

# Southsea Badminton Club

## CONSTITUTION

See document title for date stamp of when this constitution was ratified by the Members.

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## 1. Introduction & Contact Information

- 1.1. The name of the Club is (“Southsea Badminton Club”), or abbreviated to (“SBC”), or (“the Club”).
- 1.2. The Club is registered as a Community Amateur Sports Club, the Companies House Register number is CH11993.
- 1.3. This document is to be reviewed once per year and ratified by the Membership at each Annual General Meeting (“AGM”), see section 3.3 below. If the document is not required to be updated or fails to pass a vote, then the Committee will continue to run the Club in accordance with the previously voted Constitution.
- 1.4. Aims of the Club:
  - 1.4.1. The main purpose of the Club is to:
    - 1.4.1.1. Provide opportunities for, and promote participation in the sport of badminton in Portsmouth.
    - 1.4.1.2. To support people who attend the Club to develop their badminton skills. This includes people who attend the badminton club without financial

affiliation (“Players”) and people who attend the club with financial affiliation (“Members”) of the Club.

1.4.1.3. Enter teams representing the Club to compete in local leagues and tournaments.

1.4.1.4. Create an inclusive, friendly and supportive community within the Club.

1.5. The Club can be contacted by one of the following:

1.5.1. Facebook: @SouthseaBadmintonClub

1.5.2. Email: [Hello@portsmouthbadminton.org.uk](mailto:Hello@portsmouthbadminton.org.uk)

## 2. Committee and Honorary Positions Roles and Responsibilities

2.1. About the Committee

2.1.1. The Club will be run by a Committee who are elected at each AGM.

2.1.2. Only Members may become part of the Committee.

2.2. Responsibilities of the elected Committee:

2.2.1. Democratic Decision-Making: All decisions will be made through a democratic process.

2.2.2. Regular Attendance: Committee members are expected to attend all Committee Meetings (CMs). Failure to attend three consecutive meetings without a valid excuse may result in a Vote of No Confidence (VNC) by the remaining Committee.

2.2.3. Member Development: Committee members should actively seek to contribute to the development and growth of both Players and Club Membership.

2.2.4. Event Organisation: Committee members will undertake a regular 'duty' organising Club night and Improver Club Night sessions. The allocation of these duties will be via a rota to ensure equitable distribution of sessions. In lieu of this responsibility, committee members will not be required to pay the attendance fee for any standard Club night or Improver session they attend.

2.3. The Committee shall consist of the following roles who shall be elected at the AGM:

### **2.3.1. Chair**

- 2.3.1.1. Responsible for chairing all Committee meetings and EGMs.
- 2.3.1.2. Responsible for chairing AGM if Honorary President is unavailable
- 2.3.1.3. Acts as a spokesperson for the Club for public relations purposes.
- 2.3.1.4. Will oversee that the Committee are fulfilling their roles effectively in accordance with their roles defined in this Constitution.
- 2.3.1.5. Jointly responsible with the Treasurer for the Club's finances.
- 2.3.1.6. Will decide the ruling of any vote where the outcome is a tie.
- 2.3.1.7. Will engage with the Honorary President on any relevant and reasonable matters

### **2.3.2. Secretary and Memberships Officer**

- 2.3.2.1. Responsible for chairing meetings where the Chair is unavailable.
- 2.3.2.2. Responsible for producing and distributing agendas for each meeting in collaboration with the Chair and rest of the Committee.
- 2.3.2.3. Will take minutes of each meeting, where necessary and share these after with the Committee for review.
- 2.3.2.4. Responsible for updating the Constitution after votes pass at either an AGM or an Extraordinary General Meeting ("EGM").
- 2.3.2.5. Will temporarily cover a position if a member of the Committee decides to leave.
- 2.3.2.6. Responsible for the coordination, upkeep and devising of new ways to engage with the Membership.
- 2.3.2.7. Will be the secondary point of contact for the local Leagues.
- 2.3.2.8. Responsible for ensuring that all events are set up on the online booking systems, and monitoring them in coordination with necessary committee members.

