# **PODINGTON CRICKET CLUB**

# **CONSTITUTION**



- 1. The name of the Club shall be Podington Cricket Club
- 2. Podington Cricket Club is a non-profit amateur club. The income and property of the Club shall be applied solely towards promoting the Club's objects as set forth in this constitution and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, to the Members of the Club
- 3. The premises of the Club shall be within the Parish of Podington, Bedfordshire
- 4. The objects of the Club shall be to promote fellowship between the members and to develop, encourage and provide facilities for cricket and thereafter recreational, social and cultural activities
- 5. The Club shall be a members Club and shall consist of playing and social members together with such honorary members and associate members are hereinafter mentioned
- 6. Membership of the Club shall be open to all persons irrespective of ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or beliefs, or of age, sex or disability except necessary consequence of the requirements of cricket as a particular sport

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

- 7. Playing members must complete annually a full Registration form, in the case of U18s this must be completed by a parent or legal guardian. Hard copies of these forms will be kept for the season and may be accessed by Committee members. All members, including social, will be required to confirm in writing that they agree to the Club's GDPR guidelines which will be clearly displayed on Club premises.
- 8. Applications for membership will be reviewed at each Committee meeting, no reasons shall be given to any candidate in the event of the rejection of any application
- 9. No persons shall be admitted to membership or be entitled to any privileges of the Club until payment is received by the Treasurer for their annual membership. This should be received within 7 days of the first scheduled game of the season or their membership and eligibility to play will be deemed null and void

- 10. A copy of these rules will be available from the Secretary upon request
- 11. A playing member is a member who shall have indicated his/her willingness to participate in cricket and/or have taken part in that activity at the Club or elsewhere as a member of the Club
- 12. On the recommendation of the Committee, honorary members may be elected at any General Meeting of the Club. A two-thirds majority of members present shall be necessary for such election. Honorary members may be elected for life or for such other period as the Committee shall deem expedient and they shall be entitled to all the privileges of membership except that they shall not be entitled to vote at meetings, serve as Officers or join the Committee. Honorary members shall not be liable to pay any entrance fee or subscription
- 13. A member may resign from the Club by giving written notice to the Secretary, no refunds will be given
- 14. No betting shall be allowed in the Club. No lottery shall be promoted by any member or Officer on behalf of the, or in any way connected with, the Club or with any entertainment or event held by or in connection with the Club without previous written authority of the Committee. Gaming shall be permitted in the Club so however as not to contravene any of the provisions of any statute for the time in force and complying with licensing laws enforced by Bedford Borough Council
- 15. The Committee may suspend the membership of any Member whose conduct whether on the Club's premises or elsewhere, is or has been in the opinion of the Committee contrary to the interests of the Club or injurious to its reputation
- 16. Immediately upon suspension of any membership the Committee shall i) cause a General meeting of the Club no later than the 21st day following suspension and ii) give notice to the suspended member in writing of his or her suspension and inform him or her that if he or she so desires he or she may be present at the said meeting
- 17. At any such meeting any allegations against the suspended Member shall be related (in his or her presence if he or she attends) to the meeting by a member of the Committee and the suspended member shall (if desired) be heard in answer to a reasonable adjournment to enable him or her to prepare his or her answer being allowed him or her in the discretion of the meeting. The decision of the Club at the said meeting or at any adjourned meeting whether to reinstate or terminate the membership of the individual shall be taken by vote and shall be final and conclusive

# **COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS**

18. The affairs of the Club in all matters not in these rules reserved for the Club in General Meeting, shall be managed by the Committee of the Club. The Committee shall consist of the Officers of the Club and not less than three nor more than ten other members of the Club who shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Club. They shall go out of office in every year but shall be eligible for re-election. The Committee may appoint one or more Sub-Committees for purposes as it may deem appropriate. Each Committee Member may be expected to have a specific role. Five members shall constitute a quorum of the Committee and three a quorum of a Sub-Committee.

