

1 **CLUB CONSTITUTION**

The Club shall be called

Stewarton Heather Curling Club

(hereinafter referred to as “The Club”) and it shall seek affiliation to and be bound in general by the rules of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club and specifically by the bye-laws set out in the attached Appendix.

2. OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 Participate in, and promote the sport of curling and undertake other activities incidental or conducive to the furtherance of the sport.
- 2.2 Encourage the highest ethical standards. All individuals involved in the Club should conduct themselves with integrity, transparency, accountability and in a fair and equitable manner.

3 MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 The membership shall consist of the following categories:

Honorary members, ordinary members, reserve members and junior members.

- 3.2 Honorary members may be proposed and seconded by any two members and ratified at the next Annual General Meeting. An honorary member may also be an ordinary, reserve or junior member. An ordinary member is entitled to play in all league, pairs, points, bonspiel and other events without restriction.

A reserve member is entitled to play in all league, pairs, points, bonspiel and other events if asked to do so by, or on behalf of the Committee and, except in exceptional circumstances, and as permitted by the Committee, will not normally play or be expected to play on a regular basis.

A junior member has the same entitlement as an ordinary member or a reserve member as the case may be. A member is termed a junior member due to age under the Royal Caledonian Curling Club rules.

- 3.3 Members in each category shall pay Membership fees as fixed at each Annual General Meeting. The Club may also require members to contribute to the funds by way of a special levy.
- 3.4 All members joining the Club shall be deemed to have accepted the terms of this Constitution and any bye-laws from time to time adopted by the Club. In particular without prejudice to the foregoing generality, the members shall require to conduct themselves in accordance with the discipline set out in the Club's framework and bye-laws.
- 3.5 Members other than honorary shall be admitted by the Committee.

- 3.6 Membership is open to all and no application for membership will be refused on other than reasonable grounds. There will be no discrimination on grounds of age, race, occupation, sex or religious, political or other opinion.

4 MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 The affairs of the Club shall be conducted by the Committee which shall consist of the Officers of the Club plus, no less than two (2) and no more than four (4) members, all of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. The respective committee members will be elected bi-annually unless any committee member wishes to resign within the two year cycle.
- 4.2 The Officers of the Club shall be the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Match Secretary. If the post of any Officer or Ordinary Committee member should fall vacant after such an election, the Officers shall have the power to fill the vacancy until the succeeding Annual General Meeting.
- 4.3 All Officers and Committee members must be members of the Club.
- 4.4 The Committee shall have full power to deal with all matters relating to the Club not reserved to an Annual General Meeting in terms of this Constitution, including power to make public and enforce such bye-laws as the Committee feel necessary to govern the activities of the Club including bye-laws relating to discipline.
- 4.5 An Officer can hold more than one position if duly elected. A further member can be elected to the Committee to bring the total number of elected members to no more than nine.
- 4.6 Committee Meetings shall be convened by the Secretary who shall give the Committee members not less than 24 hours notice of the time and place of the meeting. The notice need not be in writing.

5 GENERAL MEETINGS

5.1 Annual General Meeting

The Club shall hold an Annual General Meeting in the month of April or May to:

- Approve the minutes of the previous year's Annual General Meeting.
- Receive reports from the President and Secretary.
- Receive a report from the Treasurer and approve the Annual Accounts.
- Receive a report from those responsible for auditing the Club's accounts.
- Elect the Officers and Committee on a bi-annual basis unless otherwise required.

- Appoint someone suitably qualified for auditing the Club's accounts.
- Fix the subscription for the ensuing year for the various categories of member.
- Consider changes to the Constitution.
- Review and consider any bye-laws as listed in Appendix.
- Deal with other relevant business.
- Where necessary raise a special levy
- Ratify proposals for appointment of any honorary members.

5.2 Extraordinary General Meeting

An Extraordinary General Meeting can be called by any club member, by an application in writing to the Secretary signed by at least 10% of the members of the Club. The Committee shall also have the power to call an Extraordinary General Meeting by decision of a simple majority of its members unless called under Rule 6.5.

5.3 Notices

At least 14 days notice and the Agenda of any Extraordinary General Meeting shall be communicated by the Secretary to all members. No business shall be conducted unless fair notice thereof is contained in the Agenda.

5.4 Voting

- With the exception of changes to the Constitution, decisions put to a vote shall be resolved by a simple majority of those present, eligible to vote at Annual General Meetings.
- The President of the Club or in their absence the Vice President shall hold a deliberative as well as a casting vote at General and Committee meetings.
- Only members who have paid their subscriptions in full or met all instalments due at the date of the Annual General Meeting shall be entitled to vote.

5.5 Quora

The quorum at Annual General Meetings shall be 20% of all members entitled to vote. The quorum for Committee Meetings shall be 40% of the members of the Committee.

5.6 Changes to the Constitution

- Any change to the Constitution shall require a two thirds majority of those present, and eligible to vote at an Annual General Meeting.

- A proposal to change the Constitution must be submitted in writing to the Secretary who shall circulate the proposal to all members and allow seven days for submission of any amendments before calling a meeting in accordance with Rule 5.3 above.
- All proposals for changes to the Constitution shall be signed by two members eligible to vote at an Annual General Meeting.

