

# **GREENOCK WANDERERS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB**

## **CONSTITUTION**

**(As passed at AGM on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024)**

# **GREENOCK WANDERERS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB CONSTITUTION**

## **I. GENERAL**

1. The Club shall be called the Greenock Wanderers Rugby Football Club and its objectives shall be to provide facilities for and promote participation of the whole community in the sport of Rugby.
2. The Club is a non-profit making organisation. All profit and surplus will be used to maintain or improve club facilities. No surpluses or assets will be distributed to members or third parties. Upon dissolution of the Club any remaining assets shall be given or transferred to another registered CASC, a registered charity or the sport's governing body for use by them in community related sports.

## **II. STATUTORY RULES**

3. The business and affairs of the Club shall be under the management of a Committee (hereinafter called the Management Committee) who shall be elected for not less than one year by the members entitled to vote at a General Meeting of the Club. The Management Committee shall be constituted as and shall be subject in whole or in part or in a specified proportion to annual re-election as hereinafter specified.
4. No member of the Management Committee and no Manager or Servant employed in the Club shall have any personal interest in the sale of alcoholic liquor therein or in the profits arising from such sale.
5. Membership is open to all and no application for membership will be refused on other than reasonable grounds. There will be no discrimination on grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex; sexual orientation, political or other opinion. The Club may refuse membership or expel from membership only for good and sufficient cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or sport into disrepute. Appeal against such a decision may be made to the Club's members and decided by a majority vote of the members entitled to vote at a General Meeting of the Club.
6. In respect that the Club is one which is devoted primarily to the practice and promotion of Rugby Football, persons under eighteen shall be admitted as members of the Club on the conditions hereinafter prescribed.
7. No persons shall be allowed to become Honorary or Temporary Members of the Club or be relieved of the payment of the regular entrance fee or GWRFC subscription

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except those possessing the qualifications hereinafter defined and subject to the conditions and regulations hereinafter prescribed.

8. Correct accounts and books shall be kept showing the financial affairs and intromissions of the Club.

9. Other than when an occasional licence has effect, no person is to be supplied with alcohol on the Club premises unless that person is:-

1. a member of the Club
2. a person who is on the premises at the invitation of a member of the Club and is accompanied by that member; or
3. a member of another member's Club of the type prescribed under S125(i) of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005.

On introducing a visitor the Member shall, upon the admission of such visitor to the Club premises or immediately upon his being supplied with such liquor, enter his own name and the name and address of the visitor in a book which shall be kept for the purpose and which shall show the date of each visit.

10. The Club shall only remain as properly constituted so long as the membership entitled to vote at a General Meeting of the Club numbers no less than 25.

### **III DOMESTIC RULES MANAGEMENT**

11. The Management Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President (Rugby), Vice President (Finance), Vice President (Facilities), Club Captain, Secretary and six other Members of whom six shall form a quorum. Nominations for any position on the Management Committee shall be made only with the consent of the nominee and shall bear the names and addresses of the proposer and seconder. Such nominations shall be lodged with the Secretary at least fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting.

12. The Management Committee shall hold meetings at least once per calendar month.

13. The President, Vice President (Rugby), Vice President (Finance), Vice President (Facilities), Captain and Secretary ("the Office Bearers") shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election. Three of the six other Members of the Management Committee shall retire annually in rotation of seniority, but shall be eligible for re-election. In case of a vacancy occurring in the Management Committee by death, resignation or otherwise, the remaining Members of the Management Committee shall be entitled to fill such a vacancy by co-opting a Member, but the Member thus co-opted shall hold office only until the next Annual General Meeting. Members of the Management Committee shall retire annually in rotation of seniority, but shall be eligible for re-election. In case of a vacancy occurring in the Management Committee by death, resignation or otherwise, the remaining Members of the Management

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Committee shall be entitled to fill such a vacancy by co-opting a Member, but the Member thus co-opted shall hold office only until the next Annual General Meeting.

14. In the event of the whole Management Committee resigning at any time, the Secretary shall call a Special General Meeting of the Club within ten days of such resignation and it shall be competent for the majority of Members present at that Special General Meeting to make the necessary nominations and appointments.

15. The Management Committee may elect conveners from its Members and shall have power to elect sub-committees as they think proper, to enact such house Rules not inconsistent with these Rules as may be deemed advisable for the proper regulation of the Club and to rescind, amend or add thereto from time to time.

16. The Rules and House Rules made by the Management Committee when posted in a conspicuous place in the Club premises shall be binding on all Members unless and until set aside by a General Meeting of the Club, or in the case of House Rules, by the Management Committee. No member shall be absolved from the effect of these Rules or House Rules on any allegation of not having seen them or a copy thereof.

17. No resolution of the Management Committee shall be rescinded unless Notice of Intention to propose such rescission shall have been given at a previous meeting of the Management Committee and a majority of at least two thirds of the Management Committee than present vote for the rescission.

18. The Secretary or, in his absence, the Assistant Secretary, shall summon and attend all meetings of the Management Committee and take Minutes of the proceedings and shall on all occasions in the execution of his office act under the superintendence and control of the Management Committee.

