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# **Articles of Association**

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**THE COMPANIES ACT 2006** 

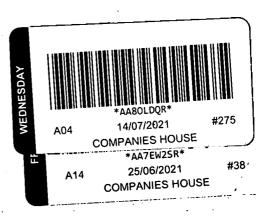
PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

**ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION** 

OF

**WOLVERHAMPTON LAWN TENNIS AND SQUASH CLUB LIMITED** 

(adopted on [|8|0€] 20♣)



#### **DETAILS, INTERPRETATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

#### 1. Defined terms

1.1 In the Articles, unless the context requires otherwise:

"2006 Act" means the Companies Act 2006 as modified by statute or re-enacted from time to time;

"Appointed Director" means those Directors appointed under Article 24;

"Articles" means these articles of association, as may be amended from time to time;

"Board" means the board of Directors of the Company;

"Chairman" means the person appointed to the post of that name in accordance with Article 20;

"chairman of the meeting" has the meaning given in Article 13.2 (in respect of a board meeting) or Article 33.3 (in respect of a general meeting);

"Club" means the tennis, squash racquet and fitness club run by the Company known as Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club;

"Companies Acts" means the Companies Acts (as defined in section 2 of the 2006 Act), in so far as they apply to the Company;

"Company Secretary" means a person appointed from time to time as Company Secretary;

"Director" means a Director of the Company, and includes any person occupying the position of Director, by whatever name called;

"document" includes, unless otherwise specified, any document sent or supplied in electronic form:

"Elected Director" means a Director elected in accordance with Article 24;

"electronic form" has the meaning given in section 1168 of the 2006 Act;

"Executive Committee" means a committee of directors comprising the Chairman, the Finance Director and the Company Secretary;

"Facilities Manager" the person having the title of the facilities manager from time to time;

**"Finance Director"** means the person appointed from time to time as Finance Director under Article 21:

"Honorary President" means the person elected from time to time as Honorary President in accordance with the Articles;

"Member" a person or body who or which is a member (whether voting or non-voting) of the Company for the purposes of the Articles. The categorisation and the rights, privileges and obligations of each category of Member shall be laid down in the Articles;

"Non-Voting Members" means all members of the Company who: (i) are under 18 years of age and/or (ii) temporary members. Non-Voting Members are not members for the purposes of the Companies Acts;

"ordinary resolution" has the meaning given in section 282 of the 2006 Act;

"participate" in relation to a Directors' meeting, has the meaning given in Article 11;

"Poll Vote" means a vote taken in accordance with Article 38:

"Regulations" means the regulations and policies of the Company made by the Board in accordance with Article 5;

"special resolution" has the meaning given in section 283 of the 2006 Act;

"Sports Manager" the person having the title of the sports manager from time to time;

"subsidiary" has the meaning given in section 1159 of the 2006 Act;

**'Voting Members'** means those persons admitted from time to time into membership pursuant to Article 26, and are entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote at general meetings. Voting Members are members of the Company for the purposes of the Companies Acts:

"writing" means the representation or reproduction of words, symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether sent or supplied in electronic form or otherwise.

- 1.2 Unless the context otherwise requires, other words or expressions contained in the Articles bear the same meaning as in the 2006 Act as in force on the date when the Articles become binding on the Company.
- 1.3 Words importing the singular number shall include the plural number and vice versa. Words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine gender and vice versa. Gender shall mean masculine or feminine Words importing persons shall include corporations and unincorporated associations.
- 1.4 Any reference to a committee shall include a sub-committee and vice versa.
- 1.5 For the purposes of section 20 of the 2006 Act, the relevant model articles shall be deemed to have been excluded fully and replaced with the provisions of the Articles.

# 2. Objects

2.1 The objects for which the Company is established are (hereinafter referred to as the "Objects"):

- 2.1.1 to acquire, own, manage and operate the club known as Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club for the benefit and use of its members, invitees and guests including the provision of clubhouse facilities;
- 2.1.2 to promote, administer, encourage the development of, and wider participation in and to further the interest of tennis, squash, racketball and fitness activities;
- 2.1.3 to acquire and undertake all property and liabilities and to carry out the powers, obligations, duties and general objects of the present unincorporated association known as the Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club and to indemnify their officers, members, executive committees and any other committees and their employees against all costs, claims, demands, actions and proceedings relating to their assets and undertakings and in respect of all liabilities, obligations and commitments (whether legally binding or not) and also in respect of the costs and expenses and outgoings from or attributable to the transfer of their assets and undertakings; and
- 2.1.4 to arrange championships, trophy events, matches, competitions and such other activities as the Board may think fit.
- 2.2 to do all such other things as shall be thought fit to further the interests of the Company or to be incidental or conducive to the attainment of all or any of the Objects stated in this Article 2.

### 3. Powers

- 3.1 The Company shall have the powers to do all such lawful things as are consistent with the furtherance of its Objects (the "Powers").
- 3.2 The income and property of the Company shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its Objects and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly, overtly or covertly by way of distribution, bonus or otherwise by way of profit to the Members.

