



STROUD CRICKET CLUB CONSTITUTION

2021

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1. Name and Colours

Having been founded as such in 1850 the name of the Club is “Stroud Cricket Club” (hereinafter called “the Club”). The Club shall be affiliated to the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), through the Gloucestershire Cricket Board. The Club colours are claret and light blue. In interpreting these Rules the masculine includes the feminine and the singular the plural so far as the context admits.

2. Aims and Objectives

1. The object of the Club is to provide facilities for and promote participation of the whole community in the sport of Cricket.
2. To manage the Club’s ground, pavilion and other facilities.
3. To ensure that all members, playing and non-playing, abide by the ECB Code of Conduct which incorporates the Spirit of Cricket and the Laws of Cricket.
4. To ensure a duty of care to all members by adopting and implementing all relevant laws, regulations and policies including, but not limited to, the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), and the ECB’s “Safe Hands - Cricket’s Policy for Safeguarding Children” (and any future iterations of either). The Club shall adopt and implement the ECB Club Inclusion and Diversity Policy and any future versions of this policy.
5. To provide all its services in a way that is fair to everyone.
6. To encourage all members to participate fully in the activities of the Club, through playing cricket, social and fund-raising activities and general management.

3. Membership

1. Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested in cricket on application, without discrimination. The Club respects the rights, dignity and worth of every person and will treat everyone equally within the context of cricket, regardless of age, ability, gender, race, ethnicity, religion or belief, sexuality or social/economic status. The Club is committed to everyone enjoying their sport free from intimidation, harassment and abuse. Members of the Club have responsibility to oppose discriminatory behaviour and promote equality of opportunity. However, limitation of membership according to the availability of facilities is permissible on a non-discriminatory basis. The Committee shall deal seriously with any incident of discriminatory behaviour.
2. The Club shall have the classes of membership set out in Rule 4 on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The Committee shall keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people joining.
3. Application for membership of the Club shall be by completion of a membership application form and by payment of the relevant subscription, determined by the Committee.



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4. No person shall be eligible to take part in the business of the Club or be eligible for selection for any Club team unless the appropriate subscription has been paid by the specified date and membership has been agreed by the Committee.
5. The Committee may refuse membership, or remove it, only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or cricket into disrepute. Appeal against refusal or removal may be made to the Appeals Committee (See Rule 10).
6. By joining the Club all members shall be deemed to have accepted these Rules and any Codes of Conduct the Club has adopted.
7. An interval of two days between nomination and admission is required before obtaining membership of the Club. During this period the nominee is not assigned full membership privileges.

4. Classes of Membership

1. Playing Men's Member
2. Playing Women's Member
3. Junior Member (under 16 years of age at the beginning of the current year 1st September)
4. Student Member (over 16 and in full time education)
5. Vice President
6. Social Member
7. Associate Playing Member
8. Life Member: on the recommendation of the Committee a member may be elected a Life Member at a General Meeting of the Club and shall thereafter be entitled to all privileges of membership without paying a subscription. The Committee may also permit a Life Membership to be approved outside of a General Meeting, but only pursuant to the appropriate subscription being paid. There shall be a maximum of 10 (ten) Life Members at any one time.

Lists of members in each category shall be maintained both by the Secretary and Treasurer and be made available on reasonable request.

All members over the age of 18 in membership classes 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 8 are Full Members eligible to vote at General Meetings.

5. Subscriptions

1. The Committee shall determine minimum subscriptions for each of the above 8 (eight) classes at its first meeting following the AGM.
2. All annual subscriptions shall be reduced by half for the ongoing year, for those joining the Club after August 1st.



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3. All annual subscriptions are payable in advance on or before May 1st. No member whose subscription is in arrears on May 30th shall be eligible for selection in any of the Club games. A list of all fully paid members shall be made available by the Secretary or Treasurer on reasonable request. Any member whose subscription is unpaid on 30th May shall cease to exercise the privileges of membership.
4. With the approval of the Committee, there are arrangements for payment of the annual subscription by monthly instalments. Any member whose subscription or part subscription is in arrears by more than one month shall cease to be eligible for selection for any Club games, until such time as arrears are paid and arrangements made for payment of outstanding sums.
5. A member may resign his membership of the Club at any time by giving notice in writing to the Secretary, but shall continue to be liable for subscriptions due and unpaid at the time of resignation, suspension or expulsion.