6 FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

- 6.1 The financial year shall run from May to April each year.
- 6.2 The Treasurer shall be responsible for the preparation of Annual Accounts of the Club.
- 6.3 An appropriately qualified independent person shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting to audit the Accounts
- 6.4 The Treasurer and one other nominated Officer shall sign all cheques drawn against the Club's funds.
- 6.5 All members of the club shall be jointly not severally responsible for the financial liabilities of the club but the Committee shall have no power to borrow money, incur an overdraft or similar debt and neither shall the club. If the financial liabilities of the club exceed £500 at any time the Treasurer shall be bound to inform the Committee as soon as possible. The committee shall, if the liabilities cannot be met from Club funds, immediately call an Extraordinary General Meeting (whether or not a majority of the Committee agrees) with an item on the agenda being to call for a special levy in terms of which all of the members of the Club are required to repay the liabilities (on a joint not several basis) and the club continue in existence or, in the alternative that the Club be wound up with effect from the close of the Extraordinary General Meeting in which case all of the members shall be bound to repay the liabilities on the same basis.

7 DISSOLUTION

- 7.1 The Club is a non-profit making organisation. All profits and surpluses will be used to maintain or improve or develop the Club's facilities or to carry out the objectives of the Association to which it is affiliated. No profit or surplus will be distributed other than to another non-profit making body on a winding-up or dissolution of the Club.
- 7.2 If, upon the winding up or dissolution of the Club there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall be transferred to some other organisation or organisations having objectives similar to that of the Club. Such an organisation or organisations are to be determined by the members of the Club by a Resolution passed at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting or, in the absence of such a resolution (or that the extent to which it cannot be given effect) to the Association to which the Club is affiliated.

Appendix

Bye-Laws of Stewarton Heather Curling Club

- 1 If ice is deemed unplayable by both skips the game shall be replayed. If for any reason the game cannot be replayed one point will be awarded to each team. If skips cannot agree on ice condition the game will continue.
- 2 If a reserve playing in the pair's competition (not original drawn pairing) plays more than one game then the reserve remains in the team until eliminated or the end of the competition. If only one game has been played the original team member can rejoin.
- 3 Pairs competition: Any player not turning up will be responsible for their own and their partner's ice fees. The opposition pair will pay their own ice fees.
- 4 Pairs competition: Any member turning up late will be deducted 1 shot after five minutes and every five minutes thereafter up to a maximum of thirty minutes (6 shots) when the game will be forfeited.
- 5 The pair's competition will be played over a maximum of five ends or time. Last end must be started within 55 minutes of the official start time. The final will be played over seven ends or time.
- 6 Pairs competition: If a reserve is required beyond the first round a defeated player of the same position can rejoin.
- 7 In the Pairs competition either member of the original team can skip if agreed between the pair. If they cannot agree, the first drawn name shall skip.
- 8 Leagues will be decided by points, then shots up and then ends.
- 9 All memberships and ice fees will be invoiced at the start of the season. This includes the Cuthbertson Cup, Howie Cup, Goldie Bonspiel (first two rounds), Points, Pairs (first round games).
- 10 Return of ice fees: If a player is unfit through illness or injury. Ice fees should not be returned as this would leave the club open to claims for any number of reasons. The Officers will consider a refund in certain circumstances if a request is made in writing to the Club Secretary. This will be considered on a case by case situation.
- 11 Teams who play in Cuthbertson Cup, Howie Cup and Goldie Bonspiel with three players will be penalised by three shots after the second end.
- 12 Wm Cuthbertson Cup Promotion/Relegation: Players in the top three teams in the league shall be promoted by one playing position. Players in the bottom three teams shall be relegated by one playing position. Players not wishing to be promoted can refuse and keep their existing position. If a situation arises where a player does not want to be promoted a player in the relegation zone is rerieved. The committee will decide.
- 13 Wm Howie Cup Promotion/Relegation: Players in the top three teams in the league shall be promoted and players in the bottom three shall be relegated as in Rule 12 above.

- 14 Goldie Bonspiel: Skips from first league will be leads in this competition even if a reserve is required.
- 15 The minimum number of ends to be played is seven (except in the pairs).
- 16 At least 48 hours notice should be given for a call off. Failure to do so may result in the reserve co-ordinator being unable to supply a reserve. If less than 48hrs then player withdrawing should find reserve and inform Skip and co-ordinator, reserve will join list if other reserves required. If no reserve then Rule 11 will apply. If reserve arranged but does not turn up then Rule11 does not apply.
- 17 Reserve players in league games must not play higher than any regular team member.
- 18 All reserves must be affiliated to the Club. Late joiners will be posted on the Club website www.royalcaledoniancurlingclub.org click on clubs and follow to website.
- 19 Members putting their names forward for national, area or local competitions where a fee needs to be paid will be liable to pay such fees and any further costs imposed on the club by late payment.
- 20 Members who enter Club competitions and subsequently withdraw will be responsible for any outstanding costs (the cost between reserve payments and full playing cost) at the discretion of the Committee.
- 21 A reserve member playing in a league game will pay reserve ice fees as set at the Annual General Meeting. A full price payment will be due at other games. (Pairs, points, interclub games)
- 22 Club colours are claret with a suitable Club badge.
- 23 The Royal Caledonian Curling Club general curling rules can be obtained from their website as detailed above.

Amended September 2013.