

PENTYRCH BOWLING CLUB CONSTITUTION

1. Name and Objectives

1.1 The name of the club will be Pentyrch Bowling Club (hereinafter referred to as the 'Club').

1.2 The objectives of the Club are to provide and maintain a flat bowling green, the clubhouse and ancillary buildings for the benefit of Club members. The Club will also provide a means of social interaction and allow members to play bowls both competitively and socially.

1.3 The Club will be affiliated to Welsh Bowls, South Glamorgan County Bowls Association (SGCBA), Glamorgan Women's Bowling Association (GWBA) and East Wales Private Greens Bowling Association (EWPGBA).

1.4 The Club is a member of the Pentyrch Sports Association (PSA) and must abide by the constitution of the PSA.

2. Management Committee and other officers

2.1 The Management Committee must ensure that all decisions are taken in the best interests of the Club. It has a collective responsibility to ensure that this role is carried out effectively. The Management Committee has overall responsibility for the affairs of the Club.

2.2 Officers of the Management Committee:

Chairperson	Membership Secretary	Women's Vice Captain
Men's Fixture Secretary	Club Secretary	Women's Captain
Men's Vice Captain	Two Women's Representatives	Two Men's Representatives
Men's Captain	Women's Fixture Secretary	Treasurer

2.3 Other Club officers: Competitions Secretary, Safeguarding Officer, Men's Selection Officers and Women's Selection Officers.

2.4 Officers of the Club must be paid-up full members or life members of the Club. They will be elected at the Annual General Meeting and will serve for the Club's year. The Club's year runs from AGM to AGM. Officers will be eligible for re-election.

2.5 The Club indemnifies the officers against any liabilities/damages arising from actions they take in the interest of the Club and on the Club's behalf, in so far as those actions are legal. The Club officers will be indemnified out of the assets of the club for all expenses and other liabilities properly incurred by them in the management of the affairs of the club.

2.6 The Club Chairperson and either the Men's Captain or Women's Captain will be the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Management Committee. In their absence, the Management Committee will elect one of their members to take the Chair.

2.7 The Management Committee will meet quarterly and at other such times as it may determine.

2.8 At least 6 officers from the Management Committee will constitute a quorum. At least one of the 6 officers must be a member of the operations group (see 2.11).

2.9 A vacancy arising during the Club's year may be filled by the Management Committee.

2.10 The Management Committee may invite non-members or members, with special expertise or knowledge, to attend a Committee meeting. Members and non-members so invited will not have voting rights at the Management Committee meeting.

2.11 An operations group, consisting of the Chairperson, Treasurer, Membership Secretary and Club Secretary, may make operational decisions and authorise payments on behalf of the Club. Such payments must be within an authorised financial limit per activity, as set by the Management Committee at the start of each financial year. All decisions and actions made by the Operations group must be in the best interest of the Club and in line with the Club's Constitution and development plans. An activity is defined as the sum of all transactions required to bring about an end point.

2.12 Club development plans will be formulated by a group appointed by the Management Committee. The Club's development plans must be sanctioned and monitored by the Management Committee.

2.13 The Management Committee has exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the affairs of the Club and the conduct of any of its members and visitors.

2.14 In the interest of the Club, the Management Committee may ask any member to resign from the Club within a specified period; failure to voluntarily resign may result in the Management Committee removing the right of membership of that member. Such a member is entitled to make representations, in writing or in person, as to why his or her membership should not be terminated. The Management Committee must consider that member's views before coming to a final decision. Once the Management Committee has come to its decision, there is no further right of appeal. Any person ceasing to be a member of the Club will forfeit all rights to claim upon the Club, its property and funds.

2.15 The Management Committee has the power to elect or cause to be elected such sub-committees as it may deem necessary, including a Disciplinary Committee. All such sub-committees will act under the jurisdiction of the Management Committee.

2.16 If a member of the Management Committee misses three consecutive Management Committee meetings, without having submitted a valid reason for not attending those meetings, they will be asked in writing to resign from the Management Committee. Any such member will have the right to appeal to the Management Committee. After due consideration by the Management Committee, the decision of the Management Committee will be final with no further right of appeal. The Management Committee's final decision will be conveyed in writing.

2.17 Any legal issues ensuing from the actions of the Club will fall under the jurisdiction of the English and Welsh Courts and English and Welsh Laws.

