

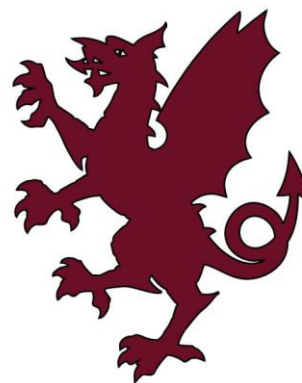
Somerset ASA

Founded 1902

COUNTY CONSTITUTION

FOR AN UNINCORPORATED COUNTY

May 19th 2024



SOMERSET ASA

Constitution of Somerset Amateur Swimming Association ("the County") as at 19th May 2024

1. Name, Definitions and Interpretation, Areas of Affiliation

1.1. Name

The name of the County shall be Somerset Amateur Swimming Association.

1.2. Definitions and Interpretation

In this Constitution, the following words and phrases have the following meanings unless the context otherwise requires:

Affiliation: This means being subject to and bound by Swim England Regulations or any Rules of British Swimming that may apply to them from time to time.

Aquatic Disciplines include swimming, para-swimming, masters, diving, high diving, artistic swimming (formerly known as synchronised swimming), water polo, and open-water swimming.

Club: means a group of people who join together for the common purpose of taking part in aquatic-related activities and who must be organised and managed on a democratic basis in order to be affiliated with the County. A school which affiliates as a Club shall be exempt from the requirement to be organised and managed on a democratic basis, provided its membership is confined to its pupils SE6.1.

County: means Somerset Amateur Swimming Association;

Conflict: means a situation in which a Member has or can have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts or possibly may conflict, with the interests of the County;

Day: means calendar days unless otherwise specified

Document: includes, unless otherwise specified, any document sent or supplied in electronic form;

Eligible Management Committee Member: means a Management Committee Member who would be entitled to vote on the matter at a Management Committee meeting (but excluding in relation to the authorisation of a Conflict, any Management Committee Member whose vote is not to be counted in respect of the particular matter);

Sport: any game in which physical skill is the predominant factor, and any form of physical recreation which is also engaged in for the purpose of competition or display.

Sport of swimming: shall include diving, artistic swimming and water polo unless the context indicates otherwise.

Governing Body: shall include

‘World Aquatics’: means the sole and exclusive World governing body for all Aquatics, formerly known as the Fédération Internationale de Natation (FINA),

‘European Aquatics’: means Ligue Européenne de Natation, the European governing body for aquatic sports

‘Aquatics GB’: means British Swimming Limited.

‘Swim England’: means the Amateur Swimming Association (Swim England) Limited;

‘Region’: means Swim England South West Limited;

Interested Management Committee Member: has the meaning given in Rule 7;

[Independent Management Committee Member: means an individual who is appointed to the Management Committee and is not eligible to vote;]

Junior Member: means a Member aged under 18;

Swim England Disciplinary Code: means the disciplinary code consistent with the Judicial Regulations of Swim England in force from time to time;

Governing Body Rules: means the rules of the Governing Body as in force from time to time;

Management Committee: means the committee appointed under Rule 7 to manage the County from time to time;

Management Committee Member: means a member of the Management Committee and includes any person occupying the position of Management Committee Member, by whatever name called;

Member: means a member of the County admitted from time to time to membership of the County in accordance with Rule 3 and Membership shall be construed accordingly;

Non-Swimming Member: means a Member who is not participating in the sport of swimming;

Ordinary Resolution: means a resolution requiring a simple majority (more than 50%) of the Members entitled to vote;

Special Resolution: means a resolution requiring a two-thirds majority of the Members entitled to vote;

Swim England Regulations: shall include the Articles, Company Regulations, General Regulations, Judicial Regulations and Technical Rules of Swim England;

Swimmer: shall include diver, artistic swimmer and water polo player unless the context indicates the contrary.

Words using the masculine gender shall include the feminine and vice versa.

Words of the singular shall include the plural and vice versa.

Artistic and Synchronized are used interchangeably.

References to Rule or Rules are to the rules of this Constitution.

