Fenland Squash Club

Constitution

# **1. Title**

The Club shall be known as Fenland Squash Club (hereinafter to be referred to as “the Club”).

# **2. Objectives of the Club**

1. To enable and encourage people to play squash.
2. To encourage new players and improve playing standards.
3. To arrange and hold matches and competitions.
4. To provide squash playing facilities.
5. The club shall at the discretion of the Committee be affiliated to the Cambridgeshire S.R.A. and national governing body for squash.

# **3. Membership**

Membership of the Club shall be open to persons, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs, who have paid the current annual or pro-rata subscription rate. However, limitation of membership according to the discretion of the Committee is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.

For young people under the age of 18, a parent or guardian is to be entirely responsible for their attendance at all club activities.

The Committee shall have the right to suspend or exclude any member for contravention of this Constitution, documented rules, or published codes of conduct that may exist at that time, or for good and sufficient reason. In exercising these powers, the Committee shall adhere to the Club’s disciplinary procedures. Appeal against refusal or removal may be made to the members.

# **4. Subscriptions**

The annual subscription and court fees shall be determined for the ensuing year by the Committee. The Club dues are payable on the 1st September each year, which shall be the commencement of the playing year. Any member whose subscription is unpaid by 1st October in the same year shall cease to be a member of the Club.

# **5. Visitors**

The Club’s policy regarding visitors shall be determined by the Committee. Members shall be responsible for ensuring that their visitors comply with the Club’s rules and for the payment of any fees to the Treasurer.

# **6. Management**

The management of the Club shall be vested in a Committee that shall consist of the Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary, who shall be Officers of the Club, together with a maximum of seven other members. All the foregoing shall be elected at the AGM and remain in office until the conclusion of the AGM of the following year.

The Committee shall have the power to fill vacancies if they arise and to co-opt members for particular projects, but co-opted members shall not have a Committee vote.

The Committee shall also have the power to establish any sub-Committee deemed appropriate to assist in meeting the objectives of the Club, and to delegate to these sub-Committees such duties as may be considered appropriate.

The Committee shall have the power to appoint individuals to perform specific duties on behalf of the Committee, and to delegate to those individuals such duties as they consider appropriate.

Questions arising at any meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes and in case of equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote, provided that four shall form a quorum.

# **7. Annual General Meeting**

The A.G.M. shall be held in the autumn of each year on a day and at a time and place decided by the Committee.

The A.G.M. shall be held to transact the following business:

* To consider the Minutes of the previous A.G.M.
* To elect the Officers and the Committee for the ensuing year.
* To receive and consider the Chairman’s Report, the Treasurer’s Report, and any other reports.
* To consider any proposed amendments to the Constitution.
* To transact any other ordinary or special business of which due notice has been given.

The Committee may, if they think fit, or shall, if requested in writing by one tenth of the membership, call an Extraordinary General Meeting for any specific business. The discussion at such a General Meeting shall be confined to the business stated in the notice sent to Members.

Proposals for alterations to the Constitution must be received in writing to the Secretary at least fourteen days before the date of a General Meeting.

Alterations to the Constitution shall be decided at an E.G.M. by a two-thirds majority of votes, provided that at least half the Committee Members, including the Chairman or an appointee, are in attendance.

Quorum for both an A.G.M. and an E.G.M. shall be reached at one tenth of membership.

The Secretary shall, at least ten days before the date of an A.G.M. or E.G.M., display the notice in the Club. The procedure of such a meeting shall be in accordance with the Constitution.

All registered members of the Club at the meeting who are aged 18 years or more shall have one vote. In the case of an equality of votes the Chairman will have a second, casting, vote. Voting shall be by a show of hands except where the Chairman decides voting shall be by ballot.

**8. Finance**

The financial year of the Club shall end on 31st August.

All funds belonging to the Club shall be deposited with a bank or building society in accounts that shall carry the Club title. All accounts shall operate on two signatories, one of whom will be the Treasurer and the other either the Chairman or Secretary.

Expenditure above agreed budget levels may only be authorised at a Committee meeting.

The Treasurer shall keep proper accounts.

The accounts shall be submitted to the A.G.M.

# **9. Property and Funds**

The property and funds of the Club cannot be used for the direct or indirect private benefit of members other than as reasonably allowed by the rules and all surplus income or profits are reinvested in the Club.

The Club may provide sporting and related social facilities, sporting equipment, coaching, courses, insurance cover, medical treatment, travel expenses and other ordinary benefits of Community Amateur Sports Clubs as provided for in the Finance Act 2002.

The Club may also in connection with the sports purposes of the Club:

* Sell and supply food, drink, and related sports clothing and equipment.
* Employ members and remunerate them for providing goods and services, on fair terms set by the Committee.
* Pay for reasonable hospitality for visiting guests.
* Indemnify the Committee and members acting properly in the course of the running of the Club against any liability incurred in the proper running of the Club (but only to the extent of its assets).

# **10. Winding Up**

The members may vote to wind up the Club if not less than three quarters of those present and voting support that proposal at a properly convened general meeting. The quorum at such a meeting shall be reached at two thirds of membership.

The Committee will then be responsible for the orderly winding up of the Club’s affairs.

After settling all liabilities of the Club, the Committee shall dispose of the net assets remaining to one or more of the following:

* To another Club with similar sports purposes which is a registered charity and/or
* To another Club with similar sports purposes which is a registered CASC and/or
* To the Club’s national governing bodies for use by them for related community sports.

# **11. Liability**

The Club disclaims any responsibility to the person or property of anyone using the Club facilities, or the loss of property brought into the premises. Anyone making use of the facilities provided shall be deemed to be doing so at their own risk.

# **12. Priority**

Interpretation of all the above rules must be consistent with the statutory requirements for CASCs (which means Community Amateur Sports Clubs, as first provided for by the Finance Act 2002).

**Signed**

*Chairman*

*4th December 2020*