

MALDEN MANOR BOWLING CLUB CONSTITUTION

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1 NAME

The name of the Club shall be Malden Manor Bowling Club, which is abbreviated in this Constitution to "the Club".

Malden Manor Bowling Club is comprised of the former clubs Malden and Coombe Bowling Club and Manor Park Ladies Bowling Club.

An entity known as Manor Park Bowls Management Association will also exist, with a constitution and nominal committee. The committee of the Association will be the elected Chairman, Club Secretary, Treasurer and the two elected members of the Malden Manor Bowling Club

In view of the Executive Committee of Malden Manor Bowling Club being the same as that of Manor Park Bowls Management Association, the Association will continue in name only for the purposes of being the leaseholder from Royal Borough of Kingston. In matters where there is a conflict between the constitution of the Association and that of Malden Manor Bowling Club, the constitution of Malden Manor will prevail.

2 OBJECTS

The main purposes of the club are to provide facilities for and to promote participation in the amateur sport of lawn bowls in The Royal Borough of Kingston and the surrounding area.

Specifically to:

- a. Foster and promote the sport of level green bowls according to the guidelines currently in operation and ensure that all games played adhere to the laws of the sport currently in force,
- b. Promote equal opportunity for playing bowls in accordance with the Royal Borough of Kingston equal opportunities policy wherein the Club will not exercise any discrimination on the grounds of race, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, religion, creed or disability,
- c. Promote the protection of juniors and vulnerable people according to the principles of the policy advised by "Bowls England" and to adhere to the "Bowls England" "Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy".

3 POWERS

The powers of the Club are to:

- a. Control and raise funds by subscriptions, donations, fees, levies, sponsorship, or otherwise,
- b. Determine regulations, policies and procedures for the governance, management and operations of the Club,
- c. Determine, implement and enforce disciplinary procedures for its Members, including imposing sanctions not inconsistent with this Constitution,
- d. Establish an Executive Committee, committees and other necessary groups, and to delegate powers and functions to such groups.

4 AFFILIATIONS

The Club shall be affiliated to:

- a. Bowls England
- b. Bowls Surrey
- c. Any County or District association deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee

5 MEMBERSHIP

5.1 General Principles

- a. Membership of the club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport on application regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs. However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.
- b. The club has different classes of membership and subscription on a nondiscriminatory and fair

- basis. The club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.
- c. The Executive Committee may refuse membership, or remove it, only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the club or sport into disrepute. Appeal against refusal or removal may be made to the members.

5.2 Categories of Membership

The categories of membership of the Club, (collectively called "Members") shall be:

- a. Full Members: Full members shall be entitled to all the playing and other privileges and advantages of full membership of the Club and in particular have the right to hold office in the Club, to speak and vote at Club General Meetings and have the right to use of the Club's green as determined by the Executive Committee. Full Members have the right to enter any bowling competition, tournament or match held by the Club or if selected, to represent the Club in any competitions, tournament and matches. Members who under the age of 25 and in full time education may pay a reduced membership fee.
- b. Non-Playing Members: Non-Playing Members must have previously been Full Members. They shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges as Full Members, other than use of the green. Playing Members may become Non-Playing at any time they wish, but may revert to full membership.
- c. Junior Members: Any person who is under 18 years of age at the time of application or renewal of membership may become a Junior Member of the Club. Junior Members shall have the same rights and privileges as Full Members, excepting that they do not have the right to speak or vote at the Club General Meetings or hold office in the Club.
- d. Life Members: Any Life Member elected under Section 5.4 shall retain the privileges of a Full Member.
- e. Social Members: Social Members must be the spouse, partner or child of a Full or Non-Playing Member, deceased Full Member or close friend of an existing Member. They shall be entitled to partake in all social activities of the Club* but will not be entitled to the use of the green, to hold office or attend the Club General Meetings.

