



Rules and bye-laws
Incorporating rule changes at an
SGM held on 6th March 2012

1. NAME

The name of the Club shall be 'The Wimbledon Club', hereinafter referred to as 'The Club'.

2. OBJECTS

The objects of The Club are: -

- a) To provide a Gymnasium and to promote the amateur sports of Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Hockey and Squash Rackets (hereafter referred to as 'the Sports Sections') and for such other recreations or entertainment as the General Committee may from time to time authorise, and community participation in the same.
- b) To provide refreshments for Members and their guests.
- c) To provide and maintain a Club ground and premises for these purposes.
- d) To employ staff for these purposes.
 - a. The Club is non-profit making. Any surplus income or gains shall be reinvested in the Club. There will be no distribution of Club assets, in cash or kind, to members or third parties except only as donations to Charities or to other clubs that are registered as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC).
 - b. In the event of the dissolution of the Club, any net assets will be transferred to other CASC, registered Charities and Sporting Governing Bodies as nominated by the General Committee and approved by members in general meeting.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Club is open to all of the community irrespective of age, gender, disability, race, ethnic origin, creed, colour, social status or sexual orientation except only as a consequence of the non-availability of facilities or the requirements of a particular sport or activity.

The General Committee may refuse membership only for good cause. Candidates may appeal against any refusal of their application.

Classes of membership:

There shall be the following classes of membership:

- a) Playing Members
- b) Associate Members: Normally those who have previously been Playing Members or Non-Playing supporters of the Club's sporting sections and who may wish to make occasional use of the playing facilities
- c) Junior Playing Members: Those below the age of 18 on 1st September in the current year
- d) Honorary Members: As elected at the discretion of the General Committee
- e) Temporary Members: Such members as the General Committee may from time to time elect
- f) Life Members

4. VOTING

Only Members in Classes (a), (b) and (f) shall be entitled to vote at meetings.

5. PROPERTY OF CLUB

The property of the Club (other than cash which shall be under control of the Honorary Club Treasurer) shall be vested in not more than four trustees. The trustees shall deal with the property of the Club as the General Committee shall from time to time direct by a resolution (of which an entry in the Minute book shall be conclusive evidence). The trustees shall be indemnified against risk and expense out of the Club property. The trustees shall hold office until death or resignation or until removed from office by a resolution of the General Committee who may for any reason which may seem sufficient to a majority of them present and voting at any meeting remove any trustees from the office of trustee. Where by reason of any such death, resignation or removal it shall appear necessary to the General Committee shall deem it expedient to appoint an additional trustee or additional trustees the General Committee shall by resolution nominate the person or persons to be appointed the new trustee or trustees. For the purpose of giving effect to such nomination the President is hereby nominated as the person to appoint new trustees of the Club within the meaning of Section 36 of the Trustee Act 1925 and he shall by deed duly appoint the person or persons so nominated by the General Committee as the new trustee or trustees of the Club and the provisions of the Trustee Act 1925 shall apply to any such appointment. Any statement of fact in any such deed of appointment shall be in favour of a person dealing bona fide and for value of the Club or the General Committee be conclusive evidence of the fact so stated.

6. PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENTS

The President shall be elected by Members in Annual General Meeting on the proposition of the General Committee. He shall remain in office for three years or until earlier retirement. In retirement the President will be designated as a Past President for life. Vice Presidents shall be elected by Members in Annual General Meeting from candidates proposed by the General Committee and shall remain in office for life or until resignation.

7. MANAGEMENT OF THE CLUB

- a) The Management of the Club shall be in the hands of the General Committee who shall have full powers.
- b) The General Committee shall consist of the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Treasurer, two members nominated by each of the Cricket, Tennis, Hockey and Squash sections, not more than two members nominated by members of the Club in accordance with rule 9(b) and one member to be nominated annually by the newly elected Committee at its first meeting to represent the Junior section. The Sports Sections shall nominate alternatives to attend in the absence of their first nominees. Alternatives shall be entitled to vote.
- c) All Officers and Members shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting and shall be eligible for re-election from year to year.
- d) At its first meeting following the Annual General Meeting the General Committee shall elect one from its number to be Chairman of the Club who shall preside over the Committee for the ensuing year.
- e) The General Committee shall be empowered to fill any vacancy in their number during the year. Members appointed to fill a vacancy shall not be entitled to vote on General Committee matters.