#### 4. <u>Liability of Members</u>

- 4.1 Only Voting Members shall be members of the Company for the purposes of s112 of the Companies Act 2006 and liable to contribute to the assets of the Company in the event of it being wound up.
- 4.2 The liability of each Voting Member is limited to £1, being the amount that each Voting Member undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Company in the event of its being wound up while he is a Voting Member or within one year after he ceases to be a Voting Member for:
  - 4.2.1 payment of the Company's debts and liabilities contracted before he ceased to be a Voting Member;
  - 4.2.2 payment of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up; and adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

#### **DIRECTORS' POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### 5. <u>Directors' general authority and Members' reserve power</u>

- 5.1 Subject to the Articles and regulations made pursuant to them and the Companies Acts, the Board is responsible for the management of the Company's business, for which purpose it may exercise all the powers of the Company.
- 5.2 The Board may from time to time make, vary or revoke rules relating to the Company including mechanisms and standing orders for the better administration of the Company including:
  - 5.2.1 rules setting out different categories of membership of the Company, membership fees and conditions of membership;
  - 5.2.2 rules setting out rights, privileges and obligations of the different categories of member;
  - 5.2.3 safeguarding policies, which shall ensure compliance with all safeguarding policies and procedures applicable to the Company.
- 5.3 No rules or regulations made by the Company shall invalidate any prior act of the Board which would have been valid if such Rule or Regulation had not been made.
- 5.4 All rules and regulations, for so long as they are in force, shall be binding on all Members.
- 5.5 Rules and regulations made pursuant to this Article 5 must be compliant with the Companies Acts and these Articles in order to be valid. No rules shall be inconsistent with or affect or repeal anything contained in the Articles or be in breach of any statutory provision.
- 5.6 The Board shall at any time summon an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Members for the transaction of special business (including any proposed bank borrowing).

### 6. Directors may delegate

- 6.1 Subject to the Articles, the Board may delegate any of the powers which are conferred on it under the Articles:
  - 6.1.1 to such person or committee
  - 6.1.2 by such means (including by power of attorney);
  - 6.1.3 to such an extent;
  - 6.1.4 in relation to such matters or territories; and
  - 6.1.5 on such terms and conditions, as it thinks fit.
- 6.2 All acts and proceedings delegated under Article 6.1 above shall be reported to the Board in due course.
- 6.3 If the Board so specifies, any such delegation may authorise further delegation of the Board's powers by any person to whom they are delegated.
- 6.4 The Board may revoke any delegation in whole or part, or alter its terms and conditions.

### 7. Committees

- 7.1 Committees to which the Board delegates any of its powers must follow procedures which are based as far as they are applicable on those provisions of the Articles which govern the taking of decisions by the Board.
- 7.2 The Board may make rules of procedure for all or any committees, which prevail over rules derived from the Articles if they are not consistent with them.

#### **DECISION-MAKING BY DIRECTORS**

### 8. <u>Directors to take decisions collectively</u>

Any decision of the Board must be either a majority decision or a decision taken in accordance with Article 9.

# 9. Unanimous decisions

- 9.1 A decision of the Board is taken in accordance with this Article when all eligible Directors indicate to each other by any means that they share a common view on a matter.
- 9.2 Such a decision may take the form of a resolution in writing, copies of which have been signed by each eligible Director or to which each eligible Director has otherwise indicated agreement in writing.
- 9.3 References in this Article to eligible Directors are to Directors who would have been entitled to vote on the matter had it been proposed as a resolution at a meeting of the Board.
- 9.4 A decision may not be taken in accordance with this Article if the eligible Directors would not have formed a quorum at such a meeting.

### 10. Calling a meeting of the Board

- 10.1 Any Director may call a meeting of the Board by giving notice of the meeting to the Directors or by directing the Company Secretary to give such notice.
- 10.2 Notice of any meeting of the Board must indicate:
  - 10.2.1 its proposed date and time;
  - 10.2.2 where it is to take place; and
  - 10.2.3 if it is anticipated that the Directors participating in the meeting will not be in the same place, how it is proposed that they should communicate with each other during the meeting.
- 10.3 Notice of a meeting of the Board must be given to each Director but need not be in writing. A Director who is absent from Great Britain shall be entitled to notice of a meeting if he or she has provided a valid email address.
- Notice of a meeting of the Board need not be given to Directors who waive their entitlement to notice of that meeting by giving notice to that effect to the Board not more than seven days after the date on which the meeting is held. Where such notice is given after the meeting has

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- been held it shall be deemed to have been given before the meeting when considering the validity of the meeting or of any business conducted at it.
- 10.5 Without prejudice to the foregoing, the Board shall meet at such times and at such frequency as they consider fit from time to time. The Board shall meet not less than nine times per calendar year but, subject to that, the actual number of meetings shall be determined by the Board.