6. Officers and Duties of Secretary & Treasurer

The Officers of the Club shall be:

1. President
2. Club Captain
3. Secretary: Responsible for all correspondence, the Notice, Agenda and Minutes of Annual, Special and Committee meetings at the direction of the Chairman of the Committee. Minutes shall be presented for confirmation at the following meeting.
4. Treasurer: Responsible for all financial matters, including receipt of monies, payments, banking and the production of an Annual Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts. The accounts shall be examined and certified as correct by an independent external accounts examiner. Cheques shall be signed by two of the designated signatories. The Treasurer and Trustees shall ensure that all appropriate insurance is in place.
5. Head of Youth Cricket
6. Club Welfare Officer

The Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. A candidate must be proposed and seconded by two members of the Club. All Officers shall be elected for one year but shall be eligible for re-election to the same office or to another office the following year.

7. Committee

1. The affairs of the Club shall be managed by a Committee, comprising *ex officio* Officers 1 - 6 designated above, the 4 trustees and 6 (six) other Members elected at the AGM. The 6 other committee members will have role specifications set by the Committee, which may vary from year-to-year.
2. At its first meeting following the AGM the Committee shall choose its Chairman and Vice-



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Chairman.

3. In the event of an equal vote, the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote. Voting at all meetings shall be by a show of hands, except where the Committee or meeting Chairman decides voting shall be by ballot.
4. The Committee shall be convened by the Secretary on the direction of the Chairman and shall meet at agreed intervals and not less than four times per year.
5. The quorum at Committee meetings shall be 6 including 2 officers.

8. The powers and duties of the Committee shall be:

1. To ensure that accurate accounts of the finances of the Club are kept and available for reasonable inspection by members and audited as above before every Annual General Meeting.
2. The Club shall maintain a bank current account and the following shall be authorised to sign cheques: the Treasurer and one of the Trustees.
3. To co-opt additional members of the Committee as the Committee feels necessary. Co-opted members shall not be entitled to vote and shall serve until the end of the next Annual General Meeting.
4. To adopt such policies, codes of practice and regulations as it deems necessary subject to compliance with these Rules.
5. To hold disciplinary hearings upon reasonable notice, for members accused of infringing the Club rules or regulations. The Committee shall take any action of suspension or discipline following such hearings.
6. To appoint sub-Committees as deemed necessary and to co-opt advisers who may not be members, to advise on specialist subjects. Co-opted committee members are not entitled to vote.
7. Officers and Members elected and co-opted onto sub-Committees shall use their best endeavours to promote the interests of the Club, in accordance with policies from time to time laid down by the Committee. In agreeing to serve on any Committee it is implicit that members will regularly attend its meetings unless prevented by good cause. Officers and Committee Members by acceptance of office agree to strictly preserve the confidentiality of the Club's affairs. In the event that an Officer or Committee member is adjudged by a majority of the Committee to have acted in a manner contrary to the best interests of the Club, the Committee shall have power to remove such member, subject to his right to appeal to the Appeals Committee.
8. An elected Committee member ceases to be such if he or she ceases to be a member of the Club, resigns or is removed by the Committee for good cause, after the member concerned has been given the chance of putting their case to the Committee. Appeal against removal may be made to the Appeals Committee. The Committee shall fairly decide time limits and formalities for these steps.
9. To appoint such Additional Officers - Newsletter Editor, Assistant Secretary, Hon. Groundsman, Hon. Bar Manager, Hon. Legal Adviser, etc - as it shall deem necessary. Such roles may or may not be also co-opted to the Committee, per section 8.3, above.



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9. Trustees

There shall be four Trustees of the Club who *ex-officio* shall be members of the Committee.