- f) The General Committee may appoint sub-committees for any purpose in connection with the affairs of the Club and may invite any Member of the Club to serve on them as a co-opted Member.
- g) Seven shall form a quorum at any meeting of the General Committee.
- h) The General Committee may also appoint a paid General Secretary or such other paid Officer as the General Committee may decide at such remuneration and on such terms as the General Committee may decide but the appointment of such person or persons shall not require confirmation at the Annual General Meeting and no paid Officer shall be entitled to vote in General Committee.
- i) Any Member of the General Committee who has an interest, direct or indirect, in the provision of any goods or services for the Club shall declare his interest where the provision of such goods or services is under consideration.
- j) In the absence of the Chairman, the General Committee shall elect one of their number to preside over the meeting.
- k) The General Committee shall be solely responsible for the allocation of playing areas.

8. MANAGEMENT OF SPORTS SECTIONS

The General Committee shall delegate to elected sub-committees, the management and control of affairs of the Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Hockey and Squash Rackets and any other sections which the General Committee may decide to establish so far as they relate to these games. Such sub-committees shall be subject to the control and direction of the General Committee.

- a) All Officers and Members of the Sub-committees shall be elected annually at Sectional Annual Meetings. Only fully paid-up Members of a section may be present and vote at such meetings.
- b) The Honorary Secretary of The Club and the Honorary Treasurer of The Club shall be ex-officio members of all sub-committees but shall not vote at meetings of sub-committees.
- c) The membership of each sub-committee shall not exceed ten persons including the sectional Honorary Secretary but not including the ex-officio members referred to in (b) above.
- d) The sub-committees shall have powers to co-opt non-voting members.
- e) The sub-committees shall have power to fill any vacancy in their numbers during the year.
- f) At the first sub-committee meeting the member shall elect one from their number to be Chairman for the ensuing year.
- g) Five shall form a quorum at any meeting of the sub-committee.

- h) Any Member of a sub-committee who has an interest direct or otherwise in the provision of any goods or service for the Club shall declare his interest when the provision of such goods or service is under consideration.

9. NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- a) The sub-committees of the Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Hockey and Squash Rackets Sports Sections shall each nominate two fully paid up members and two alternates to serve as committee members on the General Committee.
- b) Any fully paid-up Member shall be entitled to nominate any other fully paid-up members to serve as Honorary Secretary of The Club or Honorary Treasurer of The Club and to nominate any fully paid-up members to serve as committee members on the General Committee, having previously received the assent of the members nominated. All nominations must be seconded by a fully paid-up Member.
- c) Nominations in writing must reach the Honorary Secretary of The Club not less than seven days before the Annual General Meeting and the nominations shall be posted on the notice board as soon as possible after they are received.

10. NOMINATIONS OF SUB-COMMITTEE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

Any fully paid-up Members of a Sports Section shall be at liberty to nominate Officers and Members who must also be fully paid-up members of that section to serve on the sub-committee having previously received the assent of the Member. All nominations must be seconded by a fully paid-up Member.

Nominations in writing must reach the appropriate sectional secretary not less than seven days before the sectional Annual General Meeting and he shall cause the names to be posted on the notice board as soon as possible after they are received.

11. MINUTES

- a) The Honorary Secretary of The Club shall cause proper minutes to be kept of all proceedings of the Club which shall be produced at appropriate meetings.
- b) The Honorary Secretaries of all Sections shall similarly keep and produce proper minutes of all sectional proceedings. Copies shall be sent to the Honorary Secretary of The Club.

12. ACCOUNTS

The Honorary Treasurer of The Club shall cause to be kept proper Accounts which shall be submitted to the Auditor as soon as possible following the end of the Club Financial Year and after Audit printed and circulated to all Members with the Notice summoning the Annual General Meeting and the General Committee's report.

13. FINANCIAL YEAR

The Club Financial Year shall end of September 30th each year and the Annual General Meeting shall be held at a date to be determined by the General Committee but not later than 6 months after the end of the Financial Year.

14. AUDITOR

An Auditor or Auditors who shall have recognised Accountancy qualifications shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting.

15. ELECTION OF MEMBERS

- a) All applications for membership (other than life membership) shall be on a prescribed Membership Application Form.
- b) All candidates must be proposed and seconded by fully paid-up Members of the Club who shall vouch for his or her eligibility
- c) All applications for life membership shall be made in writing supported by a written statement from the relevant Games Sections sub-committees as to the good standing of the applicant, including brief details of their contribution to the Club
- d) Applications will be considered by the General Committee at each regular meeting but the General Committee may, other than the applications for life membership delegate to a sub-committee the consideration of application for membership. The General Committee may, at its sole discretion suspend the category of Life Member for such period as it considers appropriate, and during such suspension no application for life membership will be considered.
- e) Candidates may be elected or refused membership by the General Committee at its absolute discretion.
- f) When a candidate has been elected he/she will be notified in writing and will receive a copy of the Rules. If the due subscription and entrance fee is not paid within fourteen days from the date of such notice the election will be deemed void unless sufficient cause be shown to the General Committee. No new Member shall be admitted to any of the benefits of the Club until he/she has paid the appropriate subscription and entrance fee. A Register of Member shall at all times be available at the Club House.
- g) Candidates for Playing Membership must apply to the relevant Sports Sections(s) who will forward the application to the General Committee. Candidates for Associate membership must apply directly to the General Committee. Candidates will be accepted or refused by a simple majority of the General committee. The General Committee may refuse membership only for good cause. Candidates may appeal against any refusal of their application.
- h) Junior applicants will be admitted subject only to the limits of the capacity of the various Sports Sections.

