

THE COMPANIES ACT 2006
PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF
Harrogate Sports & Fitness Club Limited (the Club)
Adopted by special resolution passed on 24th March 2026

INTERPRETATION, OBJECTS AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

1. Interpretation

1.1 In these Articles, unless the context otherwise requires:

Act: means the Companies Act 2006;

Articles: means the Club's articles of association for the time being in force;

Bankruptcy: includes insolvency proceedings in a jurisdiction other than England and Wales or Northern Ireland which have an effect similar to that of bankruptcy;

Board of Directors: means the board of Directors of the Club from time to time;

Conflict: means a situation in which a Director / Management has or can have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts or possibly may conflict, with the interests of the Club;

Director: means a Director of the Club 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;

Electronic form: has the meaning given in section 1168 of the Act;

Eligible Director: means a Director who would be entitled to vote on the matter at a meeting of Directors (but excluding in relation to the authorisation of a Conflict pursuant to Article 21, any Director whose vote is not to be counted in respect of the matter);

Interested Director: has the meaning given in article 21.2

Member: means a person whose name is entered in the Register of Members of the Club and Membership shall be construed accordingly;

Resolution: means a resolution that is passed by a simple majority (more than 50% of the Members present or via electronic voting and entitled to vote) in accordance with section 282 of the Act;

Participate: in relation to a Director's meeting, has the meaning given in article 18;

Proxy notice: has the meaning given in article 41;

Racket sports: means squash, racketball and padel tennis;

Secretary: means the secretary of the Club and any other person appointed to perform the duties of the secretary of the Club, including a joint, assistant or deputy secretary;

Subsidiary: has the meaning given in section 1159 of the Act; and

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 Save as otherwise specifically provided in these Articles, words and expressions which have meanings in the Act shall have the same meanings in these Articles.

1.3 Headings in these Articles are used for convenience only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of these Articles.

1.4 A reference in these Articles to an Article is a reference to the relevant Article of these Articles unless expressly provided otherwise.

- 1.5 Unless expressly provided otherwise, a reference to a statute or statutory provision shall include any subordinate legislation from time to time made under that statute or statutory provision.
- 1.6 Any word following the terms **including**, **include**, **in particular**, **for example** or any similar expression shall be construed as illustrative and shall not limit the sense of the words preceding those terms.

2. Object

The objects for which the Club is established are to:

- 2.1 provide facilities for and generally to promote, encourage and facilitate regular sporting and social activities amongst the community;
- 2.2 provide facilities for fitness and wellbeing and generally to promote, encourage and facilitate racket sports
- 2.3 provide the other ordinary benefits of an amateur sports Club;
- 2.4 sell or supply food or drink as a social adjunct to the sporting purposes of the Club;
- 2.5 do all such other things as the Board of Directors thinks fit to further the interests of the Club, to advance and safeguard the interests of racket sports, to promote increases in participation at all levels of racket sports or as are otherwise incidental or conducive to the attainment of all or any of the objects stated in this article.

3. Powers

In pursuance of the objects set out in article 2, the Club has the power to:

- 3.1 buy, lease or otherwise acquire and deal with any property real or personal and any rights or privileges of any kind over or in respect of any property real or personal and to improve, manage, develop, construct, repair, sell, lease, mortgage, charge, surrender or dispose of or otherwise deal with all or any part of such property and any and all rights of the Club;
- 3.2 borrow and raise money in such manner as the Directors shall think fit and secure the repayment of any money borrowed, raised or owing by mortgage, charge, lien or other security on the Club's property and assets;
- 3.3 invest and deal with the funds of the Club not immediately required for its operations in or upon such investments, securities or property as may be thought fit;
- 3.4 lend and advance money or give credit on such terms as may seem expedient and with or without security to customers and others, to enter into guarantees, contracts of indemnity and suretyships of all kinds to receive money on deposit or loan upon such terms as the Club may approve and to secure or guarantee the payment of any sums of money or the performance of any obligation by any Club, firm or person including any holding Club or subsidiary;
- 3.5 lobby, advertise, publish, educate, examine, research and survey in respect of all matters of law, regulation, economics, accounting, governance, politics and/or other issues and to hold meetings, events and other procedures and co-operate with or assist any other body or organisation in each case in such way or by such means as may, in the opinion of the Directors, affect or advance the principal object in any way;
- 3.6 pay all or any expenses incurred in connection with the promotion, formation and incorporation of the Club and to contract with any person, firm or Club to pay the same;
- 3.7 enter into contracts to provide services to or on behalf of other bodies;
- 3.8 provide and assist in the provision of money, materials or other help;