# 11. Participation in meetings of the Board

- 11.1 Subject to the Articles, Directors participate in a meeting of the Board, or part of a meeting of the Board, when:
  - 11.1.1 the meeting has been called and takes place in accordance with the Articles; and
  - 11.1.2 they can each communicate to the others any information or opinions they have on any particular item of the business of the meeting.
- 11.2 In determining whether Directors are participating in a meeting of the Board, it is irrelevant where any Director is or how they communicate with each other.
- 11.3 If all the Directors participating in a meeting of the Board are not in the same place, they may decide that the meeting is to be treated as taking place wherever any of them are situated.

# 12. Quorum for Board Meetings

- 12.1 At a meeting of the Board, unless a quorum is participating, no proposal is to be voted on, except a proposal to call another meeting.
- 12.2 The quorum for meetings of the Board may be fixed from time to time by a decision of the Directors but it must never be less than seven.
- 12.3 Subject to Article 12.4, the Board may act notwithstanding any vacancy in their body.
- 12.4 If the total number of Directors for the time being is less than the quorum required, the Directors must not take any decision other than a decision to call a general meeting so as to enable the Voting Members to appoint additional Directors.
- 12.5 Subject to Article 12.6, if a question arises at a meeting of the Board (or a meeting of a committee of the Board) as to the right of a Director to participate in the meeting (or part of the meeting) for voting or quorum purposes, the question may, before conclusion of the meeting, be referred to the Chairman whose ruling in relation to any Director other than the Chairman is to be final and conclusive.
- 12.6 If any question as to the right to participate in the meeting (or part of the meeting) should arise in respect of the Chairman, the question is to be decided by a majority decision of the Directors at that meeting, for which purpose the Chairman is not to be counted as participating in the meeting (or that part of the meeting) for voting or quorum purposes.

### 13. Chairing of meetings of the Board

13.1 The Chairman shall chair meetings of the Board. The Chairman shall be appointed annually at the annual general meeting.

13.2 If the Chairman is either ineligible to take part in all of a board meeting or the post is vacant or the Chairman is not participating in a Board meeting within 10 minutes of the time at which it was due to start, those members of the Board present and participating shall choose one of their number to be chairman of the meeting. The person so appointed for the time being is known as the chairman of the meeting.

# 14. Casting vote

- 14.1 If the numbers of votes for and against a proposal are equal, the Chairman of the meeting of the Board shall have a casting vote.
- 14.2 Article 14.1 does not apply if, in accordance with the Articles, the Chairman of the meeting is not to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum or voting purposes.

# 15. Conflicts of interest

- 15.1 If a proposed decision of the Board is concerned with an actual or proposed transaction or arrangement with the Company in which a Director is interested, that Director is not to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum or voting purposes save where Article 15.2 applies.
- 15.2 The prohibition under Article 15.1 shall not apply when:
  - 15.2.1 the Board approves the Director as counting towards the quorum and voting on the transaction or arrangement notwithstanding such interest;
  - 15.2.2 the Company passes an ordinary resolution to approve the Director as counting towards the quorum and voting on the transaction or arrangement notwithstanding such interest;
  - 15.2.3 the Director's interest cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest; or
  - 15.2.4 the Director's conflict of interest arises from a permitted cause.
- 15.3 For the purposes of Article 15.2, the following are "permitted causes":
  - 15.3.1 a guarantee, security or indemnity given, or to be given, by or to a Director in respect of an obligation incurred by or on behalf of the Company or any of its subsidiaries (if any);
  - 15.3.2 subscription, or an agreement to subscribe, for securities of the Company or any of its subsidiaries (if any), or to underwrite, sub-underwrite, or guarantee subscription for any such securities; and
  - 15.3.3 arrangements pursuant to which benefits are made available to employees and Directors or former employees and Directors of the Company or any of its subsidiaries (if any) which do not provide special benefits for Directors or former Directors.
- For the purposes of this Article 15, references to proposed decisions and decision-making processes include any meeting of the Board or part of a meeting of the Board.

- 15.5 Subject to Article 15.7, if a question arises at a meeting of the Board or of a committee of the Board as to the right of a Director to participate in the meeting (or part of the meeting) for voting or quorum purposes, the question may, before the conclusion of the meeting, be referred to the Chairman of the meeting whose ruling in relation to any Director other than himself is to be final and conclusive.
- 15.6 Where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment of two or more Directors to employment with the Company or any body corporate in which the Company is interested the proposals may be divided and considered in relation to each Director separately and (provided he or she is not for another reason precluded from voting) each of the Directors concerned shall be entitled to vote and be counted in the quorum in respect of each resolution except that concerning his own appointment.
- 15.7 If any question as to the right to participate in the meeting (or part of the meeting) should arise in respect of the Chairman of the meeting, the question is to be decided by a decision of the Directors at that meeting, for which purpose the Chairman of the meeting is not to be counted as participating in the meeting (or that part of the meeting) for voting or quorum purposes.
- 15.8 A Director may vote, and count towards the quorum, in regard to any transaction or arrangement in which he or she has, or can have, a direct or indirect conflict of interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict with the interests of the Company only where such matter has been authorised by the Board in accordance with section 175 of the 2006 Act.
- 15.9 The Company may by ordinary resolution suspend or relax to any extent, either generally or in respect of any particular matter, any provision of the Articles prohibiting a Director from voting at a meeting of the Board or a committee formed under Article 6.

