

New Constitution for Cashmere Technical Football Club

Why do we need a new Constitution?

- The law governing incorporated societies has been updated. Under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022, all incorporated societies must update their constitutions by April 2026.

What are the changes?

- We have taken the opportunity to modernise and update our Constitution to meet the requirements of the new Act. Our new Constitution is based on a template used by many sporting organisations.
- We have also modernised the structure and updated the financial year so that it will run on a calendar year (rather than October to September).

1. Structure

- We have updated the Board structure so that we no longer elect specific office holders such as President, Secretary and Treasurer. Instead, we will elect a Board and the Board will appoint a Chair. The Board can appoint up to 3 contact persons to be responsible for communicating with the Registrar of Incorporated Societies. This structure will provide greater flexibility for the Board.
- The Board will continue to appoint Board members to be responsible for portfolio areas. All Board members are considered Office Holders under the Act.

2. Members

- We have retained the main “playing” membership categories and included a couple of new categories of membership. The categories of membership are:
 - Ordinary (playing) members – divided into Senior (>18 years) and Junior (<18 years). Parents can vote on behalf of Junior members. Ordinary members pay subs.
 - Life members (appointed after nomination by Board and voting at AGM). Life members can vote but don't pay subs.
 - Board members (elected at the AGM). Board members vote but do not pay subs.
 - Honorary members (appointed by Board). Honorary members do not vote or pay subs.
 - Volunteer members (coaches, grade managers). Do not pay subs (unless they are an Ordinary playing member) but can vote.
 - Associate members (e.g. non-playing members). Pay subs and can vote. The Supporters Club members will be Associate members.
 - Other members – The Board has discretion to determine other categories of membership.
- The Board will determine subs and the due date for payment. All subs must be paid before the due date otherwise a player may not be able to play.

3. AGM/SGM and election of Board

- An AGM must be held every year within 6 months of the balance date. 14 days notice is to be given. Quorum remains 20 members.
- The agenda for an AGM comprises presentation of an annual report, annual financial statements and notices of disclosures of any conflicts of interest by officers and election of Board members.
- Members can raise items of business by giving 28 days notice.
- The Board (comprising at least 8 members) are elected at the AGM. The Board can appoint additional members and fill vacancies. Employees or independent contractors are not eligible to be Board members.
- The Board can decide whether to have the annual accounts audited or reviewed.

4. Disputes resolution

- A disputes resolution process is now included in the Constitution. This is a mandatory requirement under the new Act.

5. Winding up/dissolution

- If the Club is wound up, all surplus assets are to be distributed to a club with a similar purpose.