- 3.9 open and operate bank accounts and other facilities for banking and draw, accept, endorse, issue or execute promissory notes, bills of exchange, cheques and other instruments;
- 3.10 incorporate subsidiary companies to carry on any trade; and
- 3.11 do all such other lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the pursuit or to the attainment of any of the objects set out in Article 2.

4. Income

- 4.1 The income and property of the Club from wherever derived shall be applied solely in promoting the Club's objects.
- 4.2 No distribution shall be paid or capital otherwise returned to the Members in cash or otherwise. Nothing in these Articles shall prevent any payment in good faith by the Club of:
 - 4.2.1 reasonable and proper remuneration to any Member, officer or servant of the Club for any services rendered to the Club;
 - 4.2.2 any interest on money lent by any Member or any Director at a reasonable and proper rate;
 - 4.2.3 reasonable and proper rent for premises demised or let by any Member or Director; or
 - 4.2.4 reasonable out-of-pocket expenses properly incurred by any Director.

5. Winding Up

On the winding-up or dissolution of the Club, after provision has been made for all its debts and liabilities, any assets or property that remains available to be distributed or paid, shall not be paid or distributed to the Members (except to a Member that qualifies under this Article) but shall be transferred to another body (charitable or otherwise) with objects similar to those of the Club. Such body to be determined by resolution of the Members at or before the time of winding up or dissolution and, subject to any such resolution of the Members, may be made by resolution of the Directors at or before the time of winding up or dissolution.

6. Guarantee

The liability of each Member is limited to £1, being the amount that each Member undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Club in the event of its being wound up while he is a Member or within one year after he ceases to be a Member, for:

- 6.1 payment of the Club's debts and liabilities contracted before he ceases to be a Member,
- 6.2 payment of the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up, and
- 6.3 adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

7. Number and Composition of Directors

- 7.1 Unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution, the number of Directors shall be subject to a maximum of ten but shall not be less than five.
- 7.2 The Board of Directors should comprise the following:
 - 7.2.4 the Chair;
 - 7.2.5 the Treasurer
 - 7.2.3 the Company Secretary;
- 7.3 At least three of the Directors must be unrelated or non-cohabiting.

DIRECTORS

8. Appointing Directors

- 8.1 Subject to these Articles and the Act, the Club may by ordinary resolution appoint a person who is willing to act to be a Director, either to fill a vacancy or as an addition to the existing Board of Directors but the total number of Directors shall not exceed any maximum number fixed in accordance with these Articles. Directors may appoint another Director as per clause 17.4
- 8.2 Subject to these Articles and the Act, only Members who have been Members of the Club for at least one year and are not younger than 18 years of age shall be entitled to serve as a Director.
- 8.3 Before any Director is elected the Club must:
- 8.3.1 Consider the skills and diversity of the prospective Director;
 - 8.3.2 consider whether the prospective Director would satisfy the FCA fit and proper person test to
 - 8.3.3 consider their involvement in the general control, management and administration of the Club.

9. Retirement of Directors

- 9.1 Any Director who is appointed shall hold office as a Director for a three years' term from the date on which he or she is appointed. He or she will be eligible for re-appointment.
- 9.2 At the Annual General Meeting immediately following the end of the Director's term as detailed in article 9.1 the relevant Director shall retire from office. A retiring Director may offer himself or herself for re-appointment by the Members and a Director that is so re-appointed will be treated as continuing in office without a break. A majority of members who cast a vote must approve the re-appointment. Prior to the AGM, members will be informed of the proposed re-appointment and given the opportunity to offer themselves as a replacement, subject to Article 8.