### 16. Records of decisions to be kept

The Board must ensure that the Company keeps a record, in writing, for seven years from the date of the decision recorded, of every appointment by the Board and of every unanimous or majority decision taken by the Board (and all committees) and by the Company at general meeting.

#### APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

### 17. <u>Methods of appointing Directors</u>

- 17.1 The number of Directors shall be not less than seven and shall be subject to a maximum of thirteen.
- 17.2 The members of the Board shall include:
  - 17.2.1 the Chairman;
  - 17.2.2 the Finance Director;
  - 17.2.3 the Company Secretary;
  - 17.2.4 the Director of Tennis;
  - 17.2.5 the Director of Squash and Racketball;

- 17.2.6 the Director of Social activities;
- 17.2.7 the Director of Gym and fitness;
- 17.2.8 the minute secretary;
- 17.2.9 up to three Elected Directors;
- 17.2.10 the Sports Manager; and
- 17.2.11 the Facilities Manager.
- 17.3 From the adoption of these Articles the first Directors and Honorary President, who shall hold office until such time as they are due to retire in accordance with the Articles; shall be:

Name	Office
Ron Stevenson	Honorary President (Not a Board Member)
John Hollingsworth	Chairman
John Reynolds	Company Secretary
Graham Loader	Finance Director
Nigel Eastwood	Director of Tennis
Neil Patel	Director of Squash and Racketball
Nigel Mynott	Director of Gym and Fitness
Nicola Willis	Director of Social activities
Lesley Calrow	Minute Secretary
David Tilley	Elected Director
Gregg Davis	Elected Director
Marc Hughes	Sports Manager
To be appointed	Facilities Manager
Judy Loader	Elected Director

- 17.4 The first Directors and Honorary President set out in Article 17.3 shall retire at the next annual general meeting in the year set out above after their respective names but may be re-elected in accordance with these Articles.
- 17.5 All acts carried out in good faith at any meeting of the Board or of any committee, or by any person acting as a Director, shall, notwithstanding it be afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment or continuance in office of any such person be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed or had duly continued in office.

### 18. Elected Directors and Appointed Directors

18.1 Subject to Articles 17.2 and 17.3 each Elected Director or Appointed Director shall be appointed as Directors from the general meeting at which he or she is elected to or appointed to such role to the general meeting annually after his or her appointment or election.

## 19. Termination of Director's appointment

- 19.1 Without prejudice to the provisions of section 168 of the 2006 Act, a person shall cease to be a Director of the Company as soon as:
  - 19.1.1 that person ceases to be a Director by virtue of any provision of the 2006 Act or is prohibited from being a Director by law;
  - 19.1.2 a bankruptcy order is made against that person;
  - 19.1.3 a composition is made with that person's creditors generally in of that person's debts;
  - 19.1.4 a registered medical practitioner who is treating that person gives opinion to the Company stating that that person has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a Director and may remain so for more than three months;
  - 19.1.5 by reason of that person's mental health, a court makes an order which wholly or partly prevents that person from personally exercising any powers or rights which that person would otherwise have;
  - 19.1.6 unless the Board resolves otherwise, that person shall have been absent for more than three consecutive Board meetings without sufficient reason or without permission of the Board;
  - 19.1.7 that person is requested to resign by all of the other members of acting together; or
  - 19.1.8 notification is received by the Board from the Director that the Director is resigning from office, and such resignation has taken effect in accordance with its terms.
- 19.2 Any member of the Board who is removed from office as a Director for whatever reason shall be deemed to have resigned from office and the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with these Articles.

#### APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTED POSITIONS

### 20. Chairman, Company Secretary, Honorary President and Finance Director

The Chairman, Honorary President, Company Secretary and Finance Director shall be elected, assume office and retire in accordance with, and shall have such powers as are specified in these Articles.

#### 21. Other Officers

21.1 The Board may, subject to Article 20 above, appoint such voluntary positions and which the Board feels are required in order to fulfil the Company's Objectives on such terms and for

such periods as they think fit and may delegate to them such of their powers as they think desirable to be executed by them. Save if otherwise elected or appointed in accordance with these Articles, a person holding such a position shall not become a Director.

21.2 The Board shall appoint a Finance Director. The Finance Director shall be a Director by virtue of his office and shall have such duties, rights and privileges as the Board shall from time to time prescribe.

### 22. Executive Committee

The Board shall establish the Executive Committee to manage the operation of the Club.