The Trustees shall be appointed by the Committee. The property of the Club (other than cash which shall be under the control of the Treasurer), shall be vested in them to be dealt with by them as the Committee shall from time-to-time direct by resolution (of which an entry in the minute book shall be conclusive evidence). The Trustees shall be indemnified against risk and expense out of the Club property. The Trustees shall hold office until death or resignation, or until removed from office by a resolution endorsed by at least three quarters of the full Committee. The Committee may for any reason which may seem sufficient, present and voting, at any meeting remove any Trustee or Trustees from the office of Trustee. If, by reason of any such death, resignation or removal it shall appear necessary to the Committee that a new Trustee or Trustees shall be appointed or if the Committee shall deem it expedient to appoint an additional Trustee or additional Trustees, the Committee shall, by resolution, nominate the person or persons to be appointed, the new Trustee or Trustees. For the purpose of giving effect to such nomination, the President is hereby nominated as the person to appoint new Trustees of the Club, within the meaning of S36 of the Trustee Act 1925, and shall by deed duly appoint the person or persons so nominated by the Committee as the new Trustee or Trustees of the Club and the provisions of the Trustee Act 1925 shall apply to any such appointment. Any statement of fact in such Deed of Appointment shall in favour of a person dealing *bona fide* and for value with the Club or the Committee be conclusive evidence of the fact so stated.

10. Appeals Committee

This shall consist of 3 trustees, or 2 trustees and the Hon. Legal Adviser (if any), who shall absent themselves when the Committee decides any disciplinary matter at first instance. The Appeals Committee shall proceed in accordance with the rules of natural justice.

11. The Supply of Alcohol

1. The bar shall be run by a designated member of the Committee, with support from other Committee members/Full Members when necessary.
2. Alcohol can be served only to paying customers by members duly authorised by the responsible Committee member, or by individuals expressly identified and employed by the responsible Committee member for that purpose.
3. Sale of alcohol shall be only to full members and their guests aged over 18 years of age. I.D. may be required if warranted.
4. Service may be refused to any persons at any time.
5. The sale of alcohol is permitted only during times and under circumstances as allowed under the license agreed by Stroud District Council, or as allowed by them under any separate instructions or communications.
6. Alcohol may be consumed only on the premises.



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12. The Club has Power to:

1. Acquire and provide grounds, equipment, coaching, training and playing facilities, clubhouse, transport, medical and related facilities.
2. Provide coaching, training, medical treatment, and related social and other facilities.
3. Take out insurance for Club, employees, contractors, players, guests and third parties.
4. Raise funds by appeals and subscriptions.
5. Subject to the written approval of the Trustees, to borrow money and give security for the same.
6. Buy, lease or licence property and sell, let or otherwise dispose of the same.
7. Make grants and loans and give guarantees and provide other benefits.
8. Set aside funds for special purposes or as reserves.
9. Invest funds in any lawful manner upon receiving qualified advice.
10. Employ and engage staff and others, and provide services.
11. Co-operate with or affiliate to any bodies regulating or organising the sport of cricket, any club or body involved with cricket and government and related agencies
12. Do all other things reasonably necessary to advance the aims and objectives of the Club, save that none of the above powers may be used other than in a manner consistent with these Rules and the general law.

13. General Meetings

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Club shall be held further to the close of the season (by 31st March at the latest), at such time and place as the Committee may decide. 21 days' clear notice of the AGM shall be given to all members in writing - by e-mail or post - to the member's last known address, and by Notice through the relevant Club social media channels. Members must advise the Secretary in writing of any proposal to be put to the AGM, at least 14 days beforehand. The Secretary shall circulate the Agenda to members not less than 7 days beforehand. The Business of the AGM shall be to:

1. Confirm the Minutes of the previous AGM, and any General Meetings held since the previous year's AGM.
2. Receive the Accounts for the year.
3. Receive the Annual Report of the Committee.
4. Elect the Club Officers and Committee.
5. Transact such other business received by the Secretary, in writing, from members, 14 days prior to the meeting and included on the Agenda.