- 19. There shall be a President, Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer who shall be elected from time to time by the Club in a General Meeting from among the Members of the Club and such other Officers of the Club as the Club may in General Meeting appoint. The President, Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer and every such Officer shall act in all matters in accordance with the directions given to him or her by the Committee, the Secretary may on behalf of the club engage domestic staff and other Club servants as may be necessary for the efficient and economical running of the Club and may lawfully terminate any such engagement
- 20. Nominations for the Officers of the Club and Committee must be sent to the Secretary at least 14 days prior to the Annual General Meeting and nominees must be proposed and seconded by a Member of the Club. Meeting of the Committee shall take place at intervals of not more than two months except in exceptional circumstances. A quorum at a Committee meeting shall be five members present at the meeting and resolutions at a Committee meeting shall be passed by a simple majority. The Chairman shall have second or casting vote in the event of any equality of votes

#### **TRUSTEES**

- 21. There shall be three Trustees of the Club appointed from time to time as necessary by the Club in General Meeting from among ordinary or honary Members who are willing to be so appointed. A Trustee shall hold office during his or her life or until he or she shall resign by notice in writing given to the Secretary or until a resolution removing him or her from office shall be passed at a General Meeting of the Club by a majority comprising two thirds of the members present and entitled to vote
- 22. All property of the Club including land and investments shall be held by the Trustees for the time being in their own names so far as necessary and practible for the use and benefit of the Club. On death, resignation or removal from office of a Trustee, the Committee shall take steps to procure the appointment by the Club in General Meeting of a new Trustee in his or her place and shall as soon possible thereafter take all lawful and practible steps to procure the vesting of all Club property into the names of the Trustees as constituted after the said appointment. The Trustees shall in all respects act in regard to any property of the Club held by them in accordance with the directions of the Committee and shall have power to sell, lease, mortgage or pledge any Club property for the purpose of raising or borrowing money for the benefit of the Club in compliance with the Committee directions. No purchaser, leasee or mortgagee shall be concerned to enquire whether any such direction has been given. The Trustees shall be idemnified against risk and expense out of the Club property

# SUBSCRIPTIONS, FINANCES AND ACCOUNTS

23. The annual subscription for a Member shall be such sum as the Committee may from time to time determine. At the discretion of the Committee a Member may be allowed to pay a reduced subscription for any period less than a year.

- 24. Annual subscriptions shall be payable on election as a Member as provided in these rules and thereafter without demand within 7 days of the first game of the season. The Committee may terminate the membership of a playing or social Member whose annual subscription remains unpaid within 28 days of becoming due but without prejudice to the rights of the Club to require payment of any subscriptions which may have accrued and be due and owing
- 25. The Treasurer shall keep such proper books of account as will enable him or her to present at every Annual General Meeting of the Club or at any other time if required on reasonable notice to him or her by the Committee an accurate report and statement concerning the finances of the Club including a separate statement with regard to the purchase and supply of intoxicating liqueur for the preceding year or for the current year as the case may be and shall present such report and statement accordingly

### **INTOXICATING LIQUEUR**

- 26. The supply of intoxicating liqueur in the Club premises shall be permitted during such hours as are authorised by the local authority in the area in which the Club's premises are situated. No intoxicating liqueur shall be supplied to Members or to any other persons on the Club premises otherwise than by or on behalf of the Club. No intoxicating liqueur shall be supplied for payment to any person on the premises except a member
- 27. The Committee shall arrange the supply of intoxicating liqueur by the Club to members and to other persons on the Club premises and shall secure with due observance of the provision of the Licensing Act 1964 and all other Acts relating thereto and of any conditions attached to any license held by or on behalf of the Club for intoxicating liqueur or to any registration certificate granted in respect of Club premises
- 28. No person shall be paid at the expense of the Club any commission, percentage or similar payment on or with reference to purchasers of intoxicating liqueur by the Club nor shall any person directly, or indirectly, derive any pecuniary benefit from the supply of intoxicating liqueur by or on behalf of the Club to members or guests apart from any benefit accruing to the Club as a whole