1.3 Areas of Affiliation

The County shall consist of all affiliated clubs in the administrative county of Somerset, the district of Bath and North East Somerset and the district of North Somerset and such other areas as may be agreed between the County and Swim England from time to time.

2. Objects

- 2.1. The objects of the County shall be the development and practice of swimming, diving, artistic swimming, open water, and water polo for its members and shall, where appropriate, be to compete. In the furtherance of these objects:
 - 2.1.1. The County is committed to treating everyone equally within the context of its activity and with due respect to individuals' differences. It shall not apply nor endorse unlawful or unjustified discrimination and shall act in compliance with the protections afforded by the Equality Act 2010.
 - 2.1.2. The County shall implement the Swim England Equality Policy (as may be amended from time to time).
- 2.2. The County shall be affiliated to the Region and shall adopt and conform to the rules of the Region and to such other bodies as the County may determine from time to time.
 - 2.2.1. The County will inform Members of any changes in Governing Body governance and affiliation requirements which may affect the Rules from time to time for the convenient administration of the sport and management and propose updates to the Rules at the next General Meeting of the County to conform to the provisions of the recommended Swim England County Constitution and its guidelines and any change in criteria recommended by Swim England from time to time.
- 2.3. The business and affairs of the County shall at all times be conducted in accordance with the Articles, Regulations and Technical Rules of Swim England ("Swim England Regulations") and in particular:
 - 2.3.1. all competing members shall be eligible competitors as defined in Swim England Regulations; and
 - 2.3.2. the County shall in accordance with Swim England Regulations adopt the current Swim England's Safeguarding Policy and Procedures ("Wavepower"); and shall recognise that the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility and that all children and young people have a right to have fun, be safe and be protected from harm.

- 2.3.3. members of the County shall in accordance with Swim England Regulations comply with Wavepower.
- 2.4. By virtue of the affiliation of the County to the Region and all members of the County acknowledge that they are subject to the regulations, rules and constitutions of:
 - 2.4.1. the Region; and
 - 2.4.2. Swim England (to include the Code of Ethics); and
 - 2.4.3. British Swimming (in particular its Anti-Doping Rules and Judicial Code); and
 - 2.4.4. LEN, the European governing body for the aquatic sports; and
 - 2.4.5. World Aquatics, the World governing body for the aquatic sports.

(hereinafter defined as “Rules of a Governing Body”).

- 2.5. In the event that there shall be any conflict between any rule or by-law of the County and the Rules of the Governing Body then the relevant Rule of the Governing Body shall prevail if operating within lawful limits.

3. Membership

- 3.1. The total membership of the County shall not normally be limited. If however the Management Committee considers that there is a good reason to impose any limit from time to time then the Management Committee shall put forward appropriate proposals for consideration at a General Meeting of the County. The members shall have the right to impose (and remove) from time to time any limits on total membership (or any category of membership) of the County.
- 3.2. All persons who assist in any way with the County’s activities must be a member of a County Club and Swim England, and the relevant Swim England membership fee shall be paid.
- 3.3. Paid individuals who are not members of a County Club must be members of a body which accepts that its members are bound by Swim England’s Code of Ethics, Swim England Regulations relating to Wavepower, those parts of the Judicial Regulations and procedures necessary for their implementation and whilst engaged in activities under the jurisdiction of Swim England shall be subject to all the constraints and privileges of the Judicial Regulations.
- 3.4. Any Club who wishes to become a member of the County must submit an application consistent with Swim England’s affiliation process and agreed by the Region.
- 3.5. Admission to membership shall be determined by the Region in consultation with the agreed process. In its consideration of applications for membership, the County shall not act in a discriminatory manner and in particular, shall adhere to the Equality Act 2010 (as may be amended). Accordingly, the County shall not refuse membership on the basis of a Protected Characteristic within the Equality Act 2010. Neither may refusal be made on the grounds of political persuasion.
- 3.6. The County may refuse membership only for good and sufficient cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the County or the sport of swimming into disrepute. The County shall be required to give reasons for the refusal of any application for membership. Any Club refused membership may seek a review of this decision before a Review Panel.