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6. Nominations of candidates for election shall be made in writing to the Secretary at least 14 days in advance of the AGM date. Nominations can be made only by a Full Member of the Club, and must be seconded by another Full Member.
7. In the case that there shall not be sufficient numbers nominated, the Committee shall fill the remaining vacancies at its discretion. If there shall be more nominations than vacancies, balloting lists shall be prepared containing the names of the candidates and each Full Member present at the AGM shall be entitled to vote for any number of such candidates, not exceeding the number of vacancies. Where such ballots are for any one of the positions of a Men's Saturday League Captain, entitlement to vote will be extended to any Junior or Student Members who played at least one-third (normally 6 from 18) of the Saturday League matches for any of the Men's teams in the preceding season. Proxy voting will be allowed in advance by all membership classes entitled to vote, provided votes have been received by the Secretary by the deadline set. If two or more members gain an equal number of votes, the Chairman of the meeting shall have the casting vote.
8. Special General Meetings may be convened by the Committee. or on receipt by the Secretary of a request in writing from not less than 10 Full Members. At least 21 days' notice of the meeting shall be given.
9. At all General Meetings, the Chair will be taken by the President or, in his absence, by the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Committee. Decisions made at a General Meeting shall be by a simple majority. In the event of equal votes the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.
10. A quorum for a General Meeting shall be 15 Full Members.

14. Alterations to these Rules

Proposed alterations shall be considered only at an Annual or Special General Meeting, convened with the required written notice setting out the proposal. Amendments which must be proposed and seconded by voting members are passed if supported by not less than two-thirds of those present at the meeting.

15. Finance

The financial year will run from 1st November to 31st October.

Any member authorised to collect monies for or on behalf of the Club shall pay such monies to the Treasurer within seven days of such collection, or within seven days following a specific event. No Member shall have authority to commit the Club to expenditure in excess of £50 without the express authority of the Committee or an appointed Sub-Committee to which certain powers have been delegated. In circumstances where a Sub-Committee may be running an event, the Chairman of that Sub-Committee shall be responsible for accounting for the proceeds of that event, together with a statement of income and expenditure as appropriate within 14 days of that event.



16. Property and Funds

1. 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. All surplus income or profits shall be reinvested in the Club. No surpluses or assets will be distributed to members or third parties.
2. The Club may also in connection with the sports purposes of the Club:
 - a) sell and supply food, drink and related sports clothing and equipment.
 - b) employ members and remunerate them for providing goods and services, on fair terms set by the Committee without the person concerned being present.
 - c) pay for reasonable hospitality for visiting teams and guests.
 - d) 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).

17. Discipline and Appeals

1. All concerns, allegations or reports of poor practice or abuse relating to the welfare of children and young people will be recorded and responded to swiftly and appropriately in accordance with the Club's child protection policy and procedures. The Club Welfare Officer is the lead contact for all members in the event of any child protection concerns.
2. All complaints regarding the behaviour of members should be lodged in writing with the Secretary.
3. The Committee shall appoint a Disciplinary sub-Committee, which shall meet to hear complaints within 7 days of a complaint being lodged. Any member requested to attend a Disciplinary sub-Committee shall be entitled to be accompanied by a friend or other representative, and to call witnesses. The Committee has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action, including suspension and expulsion.
4. The outcome of the disciplinary hearing shall be given in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made within 7 days following the hearing.
5. There shall be a right of appeal to the Appeals Committee, against either the finding or the sanction imposed or both, following disciplinary action being taken. The Appeals Committee shall consider the appeal within 7 days of the Secretary receiving the appeal. The individual submitting the appeal shall be entitled to be accompanied by a friend or other representative, and to call witnesses. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final and binding on all parties.

18. Dissolution

1. If at any General Meeting of the Club, a resolution be passed calling for the dissolution of the Club, the Secretary shall immediately convene a Special General Meeting of the Club to be held not less than one month thereafter, to discuss and vote on the resolution.
2. If at that Special Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two-thirds of the Full Voting Membership present at the meeting, the Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets of the Club and discharge all debts and liabilities of the Club.



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3. The Committee will then be responsible for the orderly winding up of the Club's affairs.
4. In the event of the dissolution of the Club, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall not be paid or distributed among the members of the Club, but shall be given or transferred to one or more of the following approved sporting or charitable bodies:
 - a) A registered charitable organisation(s).
 - b) Another club that is registered with CASC.
 - c) The sport's national governing body, for use by them for related community sports.

19. Declaration

Following approval at its Special General Meeting the 30th day of December 2020 Stroud Cricket Club hereby adopts these Rules as the current operating guide regulating the actions of all members.

SIGNED

(PRESIDENT)

Date:

18/5/2021

SIGNED

(SECRETARY)

Date:

18/05/2021