



Wellington Cricket Club

Constitution 2021

1 – Pre-Amble

- The name of the Club shall be Wellington Cricket Club.
- The colours of the Club shall be Red and Black.
- The Club shall be affiliated to the England and Wales Cricket Board through membership of the Somerset Cricket Board.

2 – Aims and Objectives

- To foster and promote the sport of cricket within the community and within the sport, providing opportunities for recreation, coaching and competition.
- To manage Wellington Playing Field as far as practicable and allowed for by the owners of the facility (Somerset West and Taunton Council).
- To ensure that all members – playing and non-playing – abide by the ECB's Code of Conduct which incorporates the Spirit of Cricket and the Laws of the Game.
- To ensure a duty of care to all members of the Club by adopting and implementing the ECB's 'Safe Hands – Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children' policy and any future versions of this policy.
- To ensure a duty of care to all members of the Club by adopting and implementing the ECB Cricket Equity Policy and any future versions of this policy.
- To encourage all members to participate fully in the activities of the Club both on and off the field of play.

3 – Membership

- The Club shall comprise all members who shall be deemed to be elected on payment of their annual subscription which shall be fixed at an Annual General Meeting. Subscriptions shall fall due on 1st April each year and must be paid in full by 31st May each year and any member who has not paid their subscription by the last day in May shall automatically cease to be a member of the Club.
- In recognition of the fact that the Club now operates all year round it is in order for the Club, through the Membership Secretary, to accept fees from 1st January in any year; this policy is one that is recommended as being implemented when and wherever possible.
- Life Membership will only be granted at an Annual General Meeting in recognition of outstanding service to the Club on the recommendation of the General Committee.
- Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport of cricket on application regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs. However, limitation of membership according to available facilities on a non-discriminatory basis is allowable.
- The Club may have different classes of membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The Club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.
- Application for membership of the Club shall be made by completing a membership application form and by payment of the relevant subscription fee as determined by an Annual General Meeting.
- No person shall be eligible to take part in the business of the Club or be selected for a Club team unless the appropriate subscription has been paid.

- The General Committee may refuse membership or remove it only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club into disrepute. Appeal against refusal or removal may be made to the General Committee who shall appoint an Appeals Committee to hear such appeals.
- In specific cases those who attend Club sanctioned events and are not members of the Club via any of the accepted mechanisms for membership will be granted a temporary one day membership of the Club and this will allow access to the Club's premises on the day of the event only.
- Honoraria will be granted as the General Committee decides to award such.

4 – Classes of Membership

- Membership shall be offered at distinct levels that represent the way the Club wishes to operate in both a playing and a non-playing manner.
- There will be specific set fees attached to each class of membership, except in the case of Life. These rates will be published in official Club documents and settings (e.g. Fixture Card, Website). Fees for those joining part way through a season will be offered on a pro-rata basis. The General Committee will rule in such cases and notification will be made through the Membership Secretary. A list of members in each category shall be maintained through the Membership Secretary in whatever format suits best.

5 – General Committee and Sub Committees

- The affairs of the Club shall be managed by a General Committee.
- Such a General Committee consisting of elected members shall meet monthly and shall see that beneficial and relevant actions are taken on behalf of the Club's membership.
- Members of the General Committee are required to be members of the Club by the most appropriate method; they are required to retire from office each year, but are eligible for re-election to the same post or election to a different post.
Members of the General Committee may hold multiple posts in any one session.
- The quorum level for the General Committee to transact Club business is five and this must include the Chairman or Vice Chairman.
- Any number of Sub Committees may be formed to deliver the requirements of the Club's business.
- The business of all Sub Committees shall form part of the business of the General Committee when it meets.

6 – Meetings

- The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held at a convenient stage in each calendar year. The Secretary shall issue an agenda for the Annual General Meeting to all concerned using e-mail as the preferred method of communication. Notice of the date, time and venue of the Annual General Meeting will be made in the Wellington Weekly News at least seven days before it is due to be held.
- The General Committee shall meet at regular intervals, usually monthly and shall be summoned by the Secretary via an agenda that will give the date, time and venue of such a meeting; this will be circulated by e-mail. The minutes of such meetings shall be circulated within a week of the meeting taking place to all who are deemed as requiring receiving such via e-mail. A soft copy of the minutes from each such meeting will be retained by the Secretary.
- Sub Committees shall meet as often as they deem it necessary to do so.
- Upon receipt in writing by the Secretary from a minimum of ten members setting out the purpose for which it is desired a Special General Meeting of the Club will be called. The Secretary will issue an agenda for the Special General Meeting using e-mail as the desired method of communication. Notice of the date, time and venue of the Special General Meeting will be made in the Wellington Weekly News at least seven days before it is due to be held.
- The Chairman of any official Club meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to his/her ordinary vote as a member of the Club.
- The Secretary will be responsible for the retention and circulation of all documentation relating to Annual General Meetings, Special General Meetings and General Committee Meetings.

