the following categories: - Honorary, Indoor and Social and Country members.

10.6 The quorum for the A.G.M. shall be twenty members.

10.7 Every motion, except where there is a prior provision for ballot, and on matters relating to changes to the Constitution will be decided by a majority vote. In the event of an equality of votes the Chairperson shall have a casting vote.

11. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS (S.G.M.)

11.1 Meetings called by the Committee.

The Committee may, at any time, upon giving 21 days' notice by display on the Club notice board, call a S.G.M. of the Club for any special business, the nature of which shall be stated in the notice of the S.G.M. and the discussions at such meetings shall be confined to the business stated in the notice displayed on the Club notice board.

11.2 Meetings called by Members.

The Members shall similarly call a S.G.M. of the Club upon a written request addressed to the Secretary and signed by at least ten Ordinary Members. The business shall be confined to the business stated in the notice.

12. OPENING OF THE CLUB

The Club shall be open for such hours as the Committee shall determine and the Committee shall, having the power by resolution, to extend these hours on any special occasions. All opening hours of the Club shall be determined in accordance with the licensing rules as from time to time in force.

13. PURCHASE & SUPPLY OF LIQUOR

13.1 The purchase by the Club and the supply to the Club of intoxicating liquor shall be at the absolute discretion and under the control of the Bar Sub-Committee of not less than five members, at least two of whom must be a member of the Committee. In the event of any member ceasing to be a member of the Committee he/she shall automatically cease to be a member of the Bar Sub-Committee and another member of the Committee shall be appointed in his/her place.

13.2 No person shall be entitled to receive any personal commission, percentage or similar payment with reference to purchases or supply of intoxicating liquor to the Club.

14. EXPULSION, DISCIPLINE AND APPEALS

14.1 The Committee shall have the power to expel any member who shall offend against the rules of the Club or whose conduct shall, in the opinion of the Committee, render him/her

unfit for membership of the Club. Before any such member is expelled the Secretary shall give him/her fourteen days written notice to attend a meeting of the Committee and shall inform him/her of the complaints made

14.2 There will be the right to appeal to the Committee following disciplinary action being announced. The Committee should consider the appeal within fourteen days of the Secretary receiving the appeal.

14.3 No member shall be expelled without having had an opportunity of appearing before the Committee and answering complaints made against him/her and without two thirds of the Committee then present voting in favour of the expulsion.

15. BORROWING POWERS

If at any time the Club, in a General Meeting, shall pass a resolution authorising the Committee to borrow money, the Committee shall thereupon be empowered to borrow for the purpose of the Club such amount of money either at one time or from time to time at such rate of interest and in such form and manner and upon such security as specified in such resolution, authorised by a General Meeting and thereupon the Trustees shall at the direction of the Committee enter into such agreements in relation thereto as the Committee may deem proper for giving security for such loans and interest.

16. DISSOLUTION PROCEDURES

16.1 In the event of the Club ceasing to exist and following the discharge of all debts and liabilities, any assets at the time of dissolution shall not be paid, transferred or distributed among the members of the Club but shall be given or transferred to such other institution having its objects similar to the objects of the Club.

16.2 The Club may be wound up on a resolution of the members, passed by a two thirds majority at a S.G.M. convened for that purpose upon the request of 95% of the members of the Club. At least 28 days' notice of the meeting shall have been sent to each member of the Club.

16.3 Clause 16.2 above shall be inoperative for so long as there are at least 10 members of the Club willing to carry on and perform the objects of the Club

16.4 In the event of the passing of the resolution to wind up the Club the members of the club shall appoint a representative committee which shall be empowered to distribute the assets including cash and investments in hand to clubs having similar objects as its own.

17. TRUSTEES

17.1 The number of the Trustees of the Club must be not more than seven or less than three and must be a member of the Club, unless otherwise authorised and elected at the A.G.M or a S.G.M. of the Club.

17.2 The property of the Club must be vested in the Trustees except for cash which must be under the control of the Committee.

17.3 The Trustees must deal with the property of the Club as directed by the Resolution of the A.G.M. or S.G.M. of the Club (and an entry in the Minutes is conclusive evidence of a Resolution.)

17.4 The Trustees shall be effectually indemnified by the Committee out of the assets of the Club from and against any liability, costs, expenses and payments whatsoever which may be properly incurred or made by them in the exercise of their duties or in relation to any property of the Club vested in them, or in relation to any legal proceedings or which otherwise relate directly or indirectly to the performance of the functions of a Trustee of the Club.

17.5 The Trustees shall hold office until death or resignation or until removed from office by a resolution of a General Meeting.

17.6 Where by reason of death resignation or removal of a Trustee a new Trustee needs to be appointed, or if the Committee deems it expedient to appoint an additional Trustee or Trustees, the Committee may by resolution nominate the person or persons to be appointed as the new Trustee or Trustees. Such appointments shall be confirmed or set aside at the next A.G.M. of the Club.

17.7 To give effect to a nomination:

- (i) the President is nominated as the person to appoint new Trustees of the Club within the meaning of the Trustees Act 1925 Section 36, and
- (ii) the President must, by deed, appoint the person or persons nominated by the General Meeting as the new Trustees of the Club, and
- (iii) the provisions of the Trustee Act 1925 apply to any appointment.

18. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The Constitution will only be changed through agreement by a two-thirds majority vote at the A.G.M. or S.G.M.

Adopted at the Annual General Meeting

Dated: January 2023

Signed: _____ (SECRETARY)

Signed: _____ (CHAIRMAN)

Signed: _____ (PRESIDENT)