# **GENERAL MEETINGS**

- 29. An annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held between 30th September and 31st December in every year of which 21 days notice at least shall have been given by the Secretary to the Members and at which the following business shall be conducted i) A report and presentation of the accounts for the preceding year will be presented at the Annual General Meeting and if accepted passed by the Members ii) The election of the Officers and Committee iii) the election of a qualified accountant to review the annual accounts in order to issue a Letter of Comfort to the Committee iv) Such other business as shall have been communicated to the Secretary and included in the Notice of the meeting sent by him or her to the members
- 30. An extraordinary General Meeting of the Club may be summoned at any time by the Committee and shall be so summoned immediately upon receipt of a request in writing by ten or more members. 21 days notice at least shall be given by the Secretary of such a meeting. This period may be abridged in the discretion of the Committee if the urgency of the business to be discussed in their opinion so requires.

- 31. Each Member personally present at a meeting is entitled to one vote providing subscriptions and monies due have been paid by that member to the Club. In the event of an equality of votes for and against a motion the Chairman of the Club shall have a second or casting vote. A member whom for bona fide reasons of health or business is unable to attend a General Meeting may write to the Secretary indicating how he or she wished to vote on any resolution. At the discretion of the Chairman and Secretary such proxy votes shall be included on any vote taken. The failure to record or cast such proxies will not invalidate any resolution otherwise passed by those votes actually cast
- 32. The Secretary shall take minutes of the proceedings at all General Meetings of the Club

#### **VISITORS**

33. Members may introduce and entertain guests at the Club and there shall be kept a visitor's book which both the member and his or her guest shall sign. The member introducing a guest shall be responsible for his or her guest strictly observing these rules and shall not leave the Club premises before his or her guest. No person whose application for membership has been rejected nor any member expelled from the Club may be introduced as a visitor. Any member of a recognised cricket club on being introduced by a Member of this Club (who shall at least 48 hours previously have entered the visitor's name in the visitor's book) may be admitted as a visitor and be entitled to the privileges of the Club and intoxicating liqueur may be sold to them by or on behalf of the Club for consumption on the premises. No visitors shall be allowed to introduce a guest or vote at a meeting. The Club cricket captain for the time being may invite a non-member to play and represent the Club and such non-member shall for the purpose of this rule enter the club premises in the capacity of a visitor

#### **OPENING OF CLUB PREMISES**

34. The Club shall be open to members at such times as the Committee may from time to time determine and such opening times shall be displayed on the premises provided that the Committee shall have power by resolution to extend these hours on any specific occasion

### **HIRE OF THE CLUB PREMISES**

35. The Club premises but not the bar facilities may be hired by such persons or persons, body or bodies and upon such terms as the Committee shall in their absolute discretion determine

# **GENERAL**

- 36. The Secretary shall keep a register of the names and contact details of members and conduct the correspondence of the Club
- 37. The Treasurer shall be notified of disbursement of all monies to or from the Club. Payments drawn on the Club's bank account (whether by cheque, direct debit or other means) shall be approved by any two authorised members of the Committee ("Signatories"). Signatories will be appointed by the Committee.

- 38. The Committee may from time to time make, vary and revoke by-laws (not inconsistent with these rules) for the regulation of the internal affairs of the Club and the conduct of Members and the by-laws for the time being enforced shall be binding on all Members. All by-laws must be available on the Club's premises
- 39. These rules may be revoked, added to or altered by a majority comprising two-thirds or more of the members present and entitled to vote at any General Meeting of the Club of which notice has been duly given specifying the intention to propose the revocation, addition or alteration together with full particulars thereof
- 40. Neither the Club nor any officer thereof shall be liable to any guest of a member for any loss or damage to any property occurring from whatever cause in or about the Club premises nor for any injury sustained by any member or guest whilst on entering or leaving Club premises and a notice to this effect shall at all times be displayed in a prominent position on the Club's premises
- 41. Any resolution for the dissolution of the Club may only be passed at an Extraordinary Meeting called for that purpose of which 21 days written notice shall have been given to each member and shall require a majority of three-quarters of the members present and eligible to vote. In the event of the dissolution of the Club, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Club, but shall be given or transferred to one or more of the following approved sporting or charitable bodies:
  - i) A registered charitable organisation
  - ii) Another club which is a registered CASC
  - iii) The sports governing body for use by them for related community sports