7 – Finance

- The Treasurer shall maintain accurate and timely financial information in a form such that an accurate statement of the Club's financial position can be provided at any time.
- The Club's financial year shall run from 1st October – 30th September.
- The Club accounts will be signed off by the Chairman and the Treasurer and shall be checked by the Financial Verification Officer who shall issue a report confirming that the accounts are in accordance with the accounting books, records, files and explanations provided.
- The Treasurer shall be responsible for the management of all cheques issued and received.
- The Club shall maintain at least four cheque signatories at all times and these must include the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer as a minimum requirement and any two of these four persons must sign off each cheque that the Club issues.
- The Treasurer is mandated to use electronic banking methods as and when required.

8 – Conduct of Members

- It shall be a disciplinary offence for any member to act at any time in a manner likely to prejudice the good name or interests of the Club.
- The General Committee shall discuss any disciplinary matter brought to its attention and shall decide by majority vote whether the matter should be considered by a Disciplinary Committee.
- The Secretary will contact the member concerned advising them of the matter if the General Committee decides to refer matters to a Disciplinary Committee.
- Before any action is imposed there shall be a disciplinary hearing before a Disciplinary Committee.
- The member concerned shall be entitled to attend the hearing.
- If at the hearing of a Disciplinary Committee they find the offence alleged to be proved it shall have the power to impose one or more of the following penalties,

- (a) Expulsion from the Club
- (b) Suspension for one or more matches
- (c) Suspension for a period of time
- (d) A reprimand
- (e) The termination of any office held

- The member will be informed in writing of the decision of a Disciplinary Committee within three days.
- A member found by a Disciplinary Committee to have committed an offence and having a penalty imposed shall have the right of appeal to a Disciplinary Appeals Committee.
- Notice of the appeal setting out the grounds of the appeal must be given in writing to the Secretary within seven days of the decision of a Disciplinary Committee being received. Upon the member giving notice of appeal the penalty imposed by a Disciplinary Committee shall not take effect pending the hearing of the appeal.
- The appeal shall be by way of a re-hearing with the member having the same rights as in the original hearing.
- A Disciplinary Appeals Committee may confirm, vary or reverse the decision of a Disciplinary Committee. It shall have the power to increase the penalty. The decision will be confirmed to the member in writing within three days of the meeting.
- The decision of a Disciplinary Appeals Committee, or if no appeal, a Disciplinary Committee shall be final, conclusive and binding.

Specific Disciplinary Clauses

- **Alcohol Clause**

In compliance with the Club's premises license, alcohol may only be purchased by members and bona fide visiting players and supporters.

Under no circumstance will alcohol be served to anyone under the age of eighteen years; any member attempting to purchase alcohol if under the age of eighteen years or for someone under the age of eighteen years will be subject to the Club's disciplinary procedures.

Members, guests, visiting players or supporters are prohibited from bringing alcohol purchased elsewhere inside the Wellington Playing Field boundary.

- **Dogs Clause**

In compliance with the local by-law, except for access to the patio area via pathways, no member, guest, visiting player or supporter is permitted to bring a dog on to any grassed area of Wellington Playing Field.

9 – Alterations to Constitution

- Should there be a desire, need or requirement to change this constitution then the details of such should be made known to the Secretary within one month of an Annual General Meeting being called as this is the only time that such changes can be introduced. Such details will be circulated accordingly.
- A minimum two thirds majority is required to pass such changes.

10 – Dissolution

- If a resolution calling for the dissolution of the Club is called for at any Annual General Meeting then a Special General Meeting shall be called and shall be held within one month.
- If a minimum two thirds majority accepts the dissolution motion then the General Committee shall proceed to wind up the Club's affairs and discharge all debts and liabilities.
- After settling all liabilities of the Club, the General Committee shall dispose of the net assets remaining to one or more of the following – another Club with similar sporting purposes which is either a registered charity or a registered Community Amateur Sports Club or to the Club's governing body for use by them in the sport.

11 – Supplementary Information

This constitution will be supplemented with additional procedures, rules, policy papers and documentation from time to time as requirements dictate.

Adopted at an AGM held on Wednesday 18th November 2020.