

Southbourne Canoe Club

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. NAME

The club shall be known as the Southbourne Canoe Club and will hereinafter be referred to as 'The Club'.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objects of the Club shall be to promote and encourage the sport and recreation of canoeing in all its disciplines on a nonprofit making basis.

3. MEMBERSHIP

1. Qualifications: Any person who shows an interest in canoeing shall be eligible for membership. Applicants must be able to swim 50 meters or be prepared to learn unless impaired by a physical disability.

2. Classes of Membership: The following types of membership exist:

- a. Full members: Over the age of 18.
- b. Family Members: The spouse and/or children under 18 of a full member. Any children under the age of 8 will only be allowed to participate under parental/ guardian supervision.
- c. Junior Members: between the ages of 8 and 18.

3. Election: Candidates for election to membership shall make a written application to the Membership Secretary of the Club on the form provided. The power of election shall rest with the General Committee who may refuse to elect or reject to membership any applicant without giving a reason for doing so.

4. SUBSCRIPTION

1. The rates of subscription shall be determined by the committee and shall be due on the date of membership and thereafter at yearly intervals.
2. All monies collected are to be used exclusively to further the aims and objects of the club and for no other purpose whatsoever.

5. CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Any member may resign giving clear notice in writing to the Secretary.
2. Any member violating any of the rules or regulations of the Club or being adjudged guilty of unsatisfactory conduct may, by resolution of the General Committee, be suspended or expelled. Any member so suspended or expelled may appeal to the General committee not less than 1 year after the date of expulsion.
3. A member shall be deemed to have resigned from the Club if, after due notice in writing, he/she has not paid by 4 weeks after the subscription became due. He/she may, however, rejoin at any time subject to the payment of the membership fee.

6. DISQUALIFICATION FROM HOLDING OFFICE

1. Only members entitled to vote are eligible to hold office, except that a Junior Section Chairperson, may be elected by the junior members of the Club, and be entitled to vote at General Committee Meetings.
2. Any member who is under the age of 18 years shall not be eligible for election to the General Committee of the Club.

7. THE COMMITTEE

1. The General Committee shall conduct the affairs of the Club as a whole and shall consist of a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and other officers as deemed necessary. Additionally, the General Committee may coopt no more than 3 members of the Club to its number.
2. The term of office shall be for one year, and members shall be eligible for re-election.

8. SECTIONS

1. The club may organise numerous sections to cover the various disciplines of canoeing.
2. The affairs of each section shall be conducted by a representative, working in conjunction with the committee.
3. Representatives will be appointed by the committee. In the event of more than one person willing to become a representative, the committee will, (in their opinion) appoint the person most suitable to represent the particular section.

9. DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE

It is the duty of the committee to serve the club to the best of its ability.

10. THE COMMITTEE

1. The Committee is responsible for the general conduct of the Club's business and activities.
2. The General Committee shall meet at regular intervals during the year, as required by the business to be transacted.
3. Special meetings of the General Committee shall be called by the Hon Secretary on instructions from the Chairperson, or not less than 3 committee members.
4. A quorum shall consist of not less than 50% of the committee.
5. In the case of casual vacancy among the General Committee, the said Committee shall appoint another eligible person to act until the next AGM.

11. SECTION REPRESENTATIVES

1. The section representative will have a duty to promote, and to help members progress, in their chosen discipline of canoeing.
2. Section representatives will not be a member of the committee, but will be asked to report on the sections progress to the chairman, and/or committee on a regular basis.
3. The principle sections being:
 - Youth
 - Disabled
 - Women
 - Slalom
 - Sea
 - Marathon/Sprint

12. GENERAL MEETINGS

1. An Annual General Meeting shall be held each year. There shall be laid before the meeting a statement of accounts made up to the last day of the month of March immediately preceding and approved by the committee.
2. An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called on the instructions of a simple majority of the Committee, or on a requisition signed by not less than fifty percent of the members of the Club entitled to vote.
3. Not less than 21 days clear notice shall be given, specifying to all members the time and place of the General Meeting.
4. Motions for discussion at Annual General Meetings, not of origin from within the Committee, shall be lodged with the Hon Secretary at least 1 week preceding the AGM, and be signed by 2 members entitled to vote.
5. At any General Meeting, a resolution put to the vote of the Meeting shall be decided by a show of hands, of those entitled to vote.
6. At all General Meetings the Chairperson will preside or, in his/her absence, a Chairperson for the meeting will be elected by the voting members present.
7. At all General Meetings not less than 10% of the members of the Club shall constitute a quorum.
8. Absences of Quorum: If after half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, a quorum is not present, the Meeting, if called at the request of the members, shall be dissolved in any other case, the Meeting shall be adjourned until a time and place to be fixed by the General Committee. If a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for an Adjourned Meeting, the members present shall be a quorum.
9. Accidental Omission: Accidental Omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the nonreceipt of notice of, a meeting by any member shall not invalidate the proceedings of a meeting.

13. LIABILITY

1. The General Committee shall manage the affairs of the Club. Financial or legal liability incurred in the rightful exercise of their office shall not, however, be the personal liability of the Committee, but shall be the responsibility of the Club as a whole.
2. All members or other persons who attend club tours or meets do so at their own risk. Neither the Club nor its officers can accept any liability for any loss or injury of any kind sustained at headquarters or whilst on a Club tour, meet or other activity.

14. VOTING

Only full members and family members over the age of 18 years are entitled to vote at all meetings.

15. ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION

1. This constitution shall not be altered, amended, or rescinded except by a General Meeting of the Club.
2. A resolution to give effect to a change must be passed by at least seventy five percent of the members present at the General Meeting, and voting on this behalf.

16. DISTRIBUTION OF PROFITS

In no circumstances can any profit be distributed to members, but any profits earned shall be contributed to a General Fund for furthering the objectives of the Club.

17. TERMINATION

The Club shall not terminate except by a resolution of a Special General Meeting convened for the purpose and, in such an event, any surplus assets shall be handed over to a body or bodies with similar objectives or to a charity or charities agreed by the meeting which formally terminates the Club.

18. POWER OF DECISION

Any matter not provided for in this constitution, or any question over the interpretation of it shall be dealt with by the Committee whose decision shall be final.

19. RULES

The Committee shall be empowered to draw up rules for the safe conduct of canoeing activities, as laid down in the safety policy.

20. DECLARATION

Each member upon joining shall sign the following declaration:

Name _____

Upon acceptance into membership of, the Southbourne Canoe Club, I understand that canoeing is undertaken at my own risk.

I confirm that I do not suffer from any disability or medical condition which may render me unfit for strenuous exercise. *

Signed _____

Parent/Guardian (if under 18) _____

Parent/Guardian (please print name) _____

* Should a medical condition exist, this will not necessarily preclude you from membership/participation, but it must be declared. Should you be in any doubt, advice should be sought from your family doctor.