

## **The Constitution of the Welsh Croquet Association**

This constitution was ratified at the Welsh Croquet Association AGM held at Dyffryn Gardens on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2010 and amended at the AGM held online on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

### **1. Definitions**

- (a) Croquet Association and/or Golf Croquet
- (b) Normally Resident in Wales This includes students or members of HM Armed forces whose permanent home address is in Wales whilst studying or stationed outside Wales

### **2. Name**

- (a) The organisation shall be entitled the Welsh Croquet Association, hereinafter referred to as the WCA

### **3. Objects**

- (a) To further the sport of Croquet in Wales
- (b) To encourage competitive Croquet in Wales
- (c) To organise the Welsh National Croquet Championship open to Associate Members of the WCA
- (d) To represent Welsh Croquet to other sports bodies, sports foundations, government, local authorities and otherwise as necessary, affiliating to such bodies where appropriate
- (e) To adopt the Laws of Croquet that have been fully agreed and ratified by the International Laws Committee, or such other committee or body responsible for those laws, and to apply them to govern Croquet in Wales
- (f) To enter teams and/or individuals to represent Wales in International Croquet competitions and to select players for such
- (g) To maintain appropriate accounts and records of financial transactions
- (h) To keep a register of members

### **4. Members**

- (a) The WCA shall consist of Croquet clubs and individual members as follows:-
- (b) Any croquet club or similar organisation properly constituted and based in Wales shall be admitted as an Affiliated Club on payment of the appropriate fee (no affiliated club shall have fewer than 3 full members).

- (c) Any person qualified to represent Wales under World Croquet Federation eligibility, or normally resident in Wales shall be admitted as an Associate Member on payment of the appropriate fee.
- (d) An Affiliated Club may resign at an Annual General Meeting but otherwise failing to pay the subscription despite an appropriate reminder means the Club shall lose the rights and privileges of membership while the subscription remains due
- (e) An Associate Member failing to pay the subscription despite an appropriate reminder is presumed to have resigned and shall lose the rights and privileges of membership
- (f) If the Executive Committee believes the conduct of any member to be unseemly, objectionable or calculated to bring the Association into disrepute, it will first attempt to resolve the matter informally, failing which it may sanction the member. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, the issuing of warnings, the exclusion from participation in certain events, the suspension or termination of membership. Any member so sanctioned may appeal, within 14 days of the sanction being applied, in writing to the Secretary. The appeal will be heard by an Appeals Panel consisting of three members of the Association, two chosen by the Executive Committee and one by the Appellant, the Appeals Panel will have the power to uphold, vary or remove the original the sanction imposed by the Executive Committee. If the Appellant is unhappy with the way in which the decision of the Appeals Panel has been reached they undertake to agree to binding arbitration by the Sports Disputes Resolution Panel, 107-111 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2AB

## **5. Finance**

- (a) The membership and financial years shall be from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December
- (b) Affiliated Club and Associate Member subscriptions shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting
- (c) Subscriptions must be paid by May 31<sup>st</sup>
- (d) The accounts will be prepared by the Treasurer and presented for approval at each Annual General Meeting. A person appropriately qualified or experienced (who shall not be a member of the Executive Committee) shall examine and report on the presented accounts.

## **6. Management**

- (a) The WCA shall be managed by an Executive Committee, members of which shall be Associate Members of the WCA
- (b) The Executive Committee shall consist of the Office Bearers and two other annually elected members
- (c) The Office Bearers shall be the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer who shall be elected for three year terms and be eligible for re-election immediately.

- (d) As necessary the Office Bearers, along with the two other Executive Committee members, shall be elected at Annual General Meetings by those entitled to vote.
- (e) No individual may be elected to more than one position on the Executive Committee
- (f) The Executive Committee shall have power to fill any vacancies in its Office Bearers or other members between annual general meetings.

## **7. Meetings and Voting Rights**

- (a) The Annual General Meeting and Special General Meetings shall be held by video conference.
- (b) Meetings of the Executive Committee may be held by video conference or by email discussion.
- (c) The quorum of the Executive Committee shall be three, in the case of an email discussion three members contributing within 14 days of the start of the discussion.
- (d) The Annual General Meeting shall be held between 1<sup>st</sup> October and 31<sup>st</sup> December. The secretary of each Affiliated Club and each Associate Member shall receive 21 days notice of the meeting and a copy of the agenda.
- (e) Special General Meetings of the WCA may be called by the Executive Committee or by ten Associate Members applying in writing to the Executive Committee. The secretary of each Affiliated Club and each Associate Member shall receive 21 days notice of any Special General Meeting called and a copy of the agenda.
- (f) The Constitution may be altered at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting if the alteration is supported by two-thirds of those present and eligible to vote.
- (g) A proposal to alter the Constitution must be on the written Agenda and must stand in the names of at least four Associate Members.
- (h) Those eligible to vote at Annual General Meetings and Special General Meetings shall be Associate Members (including members of the Executive Committee) over the age of 18 and each Affiliated Club. Affiliated Clubs must give 7 days written notice to the Secretary of their nominated voting representative at a meeting. Any member or Associate Member (including members of the Executive Committee) who is also the nominated voting representative of an Affiliated Club shall have a vote in each capacity.
- (i) The quorum at any Annual or Special General Meeting shall consist of at least 15% of the Associate Members. Failing a quorum the meeting shall be reconvened within 28 days by written notice to the secretary of each Affiliated Club and each Associate Member. A second failure to obtain a quorum shall automatically entitle the Executive Committee to take such action as they think appropriate regarding the Agenda.
- (j) At any meeting the Chairman shall have a casting as well as a deliberative vote.

## **8. Dissolution**

- (a) A proposal to dissolve the WCA must be the only item on the written Agenda of a Special General Meeting and must stand in the name of at least four Associate Members.
- (b) After all debts have been settled any property and monies belonging to the Association will be distributed between Affiliated Clubs as agreed at the time of dissolution.
- (c) The proposal must be approved by three-quarters of those present and eligible to vote.