*excluding the annual Captain v Vice-Captain matches which will be by invitation

5.3 Applications for Membership

- a. Applications can be made by any person interested in the sport of bowls in accordance with equal opportunity set out under section 2(b) for Full, Junior and Social Membership only. They shall be in writing addressed to the Club Secretary on the prescribed application form. Such applications shall acknowledge that upon acceptance as a Member he or she is bound by this Constitution and the Club Regulations.
- b. Every applicant for admission to membership of the Club shall be proposed and seconded by any two Members of the Club.
- c. Upon receipt of a properly completed membership form, the Executive Committee shall determine whether a person's application for membership is accepted, having first given notice to the membership of the application for a period of 14 days. The Executive Committee may refuse to accept any applicant for membership on any lawful grounds and shall not be required to give reasons for such refusal, but may choose to do so. Any applicant so refused may appeal to the full membership of the club at the next meeting of all members, such as the AGM

5.4 Life Membership

Any Member of the Club may propose that a Full or Non-Playing member of the Club become a Life Member. Every such proposal must be seconded and shall be made in writing, setting out the basis upon which the proposer considers the Member has rendered outstanding services to the Club. The application shall be considered by the Executive Committee. If it is approved, the decision will be presented at a General Meeting of the Club, for recognition by the membership.

5.5 Termination of Membership

A Member wishing to resign membership at any time shall notify the Club Secretary in writing.
Responsibility

5.6 Responsibility of Membership

All clubs and county associations, must as a qualification of membership adopt and follow:

- a. All policies and guidelines approved by Bowls England. Including but not limited to; safeguarding policies, inclusion policies and anti-doping policies.
- b. All procedures set out in Bowls England Regulation 9, 9A and 9B when dealing with any disciplinary/misconduct issues.
- c. All members shall be deemed to have made themselves familiar with and agreed to be bound by the UK Anti-Doping Rules and to submit to the authority of UK Anti-Doping in the application and enforcement of the Anti-Doping Rules. The UK Anti-Doping Rules apply to all members participating in the sport of Lawn Bowls for a minimum of 12 months from the commencement of membership, in accordance with Bowls England's Rules & Regulations whether or not the member is a citizen of, or resident in, the UK.
- d. All sanctions, recommendations and/or decisions from the Case Management Panel or National Disciplinary Panel

6 MEMBERS' RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

Members acknowledge and agree that:

- a. They are entitled to all benefits, advantages, privileges and services of membership as conferred by this Constitution,
- b. They are expected to participate to the full extent of their abilities in the running of the Club including green duties, and the like.

7 SUBSCRIPTIONS

7.1 General

The subscriptions due and payable by Members by the 1st day of December in every year shall be as approved by the Club annually in a General Meeting. The Executive Committee shall recommend the subscription fees it considers appropriate to the Members for consideration at the General Meeting.

7.2 Arrears

If the annual subscription fee of any Member and any other moneys owing by him or her to the Club remain unpaid after the 31st day of December in any year he or she shall not thereafter, unless the Executive Committee shall otherwise determine in special circumstances, be entitled to exercise or enjoy any right, privilege or advantage of membership until all such moneys shall have been paid. Before this rule takes effect, the Club Secretary must give written notice to the Member concerned of the outstanding moneys owing by that Member to the Club.

7.3 Subscriptions of new members

The Executive Committee shall have the power to reduce the first annual subscription of any member accepted to membership after the commencement of the playing season.

8 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - POWERS, DUTIES AND COMPOSITION

8.1 Overall Power

- a. The Executive Committee shall be the policy-making body of the Club and shall also be responsible for managing the business and affairs of the Club.

- b. The Executive Committee shall, through clearly defined delegations of authority, delegate to the various, sub-committees, groups and those persons appointed under Rule 7.2(d) responsibility for the day-to-day management of the business and affairs of the Club.

8.2 Powers and Duties

The Executive Committee shall:

- a. Control the affairs of the Club on behalf of the members and manage and expend the funds of the Club including the power to invest or otherwise deal with such funds, and to incur liability as it may think necessary or expedient, in accordance with the powers of the Club set out in Rule 3 of this Constitution.
- b. Ensure that the green is maintained to conform to National and County standards, and that buildings and the facility, as a whole, are maintained to a standard acceptable to the membership.
- c. Have ultimate responsibility for Club matters.
- d. Appoint such persons as it considers appropriate to committees, positions and roles within the Club, to determine the terms and conditions of such appointment and, if necessary, to terminate such appointments.
- e. Subject to this Constitution, fill vacancies of the Executive Committee and committees or other groups which are established by it.

