



# **IPSWICH CHESS CLUB**

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **1. THE CLUB**

The Club shall be known as "Ipswich Chess Club".

### **2. THE PURPOSE OF THE CLUB**

To provide facility for the playing of the game of Chess for the members of the Ipswich Chess Club, for bona fide visitors and for the members' guests, for competition against each other and against opposing teams & individuals from other chess clubs.

To further the popularity of the game of Chess by means of promotion of the game both within the Club and outside it, as far as is possible.

Actively to further the longevity and popularity of the Club by introducing new members by whatever legitimate means and doing whatever may be necessary to keep all members, always provided that the Club as a whole find them acceptable within the meaning of this Constitution.

To encourage better skill at the game and to use better skilled members to teach and to coach those members who actively seek such help and advice.

To remain affiliated to the Suffolk County Chess Association for these same purposes, for the whole of the life duration of the Club and/or the Association, and to abide by those rules and regulations as enforced by the Association, subject only to the right of the Club as an affiliated member of the Association, to participate in the creating, or debating of, or disputing of, such rules, in the proper manner as laid down within the Constitution of the Association.

### **3. PREMISES**

The Club, subject to its right to change if and when judged fit and/or necessary, shall meet in such principle Premises as decided upon by a majority vote of the Club's Members, and after the notification of any changes to the Suffolk County Chess Association, These Premises shall be of a standard of facility, cleanliness, and economical feasibility, as not to violate any provision as contained within Item 2 above, the Purpose of the Club. The Club has no restriction upon itself should its Members so wish, to use other Premises at other times or else concurrently with the principle Premises, under the same conditions, but with the exception that competition between the Club and other clubs can only take place within the principle Premises whenever this is at all possible.

#### **4. CLUB OFFICIALS**

The officials shall be:

##### **President/Chairman**

Presiding over the Club's official meetings, the President/Chairman is responsible for the coordination and monitoring of club-related activities, generally to ensure and to safeguard the smooth running of the Club in accordance with the provision within this Constitution. All Club Members, whether Officials or not, are responsible to the President/Chairman.

##### **Secretary**

The Secretary undertakes all secretarial, legal, and administrative duties of the Club.

##### **Treasurer**

The Treasurer is responsible for the financial matters of the Club. The Treasurer receives and pays monies due to and from, Members and associated organisations, and accounts for all such transactions in a proper manner, in accordance with accepted accounting procedures, subject to audit by a duly appointed person who must not also be a member of the Club Officials. The Auditor need not be a Club Member, but if not a Member, she/he should preferably be someone known by more than one other Member.

##### **Match Captain**

The Match Captain ensures the smooth running of the matches and competitions between the Club and other clubs and/or organisations.

##### **Competition Secretary**

The Competition Secretary ensures the smooth running of the competitions within the Club, between and for the benefit of Club Members

##### **Key Holders of Premises**

There shall be two/three Key Holders, one of whom must always be in attendance at the principle Club Premises during the session of that person's opening and closing of the Club, and acting as representative of the Club, carrying out all duties as contained within this Constitution, that apply. The Key Holders are free to agree with each other as to which of them shall look after the Club during which session.

All Officials are required to present reports upon the year's proceedings at the Annual General Meeting. All Officials will hold their offices for one year, at the end of which they may, if having secured a majority vote, continue to hold office.

An Official may resign her/his office, or be stripped of office, at any time, but a resigning Official should endeavour to stay in office until the next Annual General Meeting or beyond unless good reason, either by the Official or by the Committee, can be shown that to do so would be impossible or unwise.

## **5. MEETINGS OF OFFICIALS**

The Annual General Meeting shall take place at the principle clubroom during the month of June of each year, the date of which to be made known in writing to each Member, not less than four weeks prior to the date.

The Annual General Meeting shall be conducted as follows:

1. Present and Apologies for Absence.
2. Reading the Minutes of the previous AGM.
3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous AGM.
4. President/Chairman's Report.
5. Secretary Report
6. Treasurer's report, including member's subscription.
7. Match captain report.
8. Internal competitions report.
9. Junior club report.
10. Presentation of Trophies.
11. (re) Election of officers.
12. Any Other Business.

Members who wish to introduce certain topics to the Annual General Meeting must advise the Secretary of their intent, not less than two weeks before the date of the Meeting.

Other Committee Meetings will be held during the course of the year, as and when necessary. These meetings may be held at other venues than the Club's principle venue. Any Extraordinary General Meeting, however, must be held at the principle venue, where all Members must be invited to attend and where four weeks' notice of the meeting must be given to all.

## **6. MEMBERS**

Subject to due regard to the Rules of the Club, and provided there has been no previous severance of membership by the club, a Member during one year may remain a Member for the following year, upon the understanding that the Member pays the Club Subscription in full, at an early date and continues to abide by the rules. In the event of failure to abide by the Rules, a Member will be liable to disciplinary action by the Committee, who have power to disbar any Member from the Club.

A Member, previously disbarred from the Club, may apply for reinstatement of membership in the following year, the Committee to decide upon the acceptance of the application or not.

## **7. GUESTS**

In the spirit of the furtherance of the game and the continuance of the membership of the Club, members are permitted to bring guests to any of the Club venues at any time. Guests, who are the responsibility of the Members who introduced them, are expected to conduct themselves in the same manner expected of Members. All guests may apply for Membership of the Club, the Committee accepting any application or not.

## **8. VISITORS**

All bona fide visitors to the Club, whether from other clubs or not, are to be treated by Members with due courtesy and with regard to the provisions as within item 2 of this Constitution (The Purpose of the Club). All visitors may apply for Membership of the Club, the Committee accepting any application or not.

## **9. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION**

This Constitution can only be revised or amended, for whatever reason, by a majority vote of Members, at the Annual General Meeting of the Club, or at an Extraordinary General Meeting.

## **10. MEMBERSHIP AWARENESS OF THE CONSTITUTION**

A copy of this Constitution, as updated by any revision or amendment, is to be pinned to the notice board at the principle Club Venue at all times when the Club convenes.

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This Constitution has been approved by a majority vote by all Members present at the Annual General Meeting dated 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024, the minutes of which are attached hereto. All Members who were not present at the Meeting, but having been informed of the reasons for it to convene, and who nevertheless had made no written contribution to its proceedings in their absence, to the Secretary, are to be regarded as having approved this Constitution.

SIGNED.....*Alonso Paez*.....President/ Chairman

SIGNED.....*Piotr Dolewka*.....Secretary