### **2.3.3. Treasurer**

- 2.3.3.1. Jointly responsible with the Chair for the Club's finances.
- 2.3.3.2. Responsible for all the financial commitments of the Club.
- 2.3.3.3. Will keep records of income and expenditure for the purpose of HMRC's requests.
- 2.3.3.4. Will continue to provide regular updates to the Committee regarding the financial status of the Club and will plan provisions to ensure sustainability.
- 2.3.3.5. Will provide a formal summary of the Club accounts for the previous year at the AGM.

#### **2.3.4. Communications and Socials Officer**

- 2.3.4.1. Responsible for overseeing communications of the Club, including management of:
  - 2.3.4.1.1. The Club's website
  - 2.3.4.1.2. The Club's social media profiles
  - 2.3.4.1.3. The Club's email platform for communicating with players
  - 2.3.4.1.4. The Club's messaging platform
  - 2.3.4.1.5. Other offline communication channels
- 2.3.4.2. Responsible for promoting the Club to new players and maintaining its reputation
- 2.3.4.3. Work with the Committee to promote Club Events and Membership.
- 2.3.4.4. Responsible for organising social events for the Membership.

#### **2.3.5. League Officer**

- 2.3.5.1. Responsible for attending and representing the Club at league fixture meetings and ensuring that a suitable delegate attends if they are unable to.
- 2.3.5.2. Responsible for suggesting, supporting and managing the league Team Captains and will be their point of contact.
- 2.3.5.3. Responsible for supporting Team Captains in the provision of any Team training.
- 2.3.5.4. Responsible for ensuring prompt payment of all match fees from Captains in liaison with the Treasurer.

- 2.3.5.5. Jointly responsible with the Chair for registering players to play in the league.
- 2.3.5.6. Receives, records and responds to all league correspondence.
- 2.3.5.7. Will be the primary point of contact for the Local league.

#### **2.3.6. Welfare Officer**

- 2.3.6.1. Responsible for responding to complaints and concerns of the Membership and Committee.
- 2.3.6.2. Will be the designated Safeguarding Lead.
- 2.3.6.3. Responsible for overseeing Club health and safety, including relevant policies and risk assessments.

#### **2.3.7. Development Officer**

- 2.3.7.1. Responsible for overseeing Player development of badminton.
- 2.3.7.2. Responsible for the overall organisation of the Improver Club sessions.
- 2.3.7.3. Will assist the League Officer in the organisation of League team training sessions.
- 2.3.7.4. Will make recommendations for the transition of players to and from Club Nights and Improver Sessions.

#### **2.4. Shared Committee Positions**

- 2.4.1. Committee Members may each nominate one additional person to support the Responsibilities of their role as a Shared Committee position. This can be done either at the AGM, or at a Committee Meeting.
- 2.4.2. If not voted on at an AGM, all Shared Committee nominations shall be submitted to the Committee for approval through a Vote.
- 2.4.3. Once approved, holders of Shared Committee position hold the status of a Committee Member

#### **2.5. Committee Departure**

- 2.5.1. A Committee Member will serve their term from AGM to AGM, should they be elected, which typically lasts 12 months. There is no maximum term in which a Committee Member can serve.
- 2.5.2. A Committee Member may depart their role at any time.

### 2.5.3. Gross Misconduct

- 2.5.3.1. If a Committee Member at any point acts in a manner of gross misconduct, the Chair may propose Instant Dismissal, in which the Committee Member will be instantly removed from the Club altogether. Gross misconduct will be aligned to the Player Code of Conduct.

## **2.6. Honorary Roles**

- 2.6.1. Honorary roles may be created, and candidates proposed to fulfil these roles, by the committee. Any new honorary role must be proposed at the AGM and a majority vote is required to approve both the role and the nominee. Honorary role appointment is granted immediately, and the role title and individual's name is added to section 2.6.6.1.
- 2.6.2. Honorary role appointment shall be ratified every 3 years at an AGM. There is no maximum time a player can remain in an Honorary role
- 2.6.3. Members appointed to an Honorary Role may depart from the role at any time
- 2.6.4. Honorary role titles may be removed through a vote at an AGM or an EGM
- 2.6.5. Honorary roles are not part of the Committee and their roles and responsibilities do not include those listed in section 2.2 of this Constitution
- 2.6.6. List of Honorary Roles and the responsibilities
  - 2.6.6.1. Honorary President (Owen Devine)**
    - 2.6.6.1.1. Will attend and chair the AGM
    - 2.6.6.1.2. Will be invited to attend committee meetings as an Optional Invitee
    - 2.6.6.1.3. Will act as an advisor to the Committee
- 2.7. Will work with the Chair to ensure Committee support for all meetings with external parties that relate to SBC matters.