### 23. Employees

Subject to the provisions of the Articles, the Board may appoint employees to manage the business and operations of the Company for such terms, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit and such employees appointed may be removed by them. While such employee may have a different title within the Company, for the purposes of these Articles the most senior employees shall be referred to as the Facilities Manager and the Sports Manager.

### 24. <u>Elections and Appointments</u>

- 24.1 Elected Directors and Appointed Directors shall be elected or appointed (as appropriate) at each annual general meeting pursuant to these Articles.
- 24.2 Any Voting Member may propose a Voting Member to be an Elected Director for consideration by the Board. Any proposal must be made on the form prescribed from time to time by the Board and signed by the nominee. Any proposal must be seconded by another Voting Member. Each Voting Member may only propose or second one for each post and the form must be completed and returned to the Company Secretary not later than such date as the Board shall prescribe each year.
- 24.3 If there are fewer than or the same number of candidates as there are vacancies for Directors, those candidates shall be declared elected unopposed. In the event of there being more nominations than vacancies, there shall be an election at the annual general meeting.

#### 25. Casual Vacancies

- 25.1 A casual vacancy in the office of Chairman shall be filled by the Board provided always that the person appointed by the Board to fill the casual vacancy shall hold office until the next annual general meeting. At such annual general meeting the Company shall elect a new Chairman who shall hold office until such time as the person he or she replaces was due to retire.
- 25.2 A casual vacancy in any office shall be filled by the Board provided always that the person so appointed by the Board to fill the casual vacancy shall hold office only until the next general meeting. At such general meeting the Voting Members shall by majority vote elect a replacement who shall hold office until such time as the person he or she replaces was due to retire but shall be eligible for re-election or appointment in accordance with these Articles.

### 26. Applications for membership

- 26.1 The subscribers to the Memorandum of Association of the Company, the voting members of the unincorporated association known as Wolverhampton Lawn Tennis & Squash Club as at the date of incorporation and such other persons as are admitted to membership by the Facilities Manager in accordance with the Articles shall, for so long as they are Members, be the Voting Members of the Company.
- 26.2 No person or body shall become a Voting Member of the Company other than a person who has:
  - 26.2.1 completed an application for membership in such form as required by the Board, and
  - 26.2.2 acknowledged in writing his or her obligations under Article 4;

and in respect of which the Facilities Manager has approved the application.

# 27. Conditions of membership

- 27.1 All Members shall be subject to the Articles.
- 27.2 The Members shall pay such membership and other fees as shall be set by the Board from time to time.
- 27.3 If any membership or other fees are more than a month overdue then any right for that Member to attend, speak and vote at a general meeting shall be suspended until such membership or other fees are paid in full.

### 28. Termination of Membership

- 28.1 A Member may withdraw from Membership of the Company by giving notice in accordance with the Articles. Membership shall not be transferable in any event and shall cease immediately on death, dissolution or any other circumstance prescribed in the Articles or on the failure of the Member to comply or to continue to comply with any condition of Membership set out in the Articles.
- 28.2 A Member may be expelled as a Member through the following process:
  - 28.2.1 the Board resolves by a simple majority of all of the Directors (not just a majority of those attending and voting but excluding any Directors conflicted from voting) that such expulsion is in the interests of the Company;
  - 28.2.2 notice of such resolution shall be served on the affected Member. Such notice shall stipulate a date (which shall be not less than seven days after the deemed date of receipt of such notice) by which notice of appeal must be received by the Company failing which the affected Member shall be expelled on such date;
  - 28.2.3 if a notice of appeal is received then a meeting of the Board shall be convened (on not less than 14 days' notice to each Director and the affected Member) at which meeting the affected Member shall be entitled to present a statement in its defence (verbally and/or in writing);

- 28.2.4 at such meeting and following consideration of such statement (if any) the Board shall vote (by a simple majority of those attending and voting) on whether to uphold its earlier decision to expel. Such decision shall be notified to the affected Member at such meeting (assuming he or she is represented at the meeting) or by notice in writing (if he or she is not represented at the meeting). Should the Board uphold its decision then the affected Member shall (subject to Article 28.2.5) be expelled with immediate effect;
- 28.2.5 the affected Member may appeal to a general meeting of the Company by serving notice of its appeal on the Company (such notice must be received within seven days of the date of expulsion). Such appeal shall be heard at the next general meeting of the Company (subject to there being sufficient time to include the same in the notice of the general meeting). The affected Member shall be entitled to present a statement in his or her defence (verbally and/or in writing) to the general meeting;
- 28.2.6 at such general meeting the expulsion shall be confirmed or overturned by a simple majority vote of those Voting Members attending and voting. Should the expulsion be overturned then the affected Member shall be reinstated with immediate effect. Should the expulsion be confirmed then the affected Member shall pay the additional cost to the Company of such hearing on demand.
- 28.3 Any Member whose annual membership or other fee is more than six weeks in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned as a Member unless the Board otherwise decides.
- 28.4 Any person ceasing to be a Member forfeits all rights in relation to and claims on the Company, its property and funds and has no right to the return of any part of his membership or other fees.

