Southbourne Canoe Club

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. NAME

The club shall be known as 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 Paddlesports in all its disciplines on a nonprofit making basis in the Christchurch/Bournemouth area of the United Kingdom.

3. MEMBERSHIP

1. Qualifications:

Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested in Paddlesports regardless of sex, age, disability*, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs. However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.

Applicants must be water confident, not panic in water, and able to follow instructions in the event of a capsize The ability to swim is required when paddling in non-sheltered water. (Reference: 'Paddle Safer', Paddle UK)

Members cannot paddle with the Club until they have paid their subscription fees.

The Committee may refuse membership or expel from membership only for good and sufficient cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club/sport or another member into disrepute.

*Except as a necessary consequence of the requirements of being physically able to safely participate in Paddlesports.

2. Classes of Membership:

The following types of membership exist:

a. Adult members: Over the age of 18.
b. Family Members: Up to two adults and all juniors under 18 years of age* living at the same address.
c. Junior Members: between the ages of 8 and 18*.
d. Student Members: Over age 18 and in full time education.

* Any children under the age of 14 will only be allowed to participate under parental/ guardian supervision of an adult member who will be responsible for the children's behaviour at all times both on the water and land.

4. SUBSCRIPTION

1. The rates of subscription shall be determined by the Committee and shall be due on the date of initial application for membership, and when their chosen subscription period ends.

2. The subscription rates will be reviewed by the Committee on an annual basis.

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 or unsafe conduct may, by resolution of the Committee, be suspended or expelled. Any member so suspended or expelled may appeal to the 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 8 weeks after the subscription became due. He/she may, however, rejoin at any time subject to the payment of the membership fee.

6. QUALIFICATION FOR HOLDING OFFICE

1. Only members entitled to vote are eligible to hold office.

2. Any member who is over the age of 18 years shall be eligible for election to the Committee of the Club.

7. THE COMMITTEE

1. The 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 Committee may co-opt 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 Paddlesports.

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 Committee shall meet at regular intervals during the year, as required by the business to be transacted.

3. Special meetings of the Committee shall be called by the Club 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 Committee, the said Committee shall appoint another eligible person to act until the next AGM.

11. 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 Club's financial year immediately preceding and approved by the committee. If the AGM is held on any date earlier than the end of financial year for the Club, the accounts will be to date and will subsequently be updated and finalised up to the end of the financial year with distribution accordingly.

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 Club 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 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.

12. LIABILITY

The requirement of the Committee on behalf of the Club will be to maintain liability insurance cover for Public Liability, Professional Indemnity, Directors and Officers Liabilities, Employers Liability and Abuse Cover in respect of all Club activities including use of boats and equipment either owned by the Club or for which the Club is legally responsible.

13. VOTING

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

14. 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.

15. INCOME

1. The income and property of the Club shall be applied solely towards promoting the Club's vision set out herein.
2. All surplus income or profits are to be reinvested in the Club. No surpluses or assets will be distributed to members or third parties.
3. Where the Committee has agreed that the Club applies for and maintains Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) registration, the financial rules of CASC status as defined by HMRC shall be adhered to.
4. The Committee will determine how to dispose of unwanted equipment (eg dispose, recycle, sell, donate to another canoe club etc)

16. TERMINATION

The Club shall not terminate except by a resolution of a Special General Meeting convened for the purpose.

In the event of the dissolution of the Club, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to one or more of the following approved sporting or charitable bodies:

a. A registered charitable organisation(s)
b. Body or bodies with similar objectives, or if applicable a CASC
c. The sport's national governing body for use by them for related community sports

17. 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.

18. RULES

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