

Margate Bowling Club Constitution 2018

1. Title

- 1.1 The Club shall be called the Margate Bowling Club, hereafter referred to as “the Club”, situated at 18 Northdown Avenue, Margate, Kent CT9 2NW.
- 1.2 The Club shall be affiliated to the following governing bodies:
Bowls England, Kent County Bowling Association,
Kent County Women’s Bowling Association,
Isle of Thanet Bowling Associations, East Kent Bowling Association.

2. Objects of the club

Primarily to foster and promote the sport of lawn bowls at all levels, providing opportunities for recreation and competition. Secondly to provide social and recreation activities in the local area.

3. Membership

- 3.1 Membership of the Club shall be open to all, regardless of age, sexual orientation, gender, nationality, race, religion, colour, size, political belief, employment, ability or disability.
- 3.2 Membership of the Club shall be open to any person completing a membership application form and paying the relevant subscription and joining fees as determined by the Annual General Meeting of the Club Full Members, subject to approval by the committee.
- 3.3 The following classes of membership shall be available:
 - 3.3.1 Full Member
 - 3.3.2 Junior Member (maximum twenty-one years of age) – no voting entitlement.
 - 3.3.3 Associate Member – no voting entitlement
 - 3.3.4 Social Member – no voting entitlement
 - 3.3.5 Life Member – to be nominated by the General Committee and agreed by Full Members at an Annual General Meeting. Entitlement to Life Membership will be revoked if the member joins another local outdoor club.

4. Officers

- 4.1 The Officers of the Club shall be as follows:
 - 4.1.1 President (Non-Executive Officer) – honorary position
 - 4.1.2 Chairperson (Executive Officer)
 - 4.1.3 Secretary (Executive Officer)
 - 4.1.4 Treasurer (Executive Officer)

5. Election of officers

- 5.1 Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Club, from and by the Club Full Members.
- 5.2 All Officers are elected for a period of one year, but may be re-elected to the same office or another office the following year.

If the post of any Officer should fall vacant after such an election, the General Committee shall have the power to fill the vacancy until the succeeding Annual General Meeting.

Margate Bowling Club Constitution 2018

6. General Committee

- 6.1 The affairs of the Club shall be controlled by a General Committee comprised of the Executive Officers of the Club plus nine other members elected from and by the Full members of the Club at the Annual General Meeting.
- 6.2 The duties of the General Committee shall be:
 - 6.2.1 To control the affairs of the Club on behalf of the members.
 - 6.2.2 To keep accurate accounts of the Club through the Treasurer. These should be available for reasonable inspection by Full Members and should be examined before every Annual General Meeting. The Club shall maintain banking accounts with authorised signatories determined by the General Committee.
 - 6.2.3 To co-opt additional members of the Committee as the Committee feels necessary. Co-opted members shall not be entitled to vote on the Committee.
 - 6.2.4 To make decisions on the basis of a simple majority vote. In the case of equal votes, the chairperson shall be entitled to an additional casting vote.
 - 6.2.5 To make, vary and revoke By-laws (not inconsistent with the Constitution) for the regulations of the internal affairs of the Club and the conduct of members. The By-laws for the time being in force shall be binding on all members.

7. General Meetings

- 7.1 The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held not later than the end of November each year. Twenty-one clear days written notice shall be given to Full Members of the Annual General Meeting by circulating a copy of the notice to every member at their home address and posting the notice on the Club notice board. Full Members must advise the Secretary in writing of any business to be moved at the Annual General Meeting at least fourteen days before a meeting. The Secretary shall circulate or give notice of the agenda for the meeting to Full Members not less than seven days before the meeting.
- 7.2 The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to:
 - 7.2.1 Confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and any General Meetings since the last Annual General Meeting.
 - 7.2.2 Receive the examined accounts for the year from the Treasurer.
 - 7.2.3 Receive the annual report of the Committee from the Secretary.
 - 7.2.4 Elect an independent accounts examiner.
 - 7.2.5 Elect the Officers of the Club (President, Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer) and other General Committee Members.
 - 7.2.6 Review Club subscription rates and agree them for the following year.
 - 7.2.7 Transact such other business received in writing by the Secretary from Full Members, fourteen days prior to the meeting and included on the agenda.
- 7.3 Nominations for candidates for election of Officers and other General Committee members shall be made in writing to the Secretary at least fourteen days in advance of

Margate Bowling Club Constitution 2018

the Annual General Meeting date. Only Full Members are eligible for election and nominations can only be made and seconded by other Full Members.

- 7.4 Special General Meetings may be convened by the General Committee or on receipt by the Secretary of a request in writing from not less than 20% of Full Members of the Club. At least twenty-one days notice of the meeting shall be given.
- 7.5 At all General Meetings, the chair shall be taken by the Chairperson or, if absent, by a deputy appointed by the Club Committee or by Full Members attending the meeting.
- 7.6 Decisions made at a General Meeting shall be by a simple majority of votes from Full Members attending the meeting. In the event of equal votes, the chairperson shall be entitled to an additional casting vote.
- 7.7 A quorum for a General Meeting shall be no less than 20% of Full Members.
- 7.8 Each Full Member of the Club shall be entitled to one vote at General Meetings.

8. Trustees

- 8.1 The General Committee shall appoint Trustees from time to time as necessary from Full Members who are willing to be so appointed. Trustees shall hold office for their lifetime or unless they resign by notice in writing given to the General Committee. Trustees can also be removed from office by a resolution passed at a meeting of the General Committee by a majority comprising two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote.
- 8.2 Trustees of the Club shall hold any property belonging to the Club in their name so far as practicable, and shall further be entitled to sue and be sued on behalf of the Club as Trustees. They shall all be entitled to personal indemnity out of the funds of the Club where they are acting bona fide in their capacity as Trustees of the Club.

9. Alterations to the Constitution

Any proposed alterations to the Club Constitution may only be considered at an Annual or Special General Meeting convened with the required written notice of the proposal. Any alteration or amendment must be proposed by a Full Member of the Club and seconded by another Full Member. Such alterations shall be passed if supported by not less than two-thirds of those Full Members present at the meeting, assuming that a quorum has been achieved.

10. Dissolution

- 10.1 The Club is a non-profit making organisation. All profits and surpluses will be used to maintain or improve or develop the Club's facilities or to carry out the objects of the Associations to which it is affiliated. No profit or surplus will be distributed other than to another non-profit making body on a winding-up or dissolution of the Club.
- 10.2 If at any General Meeting of the Club, a resolution be passed calling for the dissolution of the Club, the Secretary shall immediately convene a Special General Meeting of the Club to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.
- 10.3 If at that Special General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two-thirds of the Full Members present at the meeting, the General Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, direct the Trustees to proceed to realise the assets of the Club and to discharge all debts and liabilities of the Club.

Margate Bowling Club Constitution 2018

- 10.4 If, upon the winding up or dissolution of the Club there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall be transferred to some other organisation or organisations having objects similar to the objects of the Club. Such organisation or organisations to be determined by the members of the Club by Resolution passed at a General Meeting or in the absence of such a resolution (or that the extent to which it cannot be given effect) to the Associations to which the Club is affiliated.

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