### **ORGANISATION OF GENERAL MEETINGS**

### 29. Annual General Meetings

- 29.1 The Company shall hold a general meeting in January every calendar year as its annual general meeting at such time and place as may be determined by the Board and shall specify the meeting as such in the notices calling it, provided that so long as the Company holds its first annual general meeting within 12 months after its incorporation.
- 29.2 The annual general meeting shall be held for the following purposes:
  - 29.2.1 to receive from the Board the Company's financial statements and a report from the Financial Director:
  - 29.2.2 to receive from the Board a report of the activities of the Company since the previous annual general meeting;
  - 29.2.3 to appoint the Company's auditors;
  - 29.2.4 as and when appropriate to elect the Chairman and all members of the Board;
  - 29.2.5 to elect the Elected Directors and appoint the members of the Executive Committee; and

- 29.2.6 to transact such other business as may be brought before it.
- 29.3 All general meetings, other than annual general meetings, shall be called general meetings.

### 30. Calling general meetings

- 30.1 The Board may call general meetings and, on the requisition of:
  - 31.1.1 a majority of the members of the Board (excluding the members of the Executive Committee);
  - 31.1.2 at least 50 of the Voting Members,

shall forthwith proceed to convene a general meeting for a date not later than six weeks after receipt of the requisition. Such requisition must state the object of the meeting and include one or more resolutions to be put to the meeting. If there are not within the United Kingdom sufficient Directors to call a general meeting, the Company Secretary or any Director may call a general meeting.

- 30.2 At least 14 clear days' notice in writing of every general meeting shall be given to such persons as are under the Articles or under the 2006 Act entitled to receive such notices from the Company.
- 30.3 The notice shall specify the place, the day and the hour of the meeting and in the case of special business, the general nature of the business. All business transacted at a general meeting, and all that is transacted at an annual general meeting, with the exception of the business set out in Article 29.2, shall be deemed special business.
- 30.4 A Voting Member may propose a resolution (or resolutions) to be considered at a general meeting. Such proposed resolutions must be seconded by another Voting Member and made in writing addressed to the Company Secretary and be received not less than 35 days before the general meeting at which it is to be proposed.
- 30.5 The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of such notice by, any person entitled to receive notice thereof, shall not invalidate any proceedings of, or resolution passed at, any meeting.

# 31. Attendance and speaking at general meetings

- 31.1 Each Voting Member shall (subject to Article 27.3) be entitled to attend and speak at a general meeting.
- 31.2 A person is able to exercise the right to speak at a general meeting when that person is in a position to communicate to all those attending the meeting, during the meeting, any information or opinions which that person has on the business of the meeting.
- 31.3 A person is able to exercise the right to vote at a general meeting when:
  - 31.3.1 that person is able to vote, during the meeting, on resolutions put to the vote at the meeting, and
  - 31.3.2 that person's vote can be taken into account in determining whether or not such resolutions are passed at the same time as the votes of all the other persons attending the meeting.
- 31.4 The Board may make whatever arrangements they consider appropriate to enable those attending a general meeting to exercise their rights to speak or vote at it.

- 31.5 In determining attendance at a general meeting, it is immaterial whether any two or more members attending it are in the same place as each other.
- 31.6 Two or more persons who are not in the same place as each other attend a general meeting if their circumstances are such that if they have (or were to have) rights to speak and vote at that meeting, they are (or would be) able to exercise them.

### 32. Quorum for general meetings

- 32.1 20 of Voting Members entitled to attend and vote present in person shall be a quorum.
- 32.2 No business other than the appointment of the chairman of the meeting is to be transacted at a general meeting if the persons attending it do not constitute a quorum.

### 33. Chairing general meetings

- 33.1 The Honorary President shall chair general meetings if present and willing to do so.
- 33.2 If the Honorary President is unable to chair a general meeting then the Chairman shall Chair the meeting.
- 33.3 If the post of Chairman is vacant, or if the Chairman is not willing to chair the meeting or is not present within 10 minutes of the time at which a meeting was due to start:
  - 33.3.1 the Directors present, or
  - 33.3.2 (if no Directors are present), the meeting,
  - must appoint a Director or a Voting Member to chair the meeting, and the appointment of the chairman of the meeting must be the first business of the meeting.
- 33.4 The person chairing a meeting in accordance with this Article is referred to as "the chairman of the meeting".

## 34. Attendance and speaking by Directors and non-Voting Members

- 34.1 Directors may attend, speak and vote but the Honorary President and non-Voting Members may (subject to Article 27.3) attend and speak (but not vote) at general meetings.
- 34.2 The chairman of the meeting may permit other persons who are not Voting Members or representatives of Voting Members of the Company to attend and speak (but not vote) at a general meeting.