8.3 Composition

The Executive Committee shall consist of the following:

- i. The Chairman
- ii. The Club Secretary
- iii. The Treasurer
- iv. The Bowling Secretary
- v. Fixture Secretary
- vi. Ladies' Captain
- vii. Men's Captain
- viii. Two other Full Members of the Club (one female and one male),

Certain other officers, (including the President), not part of the Executive Committee will also be elected at the Annual General Meeting (see section 13.1 (b) (v))

The President will have an open invitation to Executive Committee meetings. He or she will not have a vote on any issue before the Committee but will be encouraged to participate fully in all debates.

No member may be elected to more than one post on the Executive Committee,

The Executive Committee shall have the power to fill any casual vacancy occurring through to the next election.

9 NOMINATIONS & ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

9.1 Nomination of Officers

- a. The members of the Executive Committee of the Club shall be elected at each Annual General Meeting.
- b. The Club Secretary shall, not later than 31 August each year, place a notice on the main notice board in the clubhouse giving the date of the Annual General Meeting and inviting nominations for members of the Executive Committee. The notice must set a date by which nominations must be received which shall be not earlier than three weeks after the notice has been placed on the notice board. Nominations shall be in writing signed by the proposer and seconder and shall contain the consent of the nominee. Any member of the Club may make such nominations.
- c. If more than one valid nomination for each position shall be received, the Club Secretary shall forthwith advise all Members entitled to vote at a General Meeting of the names of the nominees. All nominees, proposers and seconds will be shown on the Agenda of the Club AGM.

- d. If no valid nominations for each position are received by the Club Secretary in accordance with this Rule, then nominations for such position may be made orally at the Annual General Meeting, provided that the approval of the nominee has been obtained. If there is only one nomination the Chairman of the meeting shall declare that person elected.
- e. Voting will be by secret ballot. If there are two (2) candidates, the one receiving the greater number of votes shall be elected. Should there be more than two (2) candidates and no candidate receives an overall majority a second ballot will be held between the two candidates receiving the most votes in the first ballot. In either case, in the event of both candidates receiving an equal number of votes, the Chairman shall have a second and casting vote.

9.2 Term of Office

The term of office of the members of the Executive Committee shall be from the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting at which their election is made through to the close of the following Annual General Meeting.

10 PROCEEDINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

10.1 Meeting Frequency

The Executive Committee shall meet regularly throughout the year.

10.2 Voting

Each Executive Committee Member present at any Executive Committee meeting may exercise one (1) vote. The Chairman, in the event of an equality of votes, shall also have a second and casting vote.

10.3 Minutes

The Club Secretary shall ensure the proceedings of each Executive Committee meeting are properly recorded. Copies will be made available to each Member of the Club upon request. The original of each set of minutes shall be permanently affixed in the minute book and confirmed at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

10.4 Quorum

- a. The quorum for meetings of the Executive Committee shall be 50% of the number of elected Executive Committee posts filled at the time of the meeting.
- b. No business shall be transacted at any Executive Committee meeting unless a quorum shall be present.

10.5 Chairman

The Chairman of meetings of the Executive Committee shall be the Chairman unless he or she is unavailable, in which case the members of the Executive Committee shall determine amongst themselves who shall chair the meeting.

11 DUTIES OF PRINCIPAL CLUB OFFICERS

11.1 Chairman

- a. Leads the Executive Committee in order to manage the Club's assets, resources and financial viability
- b. Develop and maintain Club playing success
- c. Other duties as may be delegated by the Executive Committee

11.2 President

- a. Shall be a figurehead for the Club, being mindful of its history and ethos
- b. Represent the Club at special occasions throughout the season.
- c. Be in the lead on pastoral matters.

11.3 Club Secretary

- a. Manage the general administration of the Club
- b. Other duties as may be delegated by the Executive Committee

11.4 Treasurer

- a. To ensure that the Club is kept on a sound financial footing,
- b. Other duties as may be delegated by the Executive Committee

11.5 Other Elected Officers

- a. To carry out all duties of the role for which they are elected
- b. Other duties as may be delegated by the Executive Committee

12 FINANCIAL

12.1 Bank Account

The Club's current banking account shall be kept as may be decided upon by the Executive Committee. All cheques on the account shall be signed by any two of the signatories as designated by the Executive Committee.