## **3. Meetings**

- 3.1. Minutes

- 3.1.1. Minutes will be made available upon request. If an item is deemed to be confidential for any reason, then this section will be redacted by vote of the committee.
  - 3.1.2. Minutes will be approved by the Committee prior to any distribution.
- 3.2. Committee Meetings (“CMs”)
  - 3.2.1. The Secretary will organise meetings as needed or requested by the Committee.
  - 3.2.2. Meeting dates and times will be set with at least 3 days notice. Exceptional circumstances can trigger a request for a short notice meeting.
  - 3.2.3. These meetings can only be attended by Committee members and any Honorary position holders as outlined in section 2.6.
  - 3.2.4. The Secretary and Membership Officer and the Communications & Socials Officer will consider which, if any, key decisions made at meetings will be communicated to the Membership via the Clubs relevant communications platforms including website, Whatsapp and E-mail.
- 3.3. Annual General Meetings (“AGM”)
  - 3.3.1. The AGM will be held annually, prior to the start of the next league season and after the previous season has finished. The AGM will typically be planned following communication from the Local leagues AGM to ensure all information, known changes and Club impacts are discussed with the Membership.
  - 3.3.2. A minimum of 14 days notice in writing will be given to all Members.
  - 3.3.3. Members will have equal opportunity to run for each Committee position.
  - 3.3.4. The AGM will be chaired by the Honorary President
  - 3.3.5. In absence of the Honorary President, the AGM will be chaired by the outgoing Chair, Secretary and Membership Officer, or another Member of the Committee.
  - 3.3.6. The Agenda of the AGM will consist of:
    - Reports from each of the previous Committee members;
    - Vote on changes to the constitution;

- Resignation from the Committee
  - Introduction of Committee candidates
  - Election of the Committee for the upcoming season
- 3.3.7. Only the Membership present at the AGM have the right to vote; no votes by proxy.
- 3.3.8. Members may nominate themselves to stand for election, in person, or by proxy. The outgoing Chair will read their name and any supporting statements for the Membership's consideration.
- 3.3.9. Person(s) eligible to vote at meetings:
- 3.3.9.1. Members shall each have one vote.
- 3.3.9.2. The outgoing Chair shall have a casting vote in the event of a tie, unless the tied vote relates to the Chair position in which case the Secretary and Membership Officer shall have the casting vote.
- 3.3.9.3. Votes will only pass should a quorum made up of the Membership be present. Quorum for the Club will be a minimum of 10 Members, including committee, in attendance.
- 3.3.10. Committee elections will be conducted by a show of hands, unless a secret ballot is requested by any Member.
- 3.3.10.1. All votes shall use the FPTP system - see section 4.2.
- 3.3.10.2. If a secret ballot is requested, then the Membership will appoint a Returning Officer who, unbiasedly, will count and report votes.
- 3.3.11. All votes will be minuted and all outcomes are final.
- 3.3.12. Any position that remains unfilled will be undertaken by the incoming committee members, in accordance with the constitution, until such time as a member willing to undertake the role is identified. Any nominee for an unfilled position will be 'interviewed' by the Chair and the Secretary. If the nominee is felt to be appropriate, the decision for them to join the committee will be subject to a vote by the committee at the next scheduled meeting.
- 3.4. Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM)
- 3.4.1. Should an important matter arise that requires the Members' votes, such as the replacement of a Committee

member, then this meeting will be called upon and advertised, much like an AGM.

- 3.4.2. A minimum of 14 days notice in writing will be given to all Members.
- 3.4.3. Quorum, as mentioned in 3.3.9.3 must be met to pass any votes.

## 4. Voting

### 4.1. Right to vote

- 4.1.1. The Club allows Members to attend Annual General Meetings and decide resolutions. The Club accepts juniors to join as Members without a right to vote until they reach the age of 18. This is not discriminatory against juniors - Membership is open to all even though juniors may have to wait until they are 18 to vote at the Annual General Meeting.