10. Termination of Director's appointment

A person ceases to be a Director as soon as:

- 10.1 that person ceases to be a Director by virtue of any provision of the Companies Acts, or is prohibited from being a Director by law;
- 10.2 a bankruptcy order is made against that person, or an order is made against that person in individual insolvency proceedings in a jurisdiction other than England and Wales or Northern Ireland which have an effect similar to that of bankruptcy;
- 10.3 a composition is made with that person's creditors generally in satisfaction of that person's debts;
- 10.4 a notification is received by the Company from the Director that the Director is resigning from office, and such resignation has taken effect in accordance with its terms (but only if at least two Directors will remain in office when such resignation has taken effect);
- 10.5 the Director fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Directors and the Directors resolve that the Director be removed for this reason; or
- 10.6 at a general meeting of the Company, a resolution is passed that the Director be removed from office, provided the meeting has invited the views of the Director concerned and considered the matter in the light of such views.

11. Directors' general authority

Subject to the Articles the directors are responsible for the management of the Club's business in accordance with its objects, for which purpose they may exercise all the powers of the Club.

12. Members' reserve power

- 12.1 The Members may, by special resolution, instruct the directors to take, or refrain from taking, any specified action.
- 12.2 No such special resolution invalidates anything which the directors have done before the passing of the resolution.

13. Directors delegation

- 13.1 The directors may delegate any of the powers which are conferred on them under the Articles:
 - 13.1.1 to a person or committee;
 - 13.1.2 by such means as they think fit (including by power of attorney);
 - 13.1.3 to such an extent as they think fit;
 - 13.1.4 in relation to such matters; and
 - 13.1.5 on such terms and conditions; as they think fit.
- 13.2 If the directors so specify, any such delegation may authorise further delegation of the directors' powers by any person to whom they are delegated.
- 13.3 The directors may revoke any delegation in whole or part, or alter its terms and conditions.

14. Committees

- 14.1 Committees to which the directors delegate any of their 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 directors.
- 14.2 The directors 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.

15. Directors to take decisions collectively

Any decision of the directors must be either a majority decision at a meeting or a decision taken in accordance with Article 12.

16. Calling a Directors' Meeting

- 16.1 Any Director may call a Directors' meeting by giving not less than 2 weeks notice of the meeting (or such lesser notice as all the directors may agree) to the Directors or by authorising the secretary (if any) to give such notice, which can be by electronic means.
- 16.2 The Board of Directors must hold at least four directors' meetings every calendar year.
- 16.3 An urgent meeting can be arranged at short notice at the request of a Director, but must be approved in accordance with clause 18.
- 16.4 Notice of a Directors' meeting must be given to each Director, but need not be in writing.
- 16.5 Notice of a Directors' meeting need not be given to Directors who waive their entitlement to notice of that meeting, by giving notice to that effect to the Club not more than 7 days after the date on which the meeting is held. Where such notice is given after the meeting has been held, that does not affect the validity of the meeting, or of any business conducted at it.

17. Quorum for Directors' Meetings

- 17.1 At a Directors' meeting, unless a quorum is participating, no proposal is to be voted on, except a proposal to call another meeting.
- 17.2 Subject to article 18.3 the quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of Directors is at least 50% of the Directors appointed at the time of the meeting (save where there are less than 6 Directors in which case the quorum shall be 4 Eligible Directors).
- 17.3 For the purposes of any meeting (or part of a meeting) held pursuant to article 21 to authorise a Conflict, if there is only one Eligible Director in office other than the Interested Director(s), the quorum for such meeting (or part of a meeting) shall be one Eligible Director.
- 17.4 If the total number of Directors in office for the time being is less than the quorum required, the Directors must not take any decision other than a decision:
- 17.4.1 to appoint further Directors; or
- 17.4.2 to call a general meeting so as to enable the Members to appoint further directors.

18. Participation in Directors' meetings

- 18.1 Directors participate in a Directors' meeting, or part of a Directors' meeting, when:
- 18.1.1 the meeting has been called and takes place in accordance with the articles, and
- 18.1.2 they can each communicate to the others any information or opinions they have on any particular item of the business of the meeting.
- 18.2 In determining whether Directors are participating in a Directors' meeting, it is irrelevant where any Director is or how they communicate with each other.
- 18.3 If all the Directors participating in a meeting are not in the same place, they may decide that the meeting is to be treated as taking place wherever any of them are.