4. Membership and Other Fees

- 4.1. The annual membership fee for each category of membership and all other fees payable to the County shall be determined from time to time by the County Management Committee and the Management Committee shall in so doing make special provision for different classes of membership as it shall determine.
- 4.2. The annual Swim England, Region and County fees (if any) shall be due on affiliating and thereafter on the 1st of March each year.
- 4.3. The County shall inform all member Clubs of the fees payment structure and whether annual fees are paid in full or via an appointed scheme. Any member Club whose fees are unpaid by the date falling 30 days after the due date for payment may be suspended by the Management Committee from some or all County activities from a date to be determined by the Management Committee and until such payment is made.

- 4.4. The Management Committee shall, from time to time, have the power to determine the County annual membership fee for each category of membership and other fees. This shall include the power to make such a change in the fees as shall, where the County pays the relevant affiliation fees to Swim England on behalf of members, be consequential upon a change of such fees. Any change in subscriptions and or appointed collection scheme shall be advised to the members in writing with the reasons for any change to be reported to the members at the next Annual General Meeting.
- 4.5. The Management Committee shall have the power in special circumstances to remit the whole or part of the County fees, to address issues of social inclusion. The County may also make suitable arrangements for the required payment of Swim England and Regional fees.

5. Resignation

- 5.1. A member Club wishing to resign membership of the County must give to the County Secretary written notice of their resignation via post or electronic means. A period of not less than 30 days' notice must be given by that Club and a copy of the resolution of either an annual general meeting or extraordinary meeting must be sent to the County Secretary.
- 5.2. A member Club who resigns from the County or whose membership is terminated shall not be entitled to have any part of the annual Swim England, Region or County membership fee for the current Swim England membership year refunded and must immediately return any County or external body's property (if appropriate).

6. Expulsion and Other Disciplinary Action

- 6.1. The Management Committee shall have power to expel or suspend a member Club or individual member from County activity when, in its opinion, it would not be in the interests of the County for the Club or individual to remain a member. The County in exercising this power shall comply with the provisions of Rules 6.2 and 6.3 below.
- 6.2. The County shall comply with the relevant Judicial Regulations for handling Internal County Disputes as the same may be revised from time to time.
- 6.3. A member Club or individual may not be expelled or (subject to Rule 6.5 below) be made the subject of any other penalty unless the panel hearing the complaint shall by a two-thirds majority vote in favour of the expulsion of (or other penalty imposed upon) the member.
- 6.4. The Executive Officers of the County (or any person to whom the Management Committee shall delegate this power) may temporarily suspend or exclude a member Club or individual from particular training sessions and/or wider County activities, when in their opinion or following, such action is in the interests of the County. Where such action is taken the incident or matter will thereafter be dealt with in accordance with the appropriate Judicial Regulations.
- 6.5. Swim England shall have power to temporarily suspend members or suspend members for a specified term in accordance with Judicial Regulations and Child Safeguarding Regulations as the same may be revised from time to time.

7. Management Committee

- 7.1. The Management Committee shall consist of Chair, Secretary, Treasurer (together "the Executive Officers of the County") and no less than five and no more than nine elected members, all of whom must be members of the County, to include Volunteer Co-ordinator, Development Officer, Regional Board Member, all Aquatic Discipline Technical Secretaries. All Management Committee members must be not less than 18 years of age though the Management Committee may allow younger member(s) to attend their meetings without power to vote.