### 4.2. General voting regulation

- 4.2.1. All matters will be voted upon by a show of hands using the First Past The Post ("FPTP") voting system. However, anyone for any reason may request a secret ballot vote, which must be implemented if requested.
- 4.2.2. For any vote to pass (unless specified separately) more than 50% majority is required for the vote to pass. Committee elections are set at 50% majority and can not be altered.
- 4.2.3. All voting outcomes are final, unless re-voted upon in future meetings.
- 4.2.4. Members have the option to abstain from voting.

### 4.3. Vote of No Confidence ("VNC")

- 4.3.1. In certain circumstances, the Chair or Secretary and Membership Officer may wish to enact a VNC in a Committee member. If this occurs then the following procedure, in order, will take place:
  - 4.3.1.1. Arrange a CM for all to attend.
  - 4.3.1.2. Ask the person requesting the VNC to make their case for the vote.
  - 4.3.1.3. Ask the person they wish to VNC to respond appropriately. The Committee must allow for a fair amount of time for a response.

- 4.3.1.4. The Chair will ask the person subject to the VNC to leave the room/area out of earshot while the vote takes place.
- 4.3.1.5. The vote will take place by means of a secret ballot.
- 4.3.1.6. There must be in excess of 50% of the vote for that person to be removed from their post, otherwise they will remain in the role.
  - 4.3.1.6.1. In the case where there are equal votes for and against, then the VNC fails and a revote may take place.
- 4.3.2. Instances where other members of the Committee wish to enact a VNC against either the Chair or Secretary and Membership Officer, then this Committee member must have the support of two other Committee members and will follow the process as defined above in section 4.3.1.
- 4.4. Committee Online Vote (COV)
  - 4.4.1. This does not apply to voting at the AGM.
  - 4.4.2. At any point, a Committee member may need an urgent vote on a matter that has arisen. They must pass their proposal for the Chair or Secretary and Membership Officer to present to the Committee.
  - 4.4.3. Committee members will have at least 24 hours to cast their vote. Those who do not respond within the allotted time frame given for the vote, will automatically abstain from the vote.
  - 4.4.4. This vote will resolve as and when 50% of the Committee cast their vote.

## 5. Membership

### 5.1. Definitions

- 5.1.1. A **'Player'** is a paying person who attends any Club activity.
- 5.1.2. A **'Member'** is a Player who pays an additional Membership fee (see section 5.6).
- 5.1.3. A **'Lifetime Member'** is exempt from annual Membership fees and retains full Member rights and privileges.
  - 5.1.3.1. Lifetime Membership is awarded for exceptional service to the Club and its Players.

- 5.1.3.2. Candidates are nominated by the Committee and confirmed by a majority vote at the AGM. Upon approval, Lifetime Membership is granted immediately, and the individual's name is added to section 5.1.3.4.
- 5.1.3.3. Any Member may propose revocation of Lifetime Membership at an AGM, which would be subject to Membership vote.
- 5.1.3.4. The following individuals have been granted Lifetime Membership:

Name	Date Granted	Reason
Johnny Malynn	4 October 2024	Founding Member
Lianne de Mello	4 October 2024	Founding Member
Oliver Ing	4 October 2024	Founding Member

*Table 1*

- 5.1.4. A **'Team'** defines those Members selected to represent the Club in leagues and tournaments
- 5.2. Membership of the Club shall be open to any Player, regardless of gender, age, disability (noting the Club can only allow people with a disability to participate in a way that is safe for themselves and others), ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion, or other beliefs, except as a necessary consequence of the requirements of badminton. The Club may have different classes of Membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis.
- 5.3. The Club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.
- 5.4. The Committee may vote to refuse Membership, or remove it, from a player, only with good cause - such as a person failing to comply with the Code of Conduct - without financial compensation.
- 5.5. Membership will last 12 months from date of purchase. This will be clearly communicated to all Members prior to and at time of purchase.