19. Chairing of Directors' meetings

- 19.1 The Directors may appoint a Director to chair their meetings.
- 19.2 The person so appointed for the time being is known as the chair.
- 19.3 The Directors may terminate the chair's appointment at any time.
- 19.4 If the chair is not participating in a Directors' meeting within ten minutes of the time at which it was to start, the participating directors must appoint one of themselves to chair it.

20. Casting Vote

If the numbers of votes for and against a proposal at a meeting of directors are equal, the chair or other director chairing the meeting shall have a casting vote.

21. Directors / Management Conflicts of Interest

- 21.1 Refer to Conflict of Interest Policy approved by the Board December 2025.

22. Records of Decisions to be Kept

- 22.1 The Directors must ensure that the Club keeps minutes for at least 10 years from the date of the decision recorded, of every unanimous or majority decision taken by the directors. Such minutes must be held electronically by the Secretary and be available to be viewed by other Board members. They should also be made available to members when requested.

- 22.2 Where decisions of the Directors are taken by electronic means, such decisions shall be recorded by the directors and added to the minutes maintained at the club.

23. Secretary

The Directors may appoint any person who is willing to act as the secretary for such term, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit and from time to time remove such person and, if the Directors so decide, appoint a replacement, in each case by a decision of the Directors.

MEMBERS: BECOMING AND CEASING TO BE A MEMBER

24. Membership

- 24.1 Membership of the Club is open to anyone interested in coaching, volunteering or participating in the activities of the Club, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs.
- 24.2 The Membership shall consist of the following categories:
- 24.2.1 All Facilities Member;
 - 24.2.2 Rackets Member;
 - 24.2.3 Under 18s Rackets;
 - 24.2.4 Concession Member;
- 24.3 The Club shall admit to Membership an individual or organisation which:
- 24.3.1 applies to the Club using the application process approved by the Directors; and
 - 24.3.2 is approved by the Directors.
- 24.4 An email shall be sent to each successful applicant confirming their Membership of the Club. The details of each successful applicant shall be entered into the Register of Members which should be available to view by all Board members. New members details shall not be shared with other members without approval of the member.
- 24.5 All Members must pay to the Club Membership fees to be decided by the Directors from time to time.
- 24.6 The Board of Directors may establish different classes of Members and set out the different rights and obligations for each class, with such rights and obligations recorded in the Register of Members.

25. Transfer of Membership

- 25.1 A Member may withdraw from Membership of the Club by giving 7 days' notice to the Club in writing.
- 25.2 Membership is not transferable.
- 25.3 A person's Membership terminates when that person dies.

26. Expulsion of Member

- 26.1 If, following completion of the Club's disciplinary procedure, and in the reasonable opinion of the Directors, any Member:
- 26.1.1 Who is guilty of conduct which has or is likely to have a serious adverse effect on the Club or bring the Club or any or all of the Members and Directors into disrepute; or
 - 26.1.2 has acted or has threatened to act in a manner which is contrary to the interests of the Club as a whole; or
 - 26.1.3 has failed to observe the terms of these Articles and the Rules,

26.1.4 whose conduct may constitute victimisation, or which creates an intimidating, bullying, abusive, hostile, degrading, humiliating, offensive or otherwise uncomfortable environment. This includes harassment related to protected characteristics of sex, race, national origin, ethnic origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief. It can consist of a single incident or may be persistent and may be directed towards one or more individuals.

Shall have their membership terminated and the name of the Member shall be removed from the Register of Members.

26.2 The notice to the Member must give the Member the opportunity to be heard in writing or in person as to why his Membership should not be terminated. The Directors must consider any representations made by the Member and inform the Member of their decision following such consideration. There shall be no right to appeal from a decision of the Directors to terminate the Membership of a Member.

26.3 A Member whose Membership is terminated under this Article shall not be entitled to a refund of any subscription or Membership fee and shall remain liable to pay to the Club any subscription or other sum owed by him.

27. Guests

27.1 Any Member may introduce guests to the Club provided that no-one whose application for membership has been declined or who has been expelled or suspended from the Club may be introduced as a guest.