19. Any Office Bearer or member of the Management Committee shall be removable at any time by a majority of two thirds of the Members present at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose.

20. No new Rules shall be made nor shall any of the Rules herein contained or hereafter to be made, be amended, altered or rescinded unless with the consent of the majority of the Members present and entitled to vote at a General or Special General Meeting called for that purpose. Proposals for alterations of the Rules must be submitted in writing to the Secretary at least fourteen clear days prior to the date of such meeting and shall be posted on the notice board for at least twelve days before the meeting. Amendments to such proposals must also be in writing and must be in the hands of the Secretary at least seven days prior to the meeting and notices thereof must be posted by the Secretary on the notice board at least five clear days prior to the date of such meeting.

21. The Members of the Club entitled to vote at a General Meeting of the Club, present and future shall, if and when required, grant relief to the Management Committee of the whole of the obligations and responsibilities already undertaken or incurred by them on behalf of the Club and such Members shall ratify and warrant all acts, deeds and documents granted or executed in relation to the Club business by the Management Committee or any quorum of their number or by the President, Vice President (Rugby), Vice President (Finance), Vice President (Facilities) and Secretary, as duly authorised on behalf of the Club.

22. All moveable or heritable property which may be acquired or held by the Club shall be vested in the President, Vice President (Rugby), Vice President (Finance), Vice President (Facilities) and Secretary and their successors in office as Trustees for the Club.

23. In any legal proceedings, the Secretary and/or Vice President (Finance) shall be entitled to sue in the name of the Club.

24. All Members of the Club for the time being entitled to vote at a General Meeting of the Club shall be liable for any deficiency arising in the financial management of the Club during any year of their Membership as such deficiency shall be verified by the books and accounts of the Club. Such Members on resignation shall cease to be liable for any deficiency arising in future years, but shall remain liable for any past or existing deficiencies.

25. All disputes relative to the Club business shall be referred to the Management Committee and their decision shall be final.

26. The Club may be dissolved by the consent of three-fourths of the Members entitled to vote at a General Meeting of the Club as testified by their signature to some instrument of dissolution and shall be dissolved if at any time the number of such Members falls below twenty five.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

27. The election of Members shall be vested in the Management Committee and categories of Members shall be as follows – Honorary Life Members, Life Members, Playing Members, Ordinary Members, Associate Members and Country Members.

28. Honorary Life Members shall consist of those who, for any special services to the Club or the game of rugby, may be elected as such by the Members at any General Meeting of the Club.

29. Life Members shall consist of those who may be elected from the Ordinary or Playing Members by the Management Committee on application to them by those who have paid twenty years Ordinary or Playing Member's subscriptions.

30. Playing Members shall consist of all of those wishing to play rugby football and shall include:-

(1) Junior Members who shall consist of those wishing to play rugby football and shall be sub-divided into the following categories:

Under 21 and Under 18 years of age as at First September in each year. Junior Members shall enjoy the full facilities of the Club except that they shall not be allowed to take part in the management of the Club.

(2) Youth Members who shall consist of those wishing to play rugby football and are Under 16 years of age as at First September in each year. They shall not be entitled to take part in the management of the Club.

31. Ordinary Members shall consist of those that pay a full subscription and therefore have voting rights.

32. Associate Members shall consist of those that pay a house subscription but have no voting rights.

For the purposes of subscription they may be sub-divided into such categories as the Management Committee may decide which shall include:-

- (1) Associate Members;
- (2) Family Members; and
- (3) Fort Matilda Playing Fields Union Members

There are three tiers of Family Membership:

Family 1

2 Adults (non playing) + number of youth members U18 in year of membership

Youth members may play or not.

All members living in same household.

Family 2

2 Adults (1 Playing Adult) + number of youth members U18 in year of membership

Youth members may play or not.

All members living in same household.

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### Family 3

2 Adults (Playing Members) + number of youth members U18 in year of membership

Youth members may play or not.

All members living in same household.

Fort Matilda Playing Fields Union members shall be members over the age of 18, of any members club which forms part of the Fort Matilda Playing Fields Union.

Application must be made individually and in writing to Greenock Wanderers Management Committee.

33. Country Members shall consist of those that pay a house subscription but have no voting rights.

34. An interval of not less than four weeks shall elapse between the lodging of an application for membership and election of Members or refusal of membership.

35. Application for Playing, Ordinary, Associate and Country Membership shall be in accordance with these Rules and shall be made in writing to the Secretary.

36. The subscription of a newly elected Member shall be due on election and no Member after election shall be entitled to privileges of the Club until the same shall have been paid.

37. Annual subscriptions which shall be payable in advance on First August each year shall be fixed annually at the Annual General Meeting.

38. Except as previously stated, all Members shall be entitled to all privileges of the Club, except that only Hon Life, Life, Playing, and Ordinary Members shall be entitled to take part in the Management of the Club, and to vote at General Meetings of the Club.

39. The Management Committee shall have the power to consider and grant applications from any members, on the grounds of proven financial hardship only, for whole or partial waiver of annual subscription, for the purposes of promoting social inclusion.

