

Martlet Kayak Club Constitution

Section 1. Name

Article 1. The name of the organisation shall be Martlet Kayak Club, referred to below as the Club.

Section 2. Object

Article 2. The object of the Club is to provide facilities to the whole community to promote and encourage participation in canoeing and paddlesports as defined by the governing body the British Canoe Union.

Section 3. Membership of the Club

Article 3. Membership of the club is open to all without discrimination. Any person regardless of ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion, beliefs, sex, age, disability or canoeing ability can apply for membership. For safety and Child protection Junior members under 16 are admitted on the understanding that a Parent or Guardian accompanies them or where necessary expressly nominates an appropriate adult to take responsibility for them. Junior members under 12 are admitted when a parent or guardian is a member and subject to the same criteria as for under 16's above.

Article 4. Membership shall be refused to persons who have been previously expelled or refused membership of this Club, the BCU or any other affiliated club.

Article 5. All members agree to uphold the objects of the Club and to be bound by it's Constitution, rules and policies.

Article 6. Classes of membership: Classes are agreed from time to time by the General Committee and any changes ratified at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) by simple majority.

Senior - members who are 18 or over when their subscription falls due.

Family - includes members of any one family normally residing at the same address.

Junior - those under 18 on the date their subscription falls due.

Social - primarily aimed at non-paddling members.

Associate - open to schools and other similar organisation where a representative of that school or organisation is also a full senior member.

Article 7. A membership is obtained by written application to the Secretary on the form provided. The power of election shall rest with the General Committee.

Article 8. The General Committee, by two thirds majority and on non-discriminatory grounds, may at its discretion decline to accept a new or renewal membership from any person without disclosing the reason, where the membership, or continued membership of the person

concerned would be likely to be contrary to the best interests of the sport or the good conduct and interests of the club. The General Committee may also terminate the membership on non-discriminatory grounds of any individual where continued membership of the person concerned would be likely to be contrary to the best interests of the sport or the good conduct and interests of the club, provided: there is 21 days notice of meeting, there is a two thirds majority and the individual has the right to be heard by the General Committee, before a final decision is made.

Section 4. Membership Subscription

Article 9. If accepted for membership each applicant shall make a payment of a membership subscription levied by the General Committee. Subscription is due thereafter annually on or before April each year. The subscription amount is determined by the Club members at the AGM or an Extra- General Meeting (EGM) called for that purpose.

Section 5. Cessation of membership

Article 10. Any member may resign giving one month's clear notice in writing to the Secretary. Reimbursement of any remaining subscription will be at the General Committee's discretion.

Article 11. Any breach of the Club constitution, rules or policies, or any conduct considered to be detrimental to the Club by a member, shall render that member liable to suspension or expulsion by the General Committee. Reimbursement of any remaining subscription will be at the General Committee's discretion

Section 6 Administration of the Club

Article 12. The Club shall have a General Committee the purpose of which is to direct the on going activities and foster the object of the Club. The General Committee shall be appointed at the AGM and comprise of: Chairman; Secretary; Treasurer; Coaching and Safety Representative, and no less than three and no more than eight other members.

Article 13. The General Committee may in addition appoint not more than a third of the committee as co-opted members. Each appointment of a co-opted member shall be made at a meeting of the General Committee and shall take effect from the end of that meeting. Sub-committees may also be co-opted where the need arises and at the discretion of the General Committee.

Article 14. The General Committee will normally aim to meet on the first Tuesday of each month. Meetings are open to all members but voting is by the members of the General Committee. In this case a quorum is deemed to be 4. The Chairman having the casting vote. The General Committee shall keep minutes of the proceedings of meetings.

Article 15. The AGM shall be held in February or March. At least 21 days notice will be given to all members of the meeting. Any motions not originating from the General Committee should be submitted to the Secretary at least 30 days before the meeting.

Article 16. There shall be laid before the AGM; a statement of accounts made up to the calendar year end; the minutes of the previous AGM; minutes of any EGM, all for approval and an Annual Report by the Chairman. The General Committee for the year will be elected. A quorum deemed at least 20% of voting members shall be present. Each named member over 16 will have a vote.

Article 17. An EGM maybe called if at least 30% of the voting members or General Committee request it. The meeting shall be called within 21 days of the request and all members will be informed at least 7 days before the meeting date. A quorum deemed at least 20% of members shall be present.

Section 7. Eligibility, Nomination and Election of Officers

Article 18. Eligibility in the case of all officers is derived from all fully paid-up members of the Club over the age of 16.

Article 19. Nominations for office should be made at, or prior, to the AGM and should be made by at least two members with voting rights. If two or more candidates run for the same position a vote will be taken of the members present at the AGM. All such elections will be through secret ballot if requested.

Article 20. The General Committee is elected by the membership at the AGM or an EGM called for that purpose. The term for each office shall be for one year and members may be eligible for re-election.

Section 8. Amendments to the Constitution

Article 21. The Constitution of the Club can be amended or deleted by a simple majority at the AGM or an EGM called for that purpose.

Article 22. Amendments to this Constitution should be proposed by the General Committee or by at least 10 members of the Club to the Secretary at least 10 days before the AGM or any EGM.

Article 23. The property of the Club shall belong to the Club as a whole and not to any individual members.

Article 24. Any matter not provided for in this Constitution or any question over the interpretation of it shall be dealt with by the General Committee whose decision will be final.

Section 9. Distribution of profits

Article 25. The funds belonging to the Club shall be applied only in furthering its objects, and, in no circumstances, can any profits be distributed to members.

Section 10. Dissolution

Article 26. If the General Committee decides it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the Club, it shall call a meeting of all the members of the Club, of which not less than 21 days notice (stating the terms of the resolution to be proposed) shall be given. If the proposal is confirmed by a two thirds majority of those present and voting, the General Committee shall have the power to realise any assets held by or on behalf of the Club. Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to another CASC, a registered Charity or the Sports' Governing Body as the members of the Club may determine. A statement of accounts for the final accounting period must be produced and circulated to members of the Club.