- 7.2. In accordance with Wavepower the Management Committee shall appoint a member of the County as Welfare Officer who must be not less than 18 years of age, who should be an appropriate person willing and able to fulfil the commitments of the role and who is required to undertake appropriate training in accordance with Wavepower. The Welfare Officer shall not be related to or in a relationship with any one of the members of the Management Committee or the appointed County Coaches. Where this may be the case the County will appoint a deputy Welfare Officer or another relevant person.
- 7.3. The Welfare Officer will have a right to attend Management Committee meetings without a power to vote. Attendance at meetings will be for the purpose of sharing or addressing matters relating to Welfare.
- 7.4. The Executive Officers and Management Committee members shall be proposed seconded and elected at the Annual General Meeting each year and shall remain in office until their successors are elected at the next Annual General Meeting and take office when the Chairman has closed the meeting. Any vacancy occurring by resignation or otherwise may be filled by the Management Committee or by co-opting a member or by establishing a Working Group, provided that any such group has at least one person who is a member of the Committee. Retiring Executive Officers and members of the Management Committee shall be eligible for re-election.
- 7.5. Executive Officers will serve for four years when they are eligible for re-election, and may remain for a further term of four years, after which they must step down from the role, but can remain on the committee. They would not be eligible for re-election into an executive role for a further 12 months.
- 7.6. Management Committee meetings shall be held at regular intervals and the quorum of that meeting shall be 50% of the number entitled to vote with at least one executive officer present. The Chairman and the Secretary shall have discretion to call further meetings of the Management Committee if they consider it to be in the interests of the County. The Secretary shall give all the members of the Management Committee not less than two days written notice of a meeting. Decisions of the Management Committee shall be made by a simple majority (and in the event of equality of votes the Chairman (or the acting Chairman of that meeting) shall have a casting or additional vote.) The Secretary, or in their absence a member of the Management Committee, shall take minutes.
- 7.7. In the event that a quorum is not present within 30 minutes of the stated start time, a meeting shall stand adjourned to the time and date falling seven days after the date of the meeting, or such other date and time as may be determined by the Chairman. If a quorum is not present at the adjourned meeting then those Management Committee members attending may act for the purpose of calling a Special General Meeting of the members, to which the provisions as to minimum notice contained in Rule 10.2 shall not apply.
- 7.8. In addition to the members so elected the Management Committee may co-opt up to three further members of the County who shall serve until the next Annual General Meeting. Co-opted members shall be entitled to vote at the meetings of the Management Committee and shall be counted in establishing whether a quorum is present

8. Sub-Committees

- 8.1. The Management Committee may, from time to time, appoint such sub-committees and Aquatic Discipline Technical Committees and roles as they may consider necessary (and to remove (in whole or in part) or vary the terms of reference of such sub-committees and Aquatic Discipline Technical Committees) and may delegate to them such of the powers and duties of the Management Committee as the Management Committee may determine. All sub-committees and Aquatic Discipline Technical Committees shall periodically report their proceedings to the Management Committee and shall conduct their business in accordance with the directions of the Management Committee.
 - 8.1.1. Aquatic Discipline Technical Committees Membership and Technical Secretaries:
 - 8.1.1.1. The County Chairman (or in some cases the President), County Secretary, County Treasurer, County Development Officer and County Volunteer Co-ordinator shall be ex-officio members of the Aquatic

Discipline Committees but may only hold a role as Aquatic Discipline Technical Secretary if one member shall increase the appropriate Aquatic Discipline Committee for that period of time.

8.1.1.2. The Aquatic Discipline Technical Committee shall comprise Technical Secretary, Officials Representative, County Head Coach, County Lead Team Manager, plus three others (of which not more than one from any one club). The quorum shall be five persons.

8.1.2. The terms of reference and duties of the Aquatic Discipline Technical Committees shall include

Appoint the Technical Committee Chairman

Meeting according to a schedule agreed with the Management Committee and at least once a year in order to fulfill the responsibilities of the County to provide the following to its members:

Delivery of a safe competition programme and appropriate formats for the discipline as agreed by the Management Committee, which may include Championships, Age Group Competitions and Inter County Competition,

A Development Plan for the discipline

Delivery of development, training and education programme(s) for members along with support for partnership programmes.

Advising the Management Committee on matters relating to the discipline and submitting recommendations.

Producing and reviewing role descriptions for each Aquatic Discipline Technical Committee post and providing a copy to each Aquatic Discipline Technical Committee member.

Appointing sufficient numbers of suitably qualified and experienced County Coaches, County Team Managers, chaperones and Officials as may be required for events held under Swim England Regulations where the Aquatic Discipline Technical Secretary has been authorised to act as Promoter of the event or to enter a County team.

Authorising the appointed County Head Coach, County Lead Team Manager and Assistant Coach(es) to select eligible members for County teams and their decision shall be final with the County Head Coach having overall responsibility for the selection and outcome of the process.