3. Membership

3.1 The Club is bound by the Equality Act 2010. The Club will take all reasonable steps to ensure it is accessible and non-discriminatory to all sections of the community.

3.2 Annual membership will run from 1st April to 31st March.

3.3 The Club will have different categories of membership and subscription with different rights and privileges. Six categories of membership will exist:

3.3.1 Full member - being a person who does not qualify as a Junior member (see 3.4) and who pays an annual subscription - will have one vote at all relevant meetings. A full member will have use of all Club facilities and will be affiliated to Welsh Bowls, SGCBA, GWBA and EWPGBA as appropriate.

3.3.2 Junior member – being a person who is under the age of 19 on the 1st October of the membership year and who pays an annual subscription - will have no vote at meetings. A junior member will have use of all Club facilities; however, if there are no free rinks available then full members and life members may request junior members to vacate a rink unless those junior members are playing an official competition. Junior members will be affiliated to Welsh Bowls, SGCBA, GWBA and EWPGBA as appropriate.

3.3.3 Student Membership - being a person who is under the age of 25 on the 1st October of the membership year and who pays an annual subscription - will have no vote at meetings. A student member will have use of all Club facilities; however, if there are no free rinks available then full members and life members may request student members to vacate a rink unless those student members are playing an official competition. Student members will be affiliated to Welsh Bowls, SGCBA, GWBA and EWPGBA as appropriate.

3.3.4 Life member – being a person who is not required to pay an annual subscription - will have one vote at all relevant meetings and will enjoy all the rights of paid-up full members. A life member will be affiliated to Welsh Bowls, SGCBA, GWBA and EWPGBA as appropriate. Life membership is awarded under extraordinary circumstances and only if at least 80% of all Management Committee officers vote in favour of such an award.

3.3.5 Non-playing Social member – being a person who will pay an annual subscription and will have no voting right at meetings. A non-playing social member will have use of the clubhouse facilities, but no use of the Club's green or bowls equipment.

3.3.6 Special membership – being a person who will pay a bespoke annual subscription and will enjoy all of the rights of a full member (see 3.3.1). Each bespoke annual membership subscription will be agreed and reviewed annually by the Management Committee, on a case by case basis. In deciding both eligibility and level of subscription, the Management Committee will consider limitations on the ability of that member to earn income.

3.4 An application for membership will be as prescribed by the Management Committee and must be submitted to the Membership Secretary on the appropriate form. Membership application forms will be presented to the Management Committee for consideration.

3.5 The relevant annual membership subscriptions for each category of membership will be determined at the Annual General Meeting. Subscriptions will become due on 1st April. Any person not having paid their subscription by 31st May, or set up regular bank transfer payments to pay their subscriptions, will, subject to the decision of the Management Committee, cease to be a member. The member may, at the discretion of the Management Committee, be re-admitted to membership on payment of all arrears.

3.6 A paid-up member will be a member who has paid all of their subscriptions by 30th May of that year, or a member who has committed to pay their subscription by bank transfer instalments spread across the year.

3.7 Members use Club premises, equipment and facilities entirely at their own risk. The Club will not accept any liability for damage or loss of property belonging to members. Neither will the Club accept any liability for personal injury arising out of the use of Club premises and facilities.

4. Annual General Meeting and Extraordinary General Meeting

4.1 The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held no later than the 12th February, on a date to be fixed by the Management Committee. The Club Secretary will give written notice of the meeting (posted, emailed or delivered) to every Club member at least 28 days prior to the date of the meeting.

4.2 Twenty percent of the combined paid-up full members and life members, including at least one of the Chairperson, Treasurer or Secretary will constitute a quorum. Only full members who are paid up and life members will be permitted to vote at the AGM.

4.3 All Officers standing for election must be proposed and seconded by a paid-up full member or a life member. Notification for proposing an Officer for election must be submitted at least 14 days prior to the date of the AGM.

4.4 Officers of the Club plus the Independent Examiner of the accounts will be elected at the AGM. The Men's Captain, Vice-Captain, Men's representatives and the Men's Selection Officers will be elected by only male paid-up full members and life members. The Women's Captain, Vice-Captain, Women's representatives and the Women's Selection Officers will be elected by only female paid-up full members and life members.

4.5 The Club Chair or either the Men's Captain or Women's Captain will chair the Annual General Meeting. In their absence, the paid-up full members and life members will elect one of the full paid-up members or life members present to act as Chairperson.