27.2 Any member of the public may be accepted as a guest.

27.3 All guests must abide by the Club rules and can be excluded at any time by the acting manager then present or by a Director present or consulted.

27.4 Depending on member numbers or other exceptional situation, the General Manager may restrict the number of guests able to use the facilities at any time.

DECISION MAKING BY MEMBERS

28. Resolutions

28.1 A resolution of the Members must be passed:

28.1.1 as a written resolution; or

28.1.2 at a meeting of the Members (referred to as a general meeting).

29. Annual General Meeting

29.1 The club must hold a General Meeting within nine months of the Financial Year end (in addition to any other meetings held during that period).

30. Power to include other matters in business dealt with at AGM

30.1 Any member of the Club over the age of 18 and who has been a member for three months may request the Club to include in the business to be dealt with at an AGM meeting any matter (other than a proposed resolution) which may properly be included in the business.

30.2 A matter may properly be included in the business at an AGM unless:

30.2.1 it is defamatory of any person; or

30.2.2 it is frivolous or vexatious.

- 30.3 The Club is required to include such a matter once it has received requests that it do so from Members representing at least 50 of all full members over the age of 18.
- 30.4 A request:
- 30.4.1 may be in hard copy form or in electronic form;
 - 30.4.2 must identify the matter to be included in the business;
 - 30.4.3 must be accompanied by a statement setting out the grounds for the request; and
 - 30.4.4 must be authenticated by the person or persons making it.
- 30.5 A request must be received by the Club not later than:
- 30.5.1 6 weeks before the AGM, or
 - 30.5.2 if later, the time at which notice is given of the AGM.

31. Calling a general meeting

- 31.1 The directors may call a general meeting of the Club.
- 31.2 The directors must refer the following to a General Meeting:
- 31.2.1 Any item of expenditure on a single project in excess of £100,000 (One hundred Thousand Pounds) (inclusive of VAT)
 - 31.2.2 Any borrowing in excess of Fifty Thousand Pounds (exclusive of VAT)
- 31.3 The Members of the Club may require the directors to call a general meeting of the Club.
- 31.4 The directors are required to call a general meeting once the Club has received requests to do so from Members who represent at least 50 of all full members over the age of 18.

32. Notice of a general meeting

- 32.1 A general meeting (other than an adjourned meeting) must be called by notice of at least 14 days.
- 32.2 Notice of a general meeting of the Club must be given by:
- 32.2.1 electronic form; or
 - 32.2.2 by means of a website,
or partly by one such means and partly by another.
- 32.3 Notice of a meeting is not validly given by the Club by means of a website unless when the Club notifies a Member of the presence of the notice on the website The notification must:
- 32.3.1 state that it concerns a notice of the Club meeting;
 - 32.3.2 specify the place, date and time of the meeting; and
 - 32.3.3 state whether the meeting will be an AGM.
- 32.4 The notice must be available on the website throughout the period beginning with the date of that notification and ending with the conclusion of the meeting.
- 32.5 Notice on the website of a general meeting of the Club must state:
- 32.5.1 the time and date of the meeting;
 - 32.5.2 the place of the meeting; and
 - 32.5.3 the general nature of the business to be dealt with at the meeting.
- 32.6 Wherein any provision of the Act notice is required of a resolution, the Club, must give notice at least 14 days before the meeting.

33. Persons entitled to receive notice of meetings

- 33.1 Notice of a general meeting of the Club must be sent to:
- 33.1.1 every Member of the Club; and

33.1.2 every Director;

34. Attendance and speaking at general meetings

- 34.1 All Members have the right to attend and speak at general meetings.
- 34.2 The Directors may make whatever arrangements they consider appropriate to enable those attending a general meeting to exercise their rights to speak or vote at it.
- 34.3 In determining attendance at a general meeting, either the physical presence or presence by proxy is considered as attending the meeting
- 34.4 The chair of the meeting may permit other persons who are not Members of the Club to attend and speak at a general meeting.

