

CONSTITUTION OF THE AXE VALE CANOE CLUB

1. **NAME:** The Club shall be known as **THE AXE VALE CANOE CLUB**, hereinafter known as The Club.

2. **AIMS:** To promote the sport of canoeing with emphasis on the encouragement and training of young people in the sport.

3. **MEMBERSHIP:**

- a) *Qualification* - Any person who undertakes to behave in the best interest of canoeing shall be eligible for membership 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) *Classes of membership* – Will be at the discretion of the Management Committee.
- c) *Election* – Candidates for election shall make written application to the Secretary of the Club on the form provided. The power of election shall rest with the management Committee who may refuse to elect any applicant without assigning a reason for so doing. The election to membership of a candidate shall be by majority vote of the Management Committee, and in the event of a tie of votes the Chairperson will have the casting vote.

The Management Committee may refuse membership or expel from membership only for good and sufficient cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or sport into disrepute. Appeal against such a decision may be made to the Club's members and decided by majority vote.

4. **SUBSCRIPTION:** The rates of subscription shall be recommended by the Management Committee and confirmed at the Annual General Meeting, and shall be due on election, and thereafter, on or before 1st April in each year.

5. **MANAGEMENT:**

- a) The Club shall be governed by a Management Committee hereinafter known as the Committee, which shall consist of not less than 10 and not more than 12 people elected annually but who shall be eligible for re-election*.
- b) The Committee shall be responsible for appointing 4 Trustees; these will normally be the Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary and one other member of the Club.
- c) The Committee is responsible for the general conduct of the Club's business and activities.
- d) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt not more than two additional persons and may fill casual vacancies amongst their number as they occur, and may appoint sub committees e.g.: Social committee.
- e) The Committee shall meet not less than FOUR times in each year, and at such other times as may be deemed necessary and at any meeting 7 members present shall constitute a quorum; the Chairperson shall have an additional casting vote.
- f) The Committee shall appoint a Hon. Auditor who shall at least once in every year examine the Accounts of the Club to ascertain the correctness of the income and expenditure accounts, and of the balance sheet.

- g) The Chairperson will be responsible for the formulation and implementation of a 3 year Development Programme.
- h) The Chairperson will convene a consultative meeting twice yearly with the youth members of the Club

6. GENERAL MEETINGS:

- a) The Committee shall convene not later than the month of April in each year at an Annual General Meeting. All members of the Club are invited to attend.
- b) The Committee shall present to the meeting an Annual Report and an audited statement of accounts.
- c) The Chairperson of the Committee shall act as the Chairperson of the Annual general Meeting and shall have an additional or casting vote.
- d) The Annual General Meeting shall elect by ballot or otherwise a Committee* and appoint a Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer. All members of the committee shall serve no more than seven years consecutively.
- e) Matters requiring a decision at Annual General Meetings, not of origin from within the Committee, shall be lodged with the Hon Secretary at least 30 days preceding the AGM, and be signed by 2 members entitled to vote.
- f) An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called on the instructions of a simple majority of the Committee, or on a requisition signed by not less than one-third of the members of the Club entitled to vote.

7. VOTING:

- a) Only full members, and members over the age of 16 years are entitled to vote at all meetings.
- b) The junior representative will be entitled to vote at General meetings

8. LEADERSHIP:

The Committee at its discretion may appoint suitable adults as Leaders to be responsible for sections, or particular disciplines within the Club. The committee at its discretion may appoint a President, a long-standing member to take an objective overview of the club.

9. COACHING PANEL:

The Committee shall appoint annually a Coaching Panel. The duty of the Coaching Panel will be to initiate and maintain a general programme of activities and training courses in accordance with the objectives of the Club. The Coaching Secretary shall chair the Coaching Panel.

10. CONSTITUTION:

This Constitution shall not be altered or amended except at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting convened for the purpose, following upon 21 days notice of the proposed alterations or amendments, which to be effective must be accepted by two thirds majority of those present and voting.

11. INCOME:

The Income and Property of the Club shall be applied solely towards promoting the Club's aims as set forth in this Constitution and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, to members of the Club.

12. LIABILITY:

The Management Committee shall manage the affairs of the Club. Financial or legal liability incurred in the rightful exercise of their office shall not, however, be the personal liability of the Committee, but shall be the responsibility of the Club as a whole.

All members or other persons who attend club tours or meets do so at their own risk, and neither the Club nor its officers can accept any liability for any loss or injury of any kind sustained at headquarters or whilst on a Club tour, meet or other activity.

13. RULES:

The Management Committee shall be empowered to draw up rules for the safe conduct of canoeing activities, to include the following:

1. No Junior members may canoe alone from the Clubhouse
2. No Junior member may take a boat from the Clubhouse unless a responsible and competent adult is present.
3. All members must wear buoyancy aids.
4. Juniors must wear helmets at all times unless exempted at the express permission of their coach.
5. All club members must abide by the Harbour Management Committee By-Laws

14. WINDING UP:

The affairs of the Club shall not be wound up except at an Extraordinary General Meeting especially convened for the purpose, following 21 days notice of the proposal, and to be effective shall be supported by two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

15. DISSOLUTION:

In the event of the dissolution of the Club, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall not be paid to 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 registered with CASC
- c) The sports national governing body for use by them for related community sports

* Principle Committee Officers are:

Chairperson
Deputy Chairperson
Treasurer
Secretary
Welfare Officer
Communications officer
2x Junior Representative (minimum)
Kayak Section Leader
Open Boat Section Leader
Leader Junior Section
Facilities Officer
Coaching secretary

Angela Quick – April 2013