Preparation and maintenance of a risk register.

Preparation and review of the risk assessment for each event organised by the Aquatic Discipline Technical Committee.

Preparation and recommendation of an annual budget for the discipline which is subject to approval by the Management Committee

Control of expenditure and risks within the limits agreed by the Management Committee, and prompt reporting to it of any significant variances.

Consideration of additions and alterations to the County Rules

Liaison with the County Welfare Officer

Liaison with the nominated County Officer who will be responsible for authorising the booking of venues for the discipline's events.

Preparation and recommending Promoter Entry Conditions for Management Committee approval.

Obtaining licences for and adhering to the conditions necessary for the conduct and delivery of licensed competitions which shall be subject to Swim England Regulations and Technical Rules.

Submitting timely Minutes and reports on events and activities undertaken to the Management Committee.

Recommend awards which if approved by the Management Committee shall be reported at the Annual General Meeting

Seeking nominations from affiliated Clubs for the posts of Aquatic Discipline Technical Committee membership prior to the Annual General Meeting.

- 8.1.3. The Technical Secretary must keep minutes of all meetings of the Aquatic Discipline Technical Committee for timely consideration by the Management Committee including

The names of those Members present at the meeting;

Declarations of interests made at the meeting;

The decisions made at the meeting; including recommendations, and

Where appropriate, the reasons for the decisions.

Supporting documents and reports

- 8.1.4. Emergency Committee

The Emergency Committee shall consist of two persons together with the County Chairman (or in some cases the President), County Secretary and County Treasurer. They shall:

Appoint a chairman.

Be empowered to deal with matters of such emergency as cannot be dealt with by the Management or Standing sub-committees.

Report their findings to the next meeting of the Management Committee. The decisions of the Emergency Committee shall be binding in all matters except as allowed by appeal in accordance with Swim England Rules and Regulations.

- 8.2. The Management Committee shall be responsible for the management of the County and shall have the sole right of appointing and determining the terms and conditions of service of employees of the County. The Management Committee shall have power to enter into contracts for the purposes of the County on behalf of all the members of the County. The Management Committee shall be responsible for ensuring that the Accounts of the County for each financial year be examined by an independent examiner to be appointed by the members in a General Meeting.
- 8.3. The members of the Management Committee shall be entitled to an indemnity out of the assets of the County for all expenses and other liabilities properly incurred by them in the management of the affairs of the County.

- 8.4. The Management Committee shall maintain a log of Accidents/Incidents at County related activities. Details of such shall be reported to the insurers in accordance with the Accident/Incident Notification guidelines. The County shall make an annual return to the Swim England Membership Department indicating whether or not an entry has been made in the prescribed online form. A copy of entries should be kept for a period of six years or in respect of an injury to a child they should be kept for six years after they attain 18 years of age.
- 8.5. The Management Committee shall retain all financial records relating to the County and copies of minutes of all meetings for a minimum period of six years.

9. Ceremonial Positions and Honorary Members/Life Members

- 9.1. The Annual General Meeting of the County, if it thinks fit, may elect a President. A President need not be a member of the County on election but shall, *ex officio*, be an honorary member of the County and must be included in the County's Annual Return of Members to Swim England.
- 9.2. The Management Committee may nominate any person as an honorary member of the County for a specified period of time, or as a life member, and they shall be entitled to all the privileges of membership except that they shall not be entitled to vote at meetings and serve as Executive Officers or on the Management Committee unless any such person shall also be a fee paying member of the County in accordance with Rule 3.
- 9.3. Such honorary members and life members must be elected at the Annual General Meeting, confirmed annually and be included in the County's annual return as to membership. The County may commit to paying all relevant Swim England and County membership fees on behalf of the honorary or life member upon election at the Annual General Meeting.
- 9.4. Honorary and/or life memberships may only be removed at an Annual General Meeting of the County, when it shall be properly proposed in accordance with these Rules.
- 9.5. A minimum of 21 days in advance of the Annual General Meeting, the Management Committee shall write to all holders of honorary and/or life membership effected by the above proposal drawing the proposal to their attention and inviting them to attend the Annual General Meeting. Reasons for the proposal will be circulated with the agenda.
- 9.6. Where the effected holder or holders of the honorary and/or life membership do not attend or are unable to attend the Annual General Meeting, the Chairman may allow the matter (in so far as it relates to the absent person(s)) to proceed directly to vote, which shall be by show of hands OR secret ballot.