16. COMPLIANCE WITH RULES AND BYE-LAWS

A member is bound to submit to all Rules and Bye-Laws of the Club.

17. SUBSCRIPTIONS AND ENTRANCE FEE

- a) The subscriptions and any entrance fee payable by Members in accordance with Rule 18 shall be determined by the General Committee and shall be published annually. The subscription rates and entrance fees will be ratified by a simple majority of votes at the Annual General Meeting. Any proposal for the alteration of

the subscriptions and entrance fees proposed by the General Committee shall be supported by the signatures of not less than 15 fully paid-up Members and notified in writing to the Honorary Secretary of The Club not less than seven days before the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting at which the subscriptions and entrance fees are to be ratified. The Honorary Secretary of The Club shall cause notice of any such proposal to be posted on the Club notice board. No such proposal shall be binding unless adopted by a majority of not less than two thirds of the Members present and entitled to vote at the meeting.

- b) Any subscription or additional fee to be paid by Life Members shall be determined by the General Committee from time to time and shall be ratified by a simple majority of votes of all voting members present at the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, provided that any additional fee requested to be paid by an existing duly elected and paid up Life Member will only be payable in relation to new facilities other than those for the playing of Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Hockey and Squash Rackets.

18. PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTION

The Annual subscriptions of all members shall be payable in advance without specific demand. Any members whose subscriptions shall remain unpaid after the date applicable to the Section of the Club to which the member belongs shall receive notice in writing from the Honorary Secretary of The Club or a person delegated by him and the names of any member whose subscription shall remain unpaid after the expiration of 14 days from those dates may be posted in the Club house. The name of any member who has not paid the subscription at the expiration of a further fourteen days may be erased from the official Register of Members unless sufficient cause to the contrary be shown to the satisfaction of the General Committee. The General Committee may restore membership on payment of arrears.

19. MEMBERS ABSENT ABROAD

Any member who is residing abroad for the whole of the season, or through absence from the neighbourhood is unable to visit the ground during the season, shall not be liable for his/her subscription during that period, but shall be liable for such fee as the General Committee decide to retain membership, provided notice of such absence has been sent to the Honorary Secretary of The Club previous to the due date of their subscriptions.

20. SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

At their absolute discretion the General Committee may suspend any Member for any period not exceeding 21 days or may expel any Member from the Club provided that no Member may be expelled except in accordance with Rule 18, unless (a) he has been afforded the opportunity of making to the General Committee representations, either personally or in writing at his choice and (b) not less than two-thirds of the persons present in General Committee vote for his expulsion. Upon expulsion his name shall be erased from the books of the Club and he shall forfeit all rights of Membership.

21. GUESTS

- a) Any Member may introduce guests with liberty to use the Club premises subject to the following conditions: -
- b) No guest shall be introduced who has been expelled from membership of the Club.

- c) Guests may be introduced to play Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Hockey or Squash Rackets. The number of guests that may be introduced at any one time and the number of times an individual guest may be introduced in any one year shall be defined by each section committee and approved by the General Committee.
- d) The General Committee shall have power from time to time to prescribe the fees to be paid in respect of guests.
- e) The General Committee may prohibit or regulate the introduction of guests at their discretion at any time and may, without assigning any reason, forbid the introduction of any person.
- f) Any Member introducing a guest shall sign his or her name, and the name and address of the guest so introduced, in a book kept for that purpose, and shall forthwith pay the requisite fee to the Club Steward or other person appointed by the General Committee to receive such payment.

22. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A General Meeting of the Club shall be held at such time and place and such day in each year as the General Committee shall appoint (provided not more than 15 months elapse between the dates of one General Meeting and the next), and a notice thereof shall be sent to each Member at his/her address in the official Register of Members, which address is to include a duly registered electronic address, at least fourteen days previously. The Annual Report of the General Committee and the Balance Sheet shall be forwarded to Members with the notice summoning the Annual General Meeting.