12.2 Financial Year

The financial year of the Club shall end on the 30th September in each year. The Executive Committee shall cause true and complete accounts to be kept of the income and expenditure and assets and liabilities of the Club. A Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet, in the form approved by the Executive Committee and duly audited shall, together with the Annual Report, be made available to each Member at the Annual General Meeting.

12.3 Surplus Income or Profits

All surplus income or profits are to be reinvested in the Club. No surpluses or assets will be distributed to members or third parties.

13 GENERAL MEETINGS

13.1 Annual General Meeting

- a. An Annual General Meeting of Club shall be held not later than 30 November in each year. Formal written notice shall be given, including an agenda and minutes of the previous AGM, to all Members entitled to vote at the meeting. The notice shall confirm the venue, date and time of such meeting, as determined by the Executive Committee, not later than fourteen (14) days prior to the proposed date for the meeting.
- b. The business to be transacted at every Annual General Meeting shall include:
 - i. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous year's Annual General Meeting,
 - ii. Receiving the audited Treasurer's report for the preceding financial year together with the Statement of Income and Expenditure and audited Statement of Accounts for the Club for the financial year,
 - iii. The election of members of the Executive Committee,
 - iv. Receiving the Annual Report for the preceding year,
 - v. The election of certain other non-Executive Committee positions, namely:
 - President
 - Assistant Treasurer
 - Men's Vice Captain
 - Ladies Vice Captain
 - Men's Selector
 - Ladies' Selector
 - vi. Fixing the annual subscription fee or fees,
 - vii. The appointment of two (2) auditors for the next financial year (see section 20),
 - viii. Transacting any other business as deemed appropriate with the proviso that written notice of any motion shall have been made in writing, duly signed by the proposer and seconder, to the Club Secretary not later than the date set in Section 9.1(b) for nominations for the Executive Committee.

13.2 Special General Meeting

- a. The Club Secretary shall convene a Special General Meeting of the Club,

- i. When directed to do so by the Executive Committee or
 - ii. On requisition in writing signed by not less than ten (10) Members entitled to vote at a General Meeting, which shall provide full details of the business to be dealt with at the meeting,
- b. A Special General Meeting, if called by the Executive Committee, shall be convened by the Club Secretary giving at least fourteen (14) days' notice to the Members of the date and venue of such meeting (except where in the view of the Chairman such notice period is not practicable). Such notice shall clearly state the reasons why the Special General Meeting is being convened and provide, as fully as possible, details of the nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting. Only the business mentioned in the notice may be dealt with at such Special General Meeting.
- c. Voting shall be by show of hands, except if the Executive Committee or, if any ten (10) Members present and entitled to vote request a ballot, which in either case a secret ballot shall be held. The meeting will elect two (2) Members (entitled to vote) of the Club serving on neither the Executive Committee nor a Section Committee to serve as tellers and receive and count all votes and report to the meeting.

13.3 Procedures at General Meetings

- a. Minutes of General Meetings
- i. The Club Secretary shall ensure that the proceedings of all General Meetings are recorded and incorporated in the minute book after the meeting. The Club Secretary shall forward a copy of the minutes to each member of the Executive Committee.
 - ii. Normally the minutes will only be distributed to the total membership prior to the next general meeting of the Club; however, they shall be made available at any time when requested, following approval by the Executive Committee.
- b. Voting at a General Meeting
- i. Voting at General Meetings is by show of hands, unless covered by the provisions in 9.1(e) and 13.2 (c) or elsewhere in this Constitution where a secret ballot is prescribed. All eligible Members present may vote.
 - ii. Any decisions reached at a General Meeting shall represent the majority of the number of votes cast, save in respect to matters necessitating a change in the Rules of this Constitution where a 2/3 majority shall be required. An abstention does not count towards the number of votes cast. A majority means more than 50%, and a 2/3 majority means more than 2/3 of the votes cast.

13.4 Quorum

For a general meeting to be quorate. 30 Full or Life members must be present at the commencement of the meeting.