10. Annual General Meeting

- 10.1. The Annual General Meeting of the County shall be held each year on a date in May. The date, time and venue / online option for the Annual General Meeting shall be fixed by the Management Committee.
- 10.2. For the purpose of participation in voting at an Annual General Meeting of the County, all persons shall have been a member as at the membership deadline day which is the date of closure of nominations and submission of proposals.
- 10.3. The purpose of the Annual General Meeting is to transact the following business:
 - 10.3.1. to receive the Chairman / President report(s) of the activities of the County during the previous year;
 - 10.3.2. to receive and consider the accounts of the County for the previous year and the report on the accounts of the independent examiner and the Treasurer's report as to the financial position of the County;
 - 10.3.3. to remove and elect the independent examiner (who must not be a member of the Management Committee or a member of the family of a member of the Management Committee) or confirm that he/she remain in office;
 - 10.3.4. to elect the Executive Officers and other members of the Management Committee;
 - 10.3.5. to decide on the dissolution of existing honorary and/or Life membership categories;
 - 10.3.6. to decide on any resolution which may be duly submitted in accordance with Rule 9.6;

- 10.3.7. to elect or reaffirm the Custodians of the County.
- 10.4. For the Annual General Meeting the Secretary shall be responsible for sending to each member at his/her last known postal or electronic address a written agenda giving notice of the date, time and venue of the General Meeting no later than 28 days prior to the published date. The Notice of Meeting shall in addition wherever possible be displayed on the County Notice Board where one exists.
- 10.5. Nominations for election of members to any office or for membership of the Management Committee shall be made in writing by the proposer and seconder to the Secretary not later than 21 days prior to the published date of the meeting. Both proposer and seconder must be a fully paid member of the County and Swim England at the time of nomination. The nominee shall be required to indicate in writing on the nomination form his/her willingness to stand for election.
- 10.6. Any member shall be entitled to put any proposal for consideration at an Annual General Meeting provided the proposal in writing is received by Secretary not later than 21 days prior to the published date of the meeting.
- 10.7. No less than 14 days before the published meeting date, together with the resolutions to be proposed, a list of the nominees for the Management Committee posts and a copy of the examined accounts will be circulated to all County members.

11. Special General Meeting

- 11.1. A Special General Meeting may be called at any time by the Management Committee at a committee meeting.
- 11.2. A Special General Meeting shall be called by the Management Committee and held within 28 days of receipt by the Secretary of a requisition in writing signed by not less than five member Clubs entitled to vote at a General Meeting or, if greater, such number as represents one-tenth in number of such members, stating the purposes for which the meeting is required and the resolutions proposed.
- 11.3. For the purpose of participation in voting at a Special General Meeting of the County, all persons shall have been a member of a County Club as at the membership deadline day which is the date that the requisition for the meeting was made by the Management Committee or member Clubs.
- 11.4. In the case of a Special General Meeting the Secretary shall be responsible for sending to each member at his/her last known postal or electronic address a written agenda giving notice of the date, time and venue no later than 21 days prior to the date agreed by the Management Committee following the requisition submitted stating the purposes for which the meeting is required and the resolutions proposed.

12. Procedure at the Annual and Special General Meetings

- 12.1. The Management Committee can decide to hold the Annual or Special General Meeting virtually, using such electronic and video technology as it sees fit but must ensure that the information contained in the notice of meeting is accurate and complete in all material respects.
- 12.2. The quorum for the Annual and Special General Meetings shall
- 12.2.1. be representation of 50% of member Clubs entitled to vote at the Meeting or, if greater, such number as represents one-tenth in number of such members, and each club will get one vote, and
- 12.2.2. include at least one Executive Officer.
- 12.3. The Chairman, or in the Chairman's absence a member appointed by the Management Committee shall take the chair. Each member present shall have one vote and resolutions shall be passed by a simple majority. In the event of an equality of votes the Chairman shall have a casting or additional vote.
- 12.4. The Secretary, or in his/her absence a member of the Management Committee, shall take minutes at the Annual and Special General Meetings.
- 12.5. The appointed Chairman of the meeting shall have unlimited authority upon every question of order and shall be, for the purpose of such meeting, the sole interpreter of the Rules of the County.