4.6 The Club Secretary will submit to the AGM a written report, a copy of which will be attached to the minutes from the AGM.

4.7 The Club Treasurer's annual financial statements of the Club's financial year, which will run from 1st January to 31st Decemeber, will be circulated to paid-up full members and life members 14 days prior to the AGM.

The annual financial statements will be inspected for approval by an independent examiner, who will not be a member of the Management Committee but may be a member of the Club or external to it.

4.8 Subsequent to the AGM, the Club Secretary will circulate a copy of the minutes of the AGM, plus any accompanying documents, to all full and life members within 14 days of the AGM.

4.9 A proposal may be submitted to and voted on at the AGM. Such a proposal must be proposed and seconded by paid-up full members or life members and must be submitted in writing to the Club Secretary 15 days prior to the AGM. The Club Secretary must communicate such proposals, in writing, to all Club full and life members 14 days prior to the AGM.

4.10 A proposal to change the Club's Constitution will be voted on at the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting. Constitution changes can only be approved by a majority vote of at least 60% of those members eligible to vote and in attendance at the meeting.

4.11 A majority of those eligible to vote at the AGM will be sufficient to approve a proposal, notwithstanding point 4.10. In the event of a voting tie, the AGM Chairperson will have the casting vote.

4.12 No proxy votes will be permitted at an AGM.

4.13 An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) will be convened by the Club Secretary upon receipt by him/her of a requisition signed by at least twelve paid-up full members or life members and stating its purpose, or at the direction of the Management Committee. A notice stating the purpose of such a meeting will be communicated in writing to every full and life member at least 14 days prior to the date of the meeting. 20% of the Club's paid-up full and life members will constitute a quorum, notwithstanding point 5.1, and voting rights will be restricted to such members present at the EGM.

4.14 A majority vote at an EGM will carry a proposal, except where the proposal involves a Constitutional change; in such a case, at least 60% of the votes are required to carry the proposal, or where there is a proposal to dissolve the Club, see point 5.1.

4.15 No proxy votes will be permitted at an EGM.

4.16 The annual fees will be agreed at the AGM but may be subsequently amended at an EGM. A majority vote of those present at the meeting is sufficient to sanction the proposed fees. In the event of a tie, the Chairperson will have the casting vote.

5. Dissolution of the Club

5.1 Any resolution for the dissolution of the Club will be discussed at an Extraordinary General Meeting. No less than 80% of paid-up full and life members must be present at such an EGM and at least 80% of those eligible to vote and present at the EGM must vote in favour of such a resolution for it to be carried.

5.2 In such a situation, the Management Committee will proceed to realise the assets of the Club and discharge all liabilities of the Club. If there are surplus funds, these will be distributed, on an equal basis, to each paid-up full member and life member of the Club. If, however, there is a deficit of funds, each member will be liable up to the value of their subscription for that year. Thereafter legal advice will be sought.

5.3 Upon completion of clearance of liabilities and distribution of assets, the Club will be dissolved. The land will be handed back to the Pentyrch Sports Association for their use.

6. Miscellaneous

6.1 A paid-up full member is permitted to introduce a visitor to the Club and invite a visitor to play on the bowling green subject to the convenience of other Club members. Such a visitor must be accompanied by the member introducing them and is the responsibility of the member introducing them.

6.2 A visitor is permitted to play on the green as a guest for no more than 3 times in a season. Thereafter the visitor must be a member of the Club to play on the green.

6.3 The Club's Code of Conduct document forms part of the Club's Constitution (See document entitled Code of Conduct.)

6.4 An up-to-date copy of the Club's Constitution will be on display in the Club House and on the website.

6.5 The Club's Constitution will be reviewed at least every 4 years.

6.6 The Club is a founder member of Pentyrch Sports Association (PSA) and must abide by the constitution of the PSA. The assets of PSA are divided across the members of the PSA. The Club makes up one member of the PSA. The Club holds 16% of the PSA assets. At least one representative from the Club will sit on the general committee of the PSA. The Club will pay an annual subscription to the PSA. While the land currently used by the Club is entrusted to the Club members, the land is owned by the members of the PSA, of which the Club makes up one member. In the event of the Club being dissolved prior to the PSA being dissolved, the land entrusted to the Club will revert to the PSA and the Club will cease to hold 16% of the assets of the PSA; the Club will cease to be a member of the PSA (see the PSA constitution for additional information).