

Stoke Newington Cricket Club

CONSTITUTION

1. Name

The name of the Club is Stoke Newington Cricket Club (the **club**) and the club shall be affiliated to the England and Wales Cricket Board through the Middlesex Cricket Board.

2. Aims and Objectives

To foster, provide facilities for and promote participation in the sport of cricket at all levels within the community and within the sport, providing opportunities for recreation, coaching and competition.

To ensure that all members, playing and non-playing, abide by the ECB Code of Conduct which incorporates the Spirit of Cricket and by the Laws of Cricket.

To ensure a duty of care to all members of the club by adopting and implementing the ECB 'Safe Hands – Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children' and any future versions of the Policy.

To ensure a duty of care to all members of the club by adopting and implementing the ECB Cricket Equity Policy, the ECB's Anti-Discrimination Code and any future versions of them.

To encourage all members to participate fully in the activities of the club.

3. Membership

Membership of the club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport of cricket on application regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs. However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.

The club may have different classes of membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.

Application for membership of the club shall be by completion of a membership application form and by payment of the relevant subscription/joining fees as determined by the Management Committee (as defined in paragraph 7) or by a members' resolution passed at either an annual general meeting of the club (an **AGM**) or an extraordinary general meeting of the club (an **EGM**).

No person shall be eligible to take part in the business of the club or eligible for selection for any club team unless the appropriate subscription has been paid by the specified date or membership has been agreed by the Management Committee.

The Management Committee may refuse membership, or remove it, only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the club or cricket into disrepute. Appeal against refusal or removal may be made to the Management Committee who shall appoint an appeals committee to hear the appeal.

All members will be subject to the regulations of the Constitution and by joining the club will be deemed to accept these regulations and any codes of conduct that the club has adopted. The Constitution shall identify those members eligible to vote at any General Meetings.

4. Classes of Membership

There shall be two classes of membership available. These are:

- Full Member
- Junior Member (Under 18 years of age at the beginning of the current year)

A list of members in each category shall be maintained by the Treasurer or other officer of the club.

5. Officers

The officers of the club shall be as follows:

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Club Welfare Officer
- Fixture Secretary
- Web Master

6. Election of Officers

All officers shall be elected at an AGM by the Full Members of the club. All officers shall be elected for a period of one year, except for the Chair who shall be elected for a period of three years. Each officer (other than the Chair) shall be eligible for re-election to the same office or to another office the following year.

7. Management Committee

The affairs of the club shall be conducted by a Management Committee (the **Management Committee**) comprising the officers of the club. Only these members of the Management Committee shall be entitled to vote at meetings of the Management Committee.

The Management Committee will be convened by the Secretary and shall meet at agreed intervals and not less than four times per year. The quorum required for business to be agreed at Management Committee meetings shall be three.

The duties of the Management Committee shall be:

- a) to control the affairs of the club on behalf of the members.

- b) to keep accurate accounts of the finances of the club through the Treasurer. These should be available for reasonable inspection by members and should be laid before every AGM. The club shall maintain a bank current account and the following Officers shall be authorised to sign club cheques: any one from the Chair and Treasurer and such other member(s) of the Management Committee as the Management Committee may from time to time resolve in writing;
- c) to co-opt additional members of the Management Committee as the Management Committee feel is necessary. Co-opted members shall not be entitled to a vote on the Management Committee and shall serve until the end of the next AGM; and
- d) to make decisions on the basis of a simple majority vote. In the case of equal votes, the Chair shall be entitled to an additional casting vote.

The Management Committee shall have powers to appoint sub-committees as necessary and to co-opt advisers who may be non-club members invited to advise on specialist subjects.

An elected Management Committee member ceases to be such if he or she ceases to be a member of the club, resigns by written notice, or is removed by the Management Committee for good cause after the member concerned has been given the chance of putting their case to the Management Committee. Appeal against removal may be made to the appeals committee. The Management Committee shall fairly decide time limits and formalities for these steps.

The Management Committee has the power to:

- (a) acquire and provide grounds, equipment, coaching, training and playing facilities, clubhouse, transport, medical and related facilities;
- (b) provide coaching, training, medical treatment, and related social and other facilities;
- (c) take out any insurance for club, employees, contractors, players, guests and third parties;
- (d) raise funds by appeals, subscriptions, loans and charges;
- (e) borrow money and give security for the same, and open bank accounts;
- (f) buy, lease or licence property and sell, let or otherwise dispose of the same;
- (g) make grants and loans and give guarantees and provide other benefits;
- (h) set aside funds for special purposes or as reserves;
- (i) invest funds in any lawful manner;
- (j) employ and engage staff and others and provide services;
- (k) co-operate with or affiliate firstly to any bodies regulating or organising the sport of cricket and secondly any club or body involved with cricket and thirdly with government and related agencies; and
- (l) do all other things reasonably necessary to advance the aims and objectives of the club.

NONE of the above powers may be used other than to advance the aims and objectives in a manner consistent with the Constitution and the general law.