35. Quorum for general meetings

- 35.1 No business other than the appointment of the chair of the meeting is to be transacted at a general meeting if the persons voting for it do not constitute a quorum.
- 35.2 If at any time the Club has less than 100 Members, five qualifying persons present at a general meeting is a quorum.
- 35.3 In any other case, the quorum for a general meeting is at least 50 Members of the qualifying persons.
- 35.4 For the purposes of this article a “qualifying person” means:
 - 35.4.1 an individual who is a Member of the Club and at least 18 years of age;
 - 35.4.2 a person appointed as proxy of a Member in relation to the meeting;
 - 35.4.3 A proxy for attending a meeting has been provided electronically to the Chair.

36. Chairing general meetings

- 36.1 If the Directors have appointed a chair, the chair shall chair general meetings if present and willing to do so.
- 36.2 If the Directors have not appointed a chair, or if the chair is unwilling to chair the meeting or is not present within ten minutes of the time at which a meeting was due to start:
 - 36.2.1 the Directors present; or
 - 36.2.2 (if no Directors are present), the meeting, must appoint a Director or Member to chair the meeting, and the appointment of the chair of the meeting must be the first business of the meeting.
- 36.3 The person chairing a meeting in accordance with this article is referred to as “the chair of the meeting”.

37. Adjournment

- 37.1 If the persons attending a general meeting within half an hour of the time at which the meeting was due to start do not constitute a quorum, or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the chair of the meeting must adjourn it.
- 37.2 The chair of the meeting may adjourn a general meeting at which a quorum is present if:
 - 37.2.1 the meeting consents to an adjournment, or
 - 37.2.2 it appears to the chair 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.

- 37.3 The chair of the meeting must adjourn a general meeting if directed to do so by the meeting.
- 37.4 When adjourning a general meeting, the chair of the meeting must:
- 37.4.1 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
- 37.4.2 have regard to any directions as to the time and place of any adjournment which have been given by the meeting.
- 37.5 If the continuation of an adjourned meeting is to take place more than 14 days after it was adjourned, the Club must give at least 7 clear days' notice of it (that is, excluding the day of the adjourned meeting and the day on which the notice is given):
- 37.5.1 to the same persons to whom notice of the Club's general meetings is required to be given, and
- 37.5.2 containing the same information which such notice is required to contain.
- 37.6 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.

38. Votes of Members

- 38.1 A resolution put to the vote of a general meeting must be decided on a show of hands including proxy and electronic votes received prior to the meeting. All members of the Club over the age of 18 and who have been members for three months are entitled to one vote at all meetings of the Club.
- 38.2 Subject to the Act, at any general meeting:
- 38.2.1 every eligible Member who is present in person shall on a show of hands have one vote for a specific resolution, as will a proxy provided electronically.

39. Electronic Voting

- 39.1 Voting for a General Meeting may be conducted via an electronic poll subject to:
- 39.1.1 Matters to be subject to electronic poll must be clearly described / explained through a dedicated email from the club to all members, which must be sent at least 14 days prior to the General Meeting.
- 39.1.2 Format of the electronic poll requests members to vote only in favour or against the proposed resolution.
- 39.1.3 Votes via an electronic poll must be received not less than 48 hours before the meeting.
- 39.2 The Board Secretary is responsible to collate all votes received via the electronic poll.
- 39.3 Results of the poll will be announced at the General Meeting and will include votes cast at the meeting and proxy votes which have not been cast via the poll.

40. Errors, disputes and irregularities

- 40.1 No objection may be raised to the qualification of any person voting at a general meeting except at the meeting or adjourned meetings at which the vote objected to is tendered, and every vote not disallowed at the meeting is valid.
- 40.2 Any such objection must be referred to the chair of the meeting whose decision is final.
- 40.3 The proceedings at any meeting or the passing of a resolution or the making of any decision shall not be invalidated by reason of any accidental informality or irregularity (including any accidental omission to give or any non-receipt of notice) or any want of qualification in any of the persons present or voting or by reason of any business being considered which is not referred to in the notice unless a provision

of the Companies Acts specifies that such informality, irregularity or want of qualification shall invalidate it.