40. Save as aforesaid, no person shall be allowed to become a temporary Member of the Club or be relieved of the payment of the regular subscription.

41. Any person who shall fail to pay his subscription when due shall forfeit his Membership of the Club.

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## MEETINGS

42. The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held in June at which meeting the Management Committee's Report and Vice President (Finance)'s Statement and Accounts shall be submitted for approval. The Auditor of the Club, who shall not be a Member of the Management Committee, shall be appointed. Nominations for election of Members of Management Committee in lieu of those retiring shall be submitted and other competent business discussed. Other General Meetings shall be held as and when required throughout the year and shall be summoned by the Secretary on the instruction of the Management Committee.

43. The Secretary shall convene Special General Meetings as follows:-

- a) In accordance with Rule 14;
- b) At the discretion of the Management Committee;
- c) Upon a request forwarded to him signed by not less than fifteen Life and/or Ordinary and/or Playing Members stating the objects of such a meeting

44. The only business which it shall be competent to discuss at a Special General Meeting will be that for which the Meeting has been called.

45. All General and Special General Meetings shall be convened by the Secretary by notice stating the object of the Meeting posted on the Club notice board and the Club website at least seven days prior to the meeting.

46. Any General or Special General Meeting may be adjourned to such times as a majority shall decide, but no business other than that which could have been transacted at the original meeting shall be brought forward at such adjourned meeting.

47. No resolution passed at a General or Special General Meeting shall be rescinded unless a notice of intention to propose such rescission shall have been given at a previous General or Special General Meeting and a majority of two thirds of the members present and voting at the meeting votes for such rescission.

48. At all General and Special General Meetings voting will be by a show of hands or by secret ballot as may be determined by the Chair of the meeting. A majority of votes cast shall carry any resolution proposed. In the event of a tied vote the Chair shall have a casting vote.



## **SUB-COMMITTEES**

49. The Management Committee shall appoint Club Members (their prior consent having been obtained) to act as their representatives to the Fort Matilda Playing Fields Union. The number of representatives and time of appointment shall be such as will accord with Fort Matilda Playing Fields Union Constitution. In addition to representing the Club on the Fort Matilda Playing Fields Union these representatives shall form a Committee consisting of their full number to be known as The Club Ground Committee. This Committee shall appoint one of their number as convenor and be responsible to the Management Committee for all matters pertaining to the use of ground and property of the Fort Matilda Playing Fields Union.

50. A Committee known as the Match Committee shall be responsible for everything to do with the playing of Rugby Football within the Club, but will at all times be answerable to the Management Committee. The Match Committee shall comprise of the Vice President (Rugby) who shall chair the Committee, the Captain and the Vice Captain. This Committee shall have the power to elect Captains for all XV's other than the First XV. This Committee shall have power to co-opt Members as necessary.

51. The Management Committee shall elect annual convenors from its Members and establish such Sub-Committees as may be necessary. No Sub-Committee shall incur any financial obligation without the consent of the Management Committee and the President and Secretary shall sit ex officio on all such Sub-Committees.

## **FINANCE**

52. The Vice President (Finance) shall receive all monies due to the Club and shall pay the debts of the Club as the Management Committee may direct. He shall, when required to do so, render to the Management Committee or any meeting an account of the monies received and expended by him and shall prepare the yearly Accounts and submit same to the Auditor of the Club. A copy of the said Accounts with the Auditor's Report thereon shall be posed on the Club's notice board for at least seven days before the Annual General Meeting.

53. No claim will be recognised or paid on account of work done for or goods supplied to the Club without a written order from the Secretary or Vice President (Finance).

## **GENERAL**

54. The Management Committee shall have power to reprimand, suspend or expel any Member who shall infringe any of the Rules or House Rules of the Club or whose conduct in or out of the Club shall, in their opinion, be prejudicial to the character or interests of the Club. The Management Committee shall also have the power to suspend any such Member pending investigations into any complaints regarding the Member's conduct, but no Member shall be expelled without first having had an opportunity given to him of appearing before the Management Committee to explain his conduct and a majority of at least two thirds of the Management Committee then present vote for his expulsion. In this connection, seven clear days notice containing a statement of the complaint brought against a Member and requiring him to appear before the Management Committee shall be given in writing by the Secretary to the Member concerned.

55. All complaints against the conduct of any Member or Members shall be made in writing to the Secretary and must be signed by at least two persons, Members or employees.

56. Any Member being dissatisfied with the conduct of a servant of the Club shall lodge a written complaint with the Secretary, but shall not personally reprimand such servant for the conduct of which complaint is made.

57. The hours during which excisable liquors may be sold in the Club shall be in accordance with the current licensing laws.

58. No alcoholic liquor shall be sold or supplied in the Club premises for consumption off the premises except to a Member of the Club in person for consumption by him or to a person holding a licence for the sale of such liquor.

59. No excisable liquors shall be brought into the Club for consumption by any Member of the Club other than with the consent of the Management Committee.

60. The Management Committee shall have the power to refuse entry to the Club premises, to any non-member of the Club at their sole discretion, and without assigning any reason for such refusal.

61. A copy of this Constitution shall, at all times, be exhibited in a prominent position in the Clubhouse.