8. General Meetings

21 clear days' written notice of the AGM and any EGM shall be given to all members by the Secretary by means of post or email or by hand or by posting the notice on the club notice board. Members must advise the Secretary in writing of any other business to be moved at an AGM or EGM at least 14 days before the relevant meeting.

The business of the AGM shall be to:

- a) confirm the minutes of the previous AGM and of any EGMs held since the last AGM;
- b) receive the accounts for the previous financial year from the Treasurer if these are available;
- c) receive a report from each of the Club's officers;
- d) elect those officers of the Club who are required to stand for re-election in accordance with paragraph 6;
- e) transact such other business received in writing by the Secretary from members 14 days prior to the meeting in accordance with this paragraph 8.

Nominations of candidates for election of offices shall be made in writing to the Secretary at least 14 days in advance of the AGM. Nominations can only be made by Full Members and must be seconded by another Full Member.

EGMs may be convened by the Management Committee or shall be convened by the Management Committee within 14 days of receipt by the Secretary of a request in writing to do so from no fewer than ten Full Members of the club.

At all AGMs and EGMs, the chair will be taken by the Chair or, in their absence, by a deputy appointed by the Full Members attending the meeting. Decisions made at an AGM or EGM shall be by a simple majority vote from those Full Members attending the meeting in person or by proxy. In the event of equal votes, the chair of the meeting shall be entitled to an additional casting vote.

A quorum for an AGM or EGM shall be five members, each of whom shall either be a Full Member or any other category of member entitled to vote (as outlined by this Constitution from time to time).

Each Full Member of the club shall be entitled to one vote at AGMs and EGMs.

9. Alterations to this Constitution

Any proposed alterations to this Constitution may only be considered at an AGM or EGM, convened with the required written notice of the proposal. Any alteration or amendment must be proposed by a Full Member of the club and seconded by another Full Member. Such alterations shall be passed if supported by not less than two-thirds of those Full Members present at the meeting, assuming that a quorum has been achieved.

10. Finance

All club monies shall be banked in an account in the name of the club.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the finances of the club and for providing a report on the financial position as required by the Committee. The Treasurer shall ensure that the club maintains adequate and appropriate insurance to cover the activities of the club.

The financial year will end on 31 March in each year. The Treasurer will present an unaudited statement of annual accounts for the relevant financial year at either an AGM or EGM by no later than 31 January in the following financial year.

Any cheques drawn against club funds should be duly signed in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 7(b).

11. Property and Funds

(i) The property and funds of the club cannot be used for the direct or indirect private benefit of members other than as reasonably allowed by the Constitution and all surplus income or profits shall be reinvested in the club.

(ii) The club may also in connection with the sports purposes of the club:

- (a) sell and supply food, drink and related sports clothing and equipment;
- (b) employ members and remunerate them for providing goods and services, on fair terms set by the Management Committee without the person concerned being present;
- (c) pay for reasonable hospitality for visiting teams and guests; and
- (d) indemnify the Management Committee and members acting properly in the course of the running of the club against any liability incurred in the proper running of the club (but only to the extent of its assets).

12. Discipline and Appeals

All complaints regarding the behaviour of members should be lodged in writing with the Secretary.

The Management Committee shall appoint a disciplinary sub-committee who will meet to hear complaints within 14 days of a complaint being lodged. Any member requested to attend a disciplinary sub-committee shall be entitled to be accompanied by a friend or other representative and to call witnesses. The Management Committee (or its sub-committee) has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action, including the termination of membership.

The outcome of the disciplinary hearing shall be put in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made within 14 days following the hearing.

There shall be a right of appeal to the Management Committee against either the finding or the sanction imposed or both following disciplinary action being taken. The

Management Committee shall appoint an appeals committee (a maximum of three persons) which shall not include members involved with the initial disciplinary hearing but may include non-members of the club. The appeals committee shall consider the appeal within 14 days of the Secretary receiving the appeal. The individual submitting the appeal shall be entitled to be accompanied by a friend or other representative and to call witnesses. The decision of the appeals committee shall be final and binding on all parties.

13. Dissolution

If at any AGM or EGM, a resolution be passed calling for the dissolution of the club, the Secretary shall immediately convene an EGM to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.

If at that EGM, the resolution is carried by at least three quarters of the Full Members present at the meeting, the Management Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets of the club and discharge all debts and liabilities of the club.

The Management Committee will then be responsible for the orderly winding up of the club's affairs. After settling all liabilities of the club, the Committee shall dispose of the net assets remaining to one or more of the following:

- a) to another club with similar sports purposes which is a registered charity; or
- b) to another club with similar sports purposes which is a registered Community Amateur Sports Club; or
- c) to the sport's governing body for use by them for related community sports.

Adopted pursuant to a members' resolution passed at an extraordinary general meeting of the club on 11 January 2010, as amended by a members' resolution passed at the club's annual general meeting on 11 January 2011.

e-Signed: Tom Tanner

Tom Tanner, Club Secretary

Dated: June 2022