

Bedford and County AC

Proposed changes to the Club Articles of Association and Club Rules to be considered at March 2023 EGM

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

DEFINED TERMS

1.1 Portfolio Holders (page 3)

“Portfolio Holders” means Members of the Club appointed by the Executive Committee to form a sub-committee or part of a sub-committee to hold the responsibility for:

- a) Governance and Standards;
- b) Strategy and Club development;
- c) Coaching;
- d) Team management and athletics;
- e) Event management;
- f) Membership
- g) Finance;
- h) Awards;
- i) Club services;
- j) Marketing and Communication
- k) Welfare.
- l) Health and Safety to be added to this list.

19 METHODS OF APPOINTING CLUB OFFICERS (page 11)

19.3 of the Articles lists the first club officers from a few years ago. **It is suggested that this list is removed so that the Articles don't have to be updated annually.**

19.4 The first Club Officers set out in Article 19.3 shall retire immediately prior to the annual general meeting in the year on the date listed after their respective names but may be re-elected in accordance with these Articles. **It is suggested that 19.4 is replaced with “The Club Chairperson will introduce the annual general meeting (AGM). Club Officers will retire immediately prior to the election of their post but may be re-elected in accordance with the Articles”. The Club Chairperson will chair the appointment of the Club President who will in turn chair the appointment of the Club Chairperson. The Club Chairperson will subsequently oversee the appointment of the other Club Officers. 19.4 will become 19.3 and 19.5 will become 19.4.**

35. DISCIPLINES AND APPEALS (page 17)

35.1 The Executive Committee shall be responsible for disciplinary hearings of Members who infringe the Club Articles or other Rules or use prohibited substances to enhance performance in accordance with UK Athletics rules. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for taking any action of suspension or discipline following such hearings.

35.2 Appeal against such a decision may be made to the Club's Members and decided by a majority vote.

35.3 All complaints will be dealt with in accordance with the disciplinary procedures and Rules of the Club. “

It is suggested that 35.1, 35.2 and 35.3 are replaced with:

35.1 Any complaints of misconduct (improper or unprofessional conduct) regarding the behaviour of Members or Officers shall be dealt with by the Executive Committee in accordance with its discipline and appeals process as set out in the Club Grievance and Disciplinary Policy.

RULES

7. Finances (page 4)

7.4 It is suggested that:

“ Any cheque drawn against Club funds shall hold the signatures of two of the following officers:

- (a) Honorary Treasurer
- (b) Chair
- (c) Vice-Chair”

Is replaced by “Any cheque drawn against Club funds shall hold the signatures of two club officers as agreed by the Committee”.

Bob Thompson February 2023

In addition

It's also worth noting that the club rules and club articles state as follows:

Articles of Association

31.2 No person shall become a Member of the Club unless: (a) that person has completed an application for membership in a form approved by the Executive Committee;

(b) they pay their annual membership fee; and

(c) the Executive Committee has approved the application.

Club rules:

1.2 No person shall become or apply for membership of any class unless:

(i) they have completed a suitable membership form as approved by the Executive Committee from time to time; and

(ii) the Executive Committee have approved the application.

Comment: At present we do not have a membership form and applications are not currently approved by the Committee.

In my opinion we do need to have a membership form for lots of reasons, including GDPR. With regards applications being approved by the Committee I am not sure what was done in the past. It could be sufficient to have the names of new members presented at Committee meetings but I would welcome suggestions on these points.

Best wishes

Penny