### 35. Adjournment

- 35.1 If within half an hour of the time at which the meeting was due to start the persons attending a general meeting do not constitute a quorum, or if during a quorum ceases to be present, the chairman of the meeting must adjourn it.
- 35.2 The chairman of the meeting may adjourn a general meeting at which a quorum is present if:
  - 35.2.1 the meeting approves, by way of a simple majority of the members present, an adjournment, or

- 35.2.2 it appears to the chairman of the meeting that an adjournment is necessary to protect the safety of any person attending the meeting or ensure that the business of the meeting is conducted in an orderly manner.
- 35.3 The chairman of the meeting must adjourn a general meeting if directed to do so by the meeting.
- 35.4 When adjourning a general meeting, the chairman of the meeting must:
  - 35.4.1 either specify the time and place to which it is adjourned or state that it is to continue at a time and place to be fixed by the Directors, and
  - 35.4.2 have regard to any directions as to the time and place of any adjournment which have been given by the meeting.
- 35.5 If the continuation of an adjourned meeting is to take place more than 14 days after it was adjourned, the Company must give at least seven clear days' notice of it:
  - 35.5.1 to the same persons to whom notice of the Company's general meetings is required to be given, and
  - 35.5.2 containing the same information which such notice is required to contain.
- No business may be transacted at an adjourned general meeting which could not properly have been transacted at the meeting if the adjournment had not taken place.

#### **VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

# 36. Voting: general

- 36.1 Every Voting Member shall (subject to Article 27.3) be entitled to receive notice of, to attend a general meeting and to cast one vote at such general meeting. Such Voting Member shall be entitled to attend in person or by proxy.
- 36.2 Scrutineers should be appointed to assist in determining the outcome of any vote.
- A resolution put to the vote at a general meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is demanded in accordance with the Articles.
- 36.4 In the case of an equality of votes the chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote.
- 36.5 Unless a poll is demanded, a declaration by the chairman of the meeting that a resolution has been carried or carried unanimously, or by a particular majority, or lost, or not carried by a particular majority and an entry to that effect in the Minutes of the meeting shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against the resolution.
- 36.6 A resolution may be put to the vote of the Voting Members by way of written resolution in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts.

### 37. Errors and disputes

37.1 No objection may be raised to the qualification of any person voting at a general meeting except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is tendered, and

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- every vote not disallowed at the meeting is valid. Any such objection must be referred to the chairman of the meeting whose decision is final.
- 37.2 If any votes are given or counted at a general meeting which shall afterwards be discovered to be improperly given or counted, the same shall not affect the validity of any resolution or thing passed or done at the said meeting, unless the objection to such votes be taken at the same meeting, and not in that case unless the chairman of the meeting shall then and there decide that the error is of sufficient magnitude to affect such resolution or thing.

### 38. Poll votes

- 38.1 A poll shall require each member present or acting by a proxy to record their vote on a poll card. The poll card will allow a member to have three options. The member may vote in favour of a resolution, against the resolution or to abstain from voting on the resolution.
- 38.2 A poll on a resolution may be demanded:
  - 38.2.1 in advance of the general meeting where it is to be put to the vote, or
    - 39.2.2 at a general meeting, either before a show of hands on that resolution or immediately after the result of a show of hands on that resolution is declared.
- 38.3 A poll may be demanded by:
  - 38.3.1 the chairman of the meeting; or
  - 38.3.2 the Board.
- 38.4 A demand for a poll may be withdrawn if:
  - 38.4.1 the poll has not yet been taken, and
  - 38.4.2 the chairman of the meeting consents to the withdrawal.
- 38.5 Polls shall be taken immediately and in such manner as the Chairman directs.

### 39. Content of proxy notices

- 39.1 Proxies may only validly be appointed by a notice in writing (a "proxy notice") which:
  - 39.1.1 states the name and address of the Member appointing the proxy;
  - 39.1.2 identifies the person appointed to be that Member's proxy and the general meeting in relation to which that person is appointed;
  - 39.1.3 is signed by or on behalf of the Member appointing the proxy, or is authenticated in such manner as the Directors may determine; and
  - 39.1.4 is delivered to the Company in accordance with the Articles and any instructions contained in the notice of the general meeting to which they relate.
- 39.2 The Board may require proxy notices to be delivered in a particular form, and may specify different forms for different purposes.

- 39.3 Proxy notices must specify how the proxy appointed under them is to vote (or that the proxy is to abstain from voting) on one or more resolutions.
- 39.4 Unless a proxy notice indicates otherwise, it must be treated as:
  - 39.4.1 allowing the person appointed under it as a proxy discretion as to how to vote on any ancillary or procedural resolutions put to the meeting, and
  - 39.4.2 appointing that person as a proxy in relation to any adjournment of the general meeting to which it relates as well as the meeting itself.