- 5.6. Membership fee
  - 5.6.1. Membership will be an annual payment to the Club
  - 5.6.2. The cost of the Membership will be agreed by the Committee and made effective from the 1st of October each year.
  - 5.6.3. The Membership fee must not exceed £31 a week. All pricing will remain the same for a period of 12 months.
  - 5.6.4. The Membership fee does not include the cost of attending a Club night, match fees or other Club events. It only counts towards affiliation though it is at the Committee's discretion to provide free, or discounted events as part of the package.
  - 5.6.5. The requirement for Membership to participate in matches can be waived at Committee discretion.

## 6. Finance

- 6.1. General information about the finances
  - 6.1.1. All Club finances may only be accessed by the Treasurer, Chair and Secretary and Membership Officer.
  - 6.1.2. All money will be deposited into the Club bank account.
  - 6.1.3. The Club is run on a non-profit basis in line with the rule concerning Community Amateur Sports Clubs ("CASC") as defined by His Majesty's Revenue and Customs ("HMRC")
  - 6.1.4. The Club should seek to operate with no less than £1,000.00 available in the bank account to ensure sustainability.
- 6.2. Expenditure
  - 6.2.1. All Club resources will be used to benefit the Club Committee, Members and Players.
  - 6.2.2. The Club may not pay in total more than £10,000 to any person or players as defined by HMRC.
  - 6.2.3. Income covers the cost of shuttles, court fees, league registration and other costs associated with running the Club. Any surplus will be reinvested in the development of the Club, or its Members, as agreed by the Committee and in line with HMRC rules of a CASC.
  - 6.2.4. Socials will be organised by the Communications & Socials Officer in conjunction with the Committee. Any upfront

admin fees and costs will be paid out of the Club's bank account.

6.3. The Committee

6.3.1. The Committee are entitled up to £5.00 to cover expenses for each Committee meeting to cover fuel, snacks and a drink.

6.3.2. Personal bank accounts may be used to cover any expenditure. All costs will be reimbursed only by proof of receipt. This will be recorded by the Treasurer and reported on at the end of the year. All transactions for reimbursement must be pre-agreed by the Committee.

## 7. Safeguarding and Health and Safety

7.1. An attendance register will always be taken into account for fire safety as well as ensure the collection of finances.

7.2. The Club will operate safeguarding policies, code of conduct and equality and diversity policy as published by Badminton England.

7.3. The Club will ensure we carry out a risk assessment for all venues, tournaments and Club sessions.

7.4. Committee members will complete accident reporting forms, recording any injuries during any activity.

7.5. All new players must complete the Club's Player Registration form, prior to participating in any Southsea Badminton Club activity.

## 8. Data Protection

8.1. All data collected will be stored in line with the Data Protection Act implemented 25 May 2018, UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR), and Data (Use and Access) Act 2025.

8.2. Information collected on Players will include:

8.2.1. Full name

8.2.2. Home Address

8.2.3. Contact Telephone Number

8.2.4. Contact Email Address

8.2.5. Emergency Contact Name

8.2.6. Emergency Contact Phone Number

- 8.2.7. Their Current And Previous Medical History Relevant To Sporting Activity
- 8.3. Most data will be collected:
  - 8.3.1. By computer generated forms which will be immediately transferred to a central computer generated document.
  - 8.3.2. These documents will be stored in a central place where Committee members will have access.
  - 8.3.3. Any Player requesting access to their own personal data information will be provided a copy of what is held by the Club, by a Member of the Committee.
  - 8.3.4. Any Player may add or reduce the information they provided at any time.

## 9. Dissolution Clause

- 9.1. Upon dissolution of the Club any remaining assets, once all outstanding expenditure has been settled, shall be given or transferred to another registered CASC, or registered charity or the sport's governing body for use by them in relating to community sports. The Committee shall agree upon which organisations will receive these funds. Funds will never be transferred to individuals, including Committee Members.

## 10. Insurance and Associations

- 10.1. The Club will obtain relevant public liability insurance and professional indemnity insurance. Public liability insurance will cover the club in the event that any claims are made against the club by players or the public for personal injury, illness, or property damage resulting from club activities. Professional indemnity insurance will cover the club for any claims by players or the public for financial loss due to mistakes, errors, or negligence by the club. This will be renewed annually.
- 10.2. The Committee will vote upon joining an association or a member of any governing body to enable participation in local leagues, tournaments or events.
  - 10.2.1. Additional annual participation fees may be required by the Club.