23. QUORUM AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Twelve Members shall constitute a quorum at Annual General Meetings.

24. BUSINESS AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The business to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting shall be: -

- a) The consideration and adoption of the Accounts.
- b) The Report of the General Committee
- c) The election of the President and vice-presidents when appropriate under Rule 6.
- d) The election of the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Treasurer and the Committee.
- e) The appointment of the Auditor.
- f) Ratification of Subscription Rates and Entrance Fees.
- g) Any other business not being business to be transacted at a Special Meeting.

25. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

The General Committee may call a Special General Meeting on giving fourteen days' notice, specifying the business to be transacted and the discussion shall be confined to such business. The General Committee shall be bound to call a Special General Meeting on receiving a written requisition signed by fifteen Members of the Club.

26. QUORUM AT SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

Twenty Members shall form a quorum at Special General Meetings.

27. GAMES SECTIONS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

- a) The Members of the Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Hockey and Squash Rackets Sections who have paid their due subscriptions shall each hold a General Meeting annually and no more than 15 months shall elapse between one such General Meeting and the next.
- b) The business to be transacted at such General Meetings shall include the election of an Honorary Secretary of the Section, such other Officers as may be deemed necessary and the remaining members of the sub-committee, together with any other business which the sub-committee may direct or any Member attending the meeting may wish to discuss.
- c) Notice of such General Meetings shall be sent to each member of the Section, as defined in (a) above, in writing at his/her address, fourteen days previously.
- d) Six Members shall form a quorum at such General Meetings of the Sections.

28. CHAIRMEN

The President shall normally preside at all Annual and Special General Meetings.

In his absence the Chairman of the Club shall preside.

At all such General Meetings the presiding Member shall not have an additional or casting vote but his decision on all questions or order, voting, adjournment of the Meeting and construction of all Rules and Bye-Laws shall be final.

At all Sports Section General Meetings the Chairman of the Sports Section Committee normally shall preside.

At all such General Meetings the presiding Member shall have an additional and casting vote and his decision on all questions or order, voting, adjournment of the meeting and construction of all Rules and Bye-Laws shall be final.

29. CLUB STAFF

The General Committee shall engage such staff as it considers to be necessary for the efficient running of the Club.

Club Staff shall be engaged by, be under the orders of and dismissed by, the General Committee only, and no Member shall seek to vary the duties of or to reprimand any member of Staff, provided that the General Committee may delegate its authority to the Honorary General Secretary, or Chairman of the General Committee for the time being, or other person for the purpose of the engagement or the regulation of the duties of the Club Staff.

30. PURCHASES BY MEMBERS

Members shall pay every expense incurred by them, and for every guest introduced by them, before leaving the Ground.

31. BAR OPENING HOURS

The bar opening hours shall comply with the requirements of the local licensing authority. Subject to any restrictions that from time to time may be imposed by the general committee, the following persons shall be entitled to admission to the Club premises to purchase intoxicating liquor for consumption on the premises viz:

- a) Members and their guests and members of visiting teams and their guests
- b) Those taking table meals at the Club's premises
- c) Those attending any function organised at the Club

32. CHILDREN

Children may be brought into the Club premises, only when accompanied by a Member. Members so introducing children will be responsible for their good behaviour.

33. DOGS

Dogs brought into the Grounds must be kept on a lead. Dogs may not be brought into the Clubhouse.

34. BYE-LAWS

The General Committee shall be empowered to make or alter such Bye-Laws as they may consider necessary for the well-being of the Club, provided that such Bye-Laws are not contrary to the provisions contained in these Rules.

35. ALTERATION OF RULES

The Rules of the Club, with the exception of Rule 7 (k) may be altered or varied but only at a Special General Meeting. The proposed alterations or substitutions shall be fully specified in the notices calling the Special General Meeting and shall only be binding in the event of their being adopted by two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

No alteration or substitution of Rule 7(k) shall be binding unless it shall be adopted by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the votes of those Members present and entitled to vote and unless there shall be present at the meeting not less than half in number of the total Members of the Club entitled to vote or 100 Members entitled to vote whichever shall be the less.

36. RELOCATION

The Club may only be relocated by a resolution of the General Committee approved at a General Meeting of the members by not less than three quarters of the members present and entitled to vote providing that there shall be present not less than half of the members entitled to vote or 300 members, whichever shall be the less.

37. INTERPRETATION OF RULES

Save at General Meetings and at Sports Section General Meetings where the Chairman shall have that power under Rule 28 the General Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of these Rules or any part of them, or any Bye-Laws made thereunder, but any Member may call for any interpretation to be confirmed or modified at the next Annual General Meeting.