14 SPECIAL CONTINGENCY COMMITTEE

14.1 Composition

The Special Contingency Committee shall consist of not less than six (6) persons identified by the Executive Committee and approved by a majority of members present at the Annual General Meeting. None of the members of the Special Contingency Committee shall be currently serving members of the Executive Committee

14.2 Functions

The functions of the Special Contingency Committee shall be to:

- a. hear and determine any Appeals properly made to it under this Constitution. An Appeals Board shall comprise three (3) members from the Special Contingency Committee who will be selected by lot conducted by the Executive Committee Club Secretary from those members available and who have no declared interest in the matter before them,
- b. if delegated by the Executive Committee, undertake any inquiry or investigation, on behalf of the Club.

14.3 Procedure

The Special Contingency Committee shall determine its own procedure. For disciplinary/misconduct issues however, it will act in accordance with the process as stated in section 15.

15 DISCIPLINE

The Club shall adopt and follow the procedures set out in Bowls England Regulation 9 when dealing with any disciplinary/misconduct issues. (See link to Bowls England Regulation 9 below).

<https://www.bowlsengland.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Regulation-9.pdf>

16 CLUB REGULATIONS

16.1 Introduction of Regulations

The Executive Committee may determine Regulations, which are consistent with the requirements of this Constitution, covering prevailing fees, playing attire, procedures relating to usage of the green or clubhouse, or any other matters as the Executive Committee considers appropriate. In certain instances, in particular those regarding fees, the Executive Committee may consider that a Regulation requires ratification by the membership at a General Meeting.

16.2 Alteration of Regulations

Regulations may be rescinded or amended at any time by the Executive Committee, or by the membership at a General Meeting if this was the forum that ratified the regulation.

16.3 Recording Regulations

Regulations shall be recorded in a Regulations Register, maintained by the Club Secretary, which will be available to all members. This will indicate the Regulation text, the date on which it was introduced and the forum in which it was agreed or ratified.

17 THE BAR

The Bar is run in compliance with the licence issued by Royal Kingston and in accordance with the Licensing Act 2003.

18 DISSOLUTION

If at any general Meeting a resolution for dissolution of the Club is passed by a 2/3 majority of the votes cast (see rule 13.3 (b) ii.) the Executive Committee must immediately, or at such future date as is specified in the resolution proceed to realise the property of the Club. Those club debts or liabilities deemed recoverable personally upon the Trustees will be discharged first..

Following the discharge of all liabilities the Executive Committee shall provide all the net assets of the Club to another CASC registered bowling club, registered charity or the sport's governing body for use in amateur community bowling, and on the completion of such the Club will be dissolved.

19 INDEMNITY

Each Full Member, Life Member, Junior Member, Non-playing Member and member of the Executive Committee shall, except in the case of wilful default or fraudulent acts or omissions, be indemnified by and out of the funds of the Club against any loss, damage, expenses or liability incurred by reason of or in connection with any legal proceedings instituted against them or any of them for any act done, omitted or suffered in relation to the performance of any of their duties in respect of the Club.

20 AUDITORS

Two Auditors, who shall not be a member of the Executive Committee, shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, and shall examine and report on the annual Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet. The Auditors shall at all reasonable times have access to the books and accounts of the Club and shall be entitled to any information required relating to them or to any matter deemed necessary or desirable for audit purposes.

21 TRUSTEES

The Executive Committee can from time to time, appoint two or more Trustees of the Club. The trustees so appointed shall hold office until death or resignation or until removed from office by the Executive Committee. The Trustees so appointed shall hold all property of the Club entrusted to them by the Executive Committee UPON TRUST for the members for the time being of the Club and shall upon the directions of the Executive Committee sign all leases, agreements or other documents that may from time to time be considered by the Executive Committee as necessary on behalf of the Club.

22 ALTERATIONS TO CONSTITUTION

This Constitution may be rescinded or amended only by a resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of the number of votes cast (see Rule 13.3 (b) ii) at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting convened for that purpose at which more than one third of members eligible to vote are present.

23 EXCEPTIONAL PROVISIONS

Should exceptional circumstances arise, which in the opinion of the Executive Committee, prevent an Annual or Special General Meeting being held, the Executive Committee shall determine what alternative arrangements should be made, as it deems necessary. Any decisions made in accordance with these arrangements should be effective immediately. They will continue to apply until any subsequent General Meeting.

If any other matters arise as a result of exceptional circumstances which are not provided for in this Constitution, the Executive Committee shall deal with such matters as it deems necessary.