# 40. Delivery of proxy notices

- 40.1 Subject to the restrictions within the Companies Act, the Board shall stipulate from time to time when, how and where proxy notices should be delivered in respect of any general meeting.
- 40.2 A person who is entitled to attend, speak or vote (either on a show of hands or on a poll) at a general meeting remains so entitled in respect of that meeting or any adjournment of it, even though a valid proxy notice has been delivered to the Company by or on behalf of that person.
- 40.3 An appointment under a proxy notice may be revoked by delivering to the Company a notice in writing given by or on behalf of the person by whom or on whose behalf the proxy notice was given.
- 40.4 A notice revoking a proxy appointment only takes effect if it is delivered before the start of the meeting or adjourned meeting to which it relates.
- 40.5 If a proxy notice is not executed accompanied by written evidence execute it on the appointor's behalf.

# 41. Amendments to resolutions

- 41.1 An ordinary resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution if:
  - 41.1.1 notice of the proposed amendment is given to the Company in writing by a person entitled to vote at the general meeting at which it is to be proposed not less than seven days before the meeting is to take place (or such later time as the chairman of the meeting may determine); and
  - 41.1.2 the proposed amendment does not, in the reasonable opinion of the chairman of the meeting, materially alter the scope of the resolution.
- 41.2 A special resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution, if:
  - 41.2.1 the chairman of the meeting proposes the amendment at the general meeting at which the resolution is to be proposed; and
  - 41.2.2 the amendment does not go beyond what is necessary to correct a grammatical or other non-substantive error in the resolution.

- 41.3 With the consent of the chairman of the meeting, an amendment may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before the resolution is voted upon.
- 41.4 If the chairman of the meeting, acting in good faith, wrongly decides that an amendment to a resolution is out of order, the chairman's error does not invalidate the vote on that resolution.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS**

#### 42. Means of communication to be used

- 42.1 Subject to the Articles, any notice or document to be sent or supplied by or to the Company under the Articles may be sent or supplied in any way in which the 2006 Act provides for documents or information which are authorised or required by any provision of the 2006 Act to be sent or supplied by or to the Company.
- 42.2 The applicable address shall be:
  - 42.2.1 in the case of a Voting Member at his or her address as it appears in the register of members or by giving notice using electronic communications to an address for the time being notified to the Company by the Voting Member; and
  - 42.2.2 in the case of a Non-Voting Member or anyone else, at his or her last known address.
- 42.3 Subject to the Articles, any notice or document to be sent or supplied to a member of the Board in connection with the taking of decisions by the Board may also be sent or supplied by the means by which that Director has asked to be sent or supplied with such notices or documents for the time being.
- 42.4 A Director may agree with the Company that notices or documents sent to that Director in a particular way are to be deemed to have been received within a specified time of their being sent, and for the specified time to be less than 48 hours.
- 42.5 Any notice, if served by first class (or equivalent) post, shall be deemed to have been served on the day following that on which the letter containing the same is put into the post, and in proving such service it shall be sufficient to prove that the letter containing the notice was properly addressed and put into the post as a prepaid letter. Any notice, if served by electronic communications, shall be deemed to have been given at the expiration of 48 hours after the time it was sent.

#### 43. No right to inspect accounts and other records

Except as provided by law or authorised by the Board or an ordinary resolution of the Company, no person is entitled to inspect any of the Company's accounting or records or documents merely by virtue

#### **DIRECTORS' INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE**

### 44. Indemnity

44.1 Subject to Article 44.2, a relevant Director of the Company or an associated company shall be indemnified out of the Company's assets against:

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- 44.1.1 any liability incurred by that Director in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the Company or an associated company;
- 44.1.2 any liability incurred by that Director in connection with the activities of the Company or an associated company in its capacity as a trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined in section 235(6) of the 2006 Act); and
- 44.1.3 any other liability incurred by that Director as an officer of the Company or an associated company.
- 44.2 This Article does not authorise any indemnity which would be prohibited or rendered void by any provision of the Companies Acts or by any other provision of law.

#### 44.3 In this Article:

- 44.3.1 Companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate; and
- 44.3.2 A "**relevant Director**" means any Director or former Director of the Company or an associated company.

#### 45. Insurance

The Board may decide to purchase and maintain insurance, at the expense of the Company, for the benefit of any relevant Director in respect of any relevant loss.

#### 45.2 In this Article:

- 45.2.1 a "relevant Director" means any Director or former Director of the Company or an associated company;
- 45.2.2 a "relevant loss" means any loss or liability which has been or may be incurred by a relevant Director in connection with that Directors duties or powers in relation to the Company, any associated company or any pension fund or employees' share scheme of the Company or associated company; and
- 45.2.3 companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate.

# 46. <u>Dissolution</u>

If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Company there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever the same shall be paid to or distributed equally to:

- (i) A sporting club with similar objects; and/or
- (ii) to the sporting bodies of the sports undertaken by the Members of the Company as at the date of its winding up for use by them for related community sports.