13. Alteration of the Rules and Other Resolutions

- 13.1. The Rules may be altered by resolution at an Annual or Special General Meeting provided that the resolution is carried by a majority of at least (two-thirds) of member Clubs present and entitled to vote at the General Meeting. No amendment(s) to the Rules shall become effective until such amendment(s) shall have been submitted to and validated by such person as is authorised to do so by Region.

14. By-Laws

- 14.1. The Management Committee shall have power to make, repeal and amend regulations and by-laws as they may from time to time consider necessary for the wellbeing of the County. Such regulations, by-laws, repeals and amendments shall have effect until set aside by the Management Committee or at a General Meeting. The Management Committee shall have power to settle disputed points not otherwise provided for in this Constitution.

15. Finance

- 15.1. All monies payable to the County shall be received by the Treasurer and deposited in a bank account in the name of the County.
- 15.2. No sum shall be drawn from that account except by the method agreed by the Management Committee which includes a minimum of two authorisations. Any monies not required for immediate use may be invested as the Management Committee in its discretion think fit.
- 15.3. The income and property of the County shall be applied only in furtherance of the objects of the County and no part thereof shall be paid by way of bonus, dividend or profit to any members of the County, (save as set out in Rule 17.3).
- 15.4. The Management Committee shall have power to authorise the payment of remuneration and expenses to any Officer, member or employee of the County and to any other person or persons for services rendered to the County.
- 15.5. The financial transactions of the County shall be recorded by the Treasurer in such manner as the Management Committee thinks fit.
- 15.6. The financial year of the County shall be the period commencing on April 1st and ending on March 31st. Any change to the financial year shall require the approval of the members in a General Meeting.

16. Borrowing

- 16.1. The Management Committee may borrow money on behalf of the County for the purposes of the County from time to time at their own discretion for the general upkeep of the County or with the (prior) approval of a General Meeting for any other expenditure, additions or improvements.
- 16.2. When so borrowing the Management Committee shall have power to raise in any way any sum or sums of money and to raise and secure the repayment of any sums or sums of money in such manner or on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit, and in particular by mortgage of or charge upon or by the issues of debentures charged upon all or any part of the property of the County.
- 16.3. The Management Committee shall have no power to pledge the personal liability of any member of the County for the repayment of any sums so borrowed.

17. Property

- 17.1. The property of the County, other than cash at the bank, shall be vested in not less than two but not more than four Custodians who shall be members of the County over 18 years of age. They shall deal with the property as directed by resolution of the Management Committee and entry in the minute book shall be conclusive evidence of such a resolution.
- 17.2. The Custodians shall be elected and reaffirmed at an Annual General Meeting of the County and shall hold office until death or resignation unless removed by a resolution passed at a General Meeting.
- 17.3. The Custodians shall be entitled to an indemnity out of the property of the County for all expenses and other liabilities properly incurred by them in the discharge of their duties.

18. Dissolution

- 18.1. A resolution to dissolve the County shall only be proposed at a General Meeting and shall be carried by a majority of at least three - quarters of the members present and entitled to vote. A specific date for the dissolution shall be included in the resolution.
- 18.2. The dissolution shall take effect from the date specified in the resolution and the members of the Management Committee shall be responsible for the winding-up of the assets and liabilities of the County.
- 18.3. Any property remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the County shall be given to a charity or charities (or other non-profit making organisation having objects similar to those of the County for the furtherance of such objects) nominated by the last Management Committee.

19. Acknowledgement

- 19.1. The Member Clubs acknowledge that these Rules constitute a legally binding contract to regulate the relationship of the member Clubs with each other and the County.
- 19.2. This constitution must be readily available to all County member Clubs. This may be via posting on the County website or shared with members annually at time of membership renewal.