41. Proxies

- 41.1 Proxies may only validly be appointed by a notice in writing or by electronic means (a “proxy notice”) which:
- 41.1.1 states the name of the Member appointing the proxy;
 - 41.1.2 identifies the person appointed to be that Member’s proxy and the general meeting in relation to which that person is appointed;
 - 41.1.3 is delivered to the Club in accordance with the Articles not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meetings at which the right to vote is to be exercised and in accordance with any instructions contained in the notice of the general meeting (or adjourned meeting) to which they relate.
 - 41.1.4 and a proxy notice which is not delivered in such manner shall be invalid, unless the directors, in their discretion, accept the notice at any time before the meeting.
- 41.2 The Club may require proxy notices to be delivered in a particular form, and may specify different forms for different purposes.
- 41.3 Proxy notices may specify how the proxy appointed under them is to vote (or that the proxy is to abstain from voting) on one or more resolutions.
- 41.4 Unless a proxy notice indicates otherwise, it must be treated as:
- 41.4.1 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
 - 41.4.2 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.

42. Delivery of proxy notices

- 42.1 A person who is entitled to attend, speak or vote 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 Club by or on behalf of that person.
- 42.2 An appointment under a proxy notice may be revoked by delivering to the Club a notice in writing or electronically, given by or on behalf of the person by whom or on whose behalf the proxy notice was given.
- 42.3 A notice revoking a proxy appointment only takes effect if it is delivered before the start of the meeting or adjourned meetings to which it relates.
- 42.4 If a proxy notice is not executed by the person appointing the proxy, it must be accompanied by evidence of the authority of the person who executed it to execute it on the appointor’s behalf.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

43. Means of Communication to be Used

- 43.1 Any notice, document or other information shall be deemed served on or delivered to the intended recipient:
- 43.1.1 if properly addressed and sent or supplied by electronic means, and

- 43.1.2 if sent or supplied by means of a website, when the material is first made available on the website or (if later) when the recipient receives (or is deemed to have received) notice of the fact that the material is available on the website.
- 43.2 In proving that any notice, document or other information was properly addressed, it shall suffice to show that the notice, document or other information was addressed to an address permitted for the purpose by the Act.

44. Rules

- 44.1 The directors may establish rules (**Rules**) governing matters relating to Club administration that are required from time to time for the effective operation of the Club (for example, the provisions relating to classes of Members, Membership fees and subscriptions and the admission criteria for Members). If there is a conflict between the terms of these Articles and any rules established under this Article, the terms of these Articles shall prevail.
- 44.2 Interpretation of all the Rules must be consistent with the statutory requirements for CASCs (Community Amateur Sports Clubs as first provided for by the Finance Act 2002).

45. Change of Club Name

- 45.1 The name of the Club may be changed by:
- 45.1.1 a decision of the directors; or
 - 45.1.2 a resolution of the Members,
 - 45.1.3 or otherwise in accordance with the Act.

46. Indemnity and Insurance

- 46.1 Subject to article 46.2, but without prejudice to any indemnity to which a relevant officer is otherwise entitled:
- 46.1.1 each relevant officer shall be indemnified out of the Club's assets against all reasonable costs, charges, losses, expenses and liabilities incurred by him as a relevant officer in the actual or purported execution and/or discharge of his duties, or in relation to them including any liability incurred by him in defending any civil or criminal proceedings, in which judgment is given in his favour or in which he is acquitted or the proceedings are otherwise disposed of without any finding or admission of any material breach of duty on his part or in connection with any application in which the court grants him, in his capacity as a relevant officer, relief from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the Club's (or any associated Club's) affairs; and
 - 46.1.2 the Club may provide any relevant officer with funds to meet expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him in connection with any proceedings or application referred to in article 49.1.1 and otherwise may take any action to enable any such relevant officer to avoid incurring such expenditure.
- 46.2 This article does not authorise any indemnity to the extent that such indemnity would be prohibited or rendered void by any provision of the Act or by any other provision of law and any such indemnity is limited accordingly.
- 46.3 The directors may decide to purchase and maintain insurance, at the expense of the Club, for the benefit of any relevant officer in respect of any relevant loss.
- 46.4 In this article:

- 46.4.1 companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate; and
- 46.4.2 a **relevant loss** means any loss or liability which has been or may be incurred by a relevant officer in connection with that relevant officer's duties or powers in relation to the Club, any associated Club or any pension fund or employees' share scheme of the Club or associated Club; and
- 46.4.3 a **relevant officer** means any director or other officer or former director or other officer of the Club.