

## **Proposed Constitution changes**

### **1. Introduction**

This document is designed to propose changes to the Swanage Croquet Club constitution, so that we can become a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC). We do this by registering with HMRC. The amendments below have all been required of us by HMRC to enable this. Registration enables us to claim 25% Gift Aid on donations, and enables corporate sponsors to save tax on their sponsorship.

### **2. Proposed amendments to the Constitution**

**A. Delete clause 2 (Objectives)** To foster and promote Croquet at all levels, providing opportunities for recreation and competition.

**and replace with**

The main purposes of the Club are to provide facilities for and to promote participation in the amateur sport of Croquet.

It will support the Club's croquet by obtaining facilities and equipment; and staff/volunteers necessary to service those facilities, and raising/disbursing money (partly through membership subscriptions) to support the aims of the club and any social activities/facilities, which support the members.

**B. Clause 4.1 after the first mention of Club delete the rest of sub-clause and substitute:** shall be open to anyone interested in the sport on application, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs, except as a necessary consequence of the requirements of Croquet.

New applicants shall complete the Club's application form, and pay the relevant subscription as determined at the Annual General Meeting of The Club.

The Club may have different classes of membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The Club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.

The Club 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 members.

In the case of appeal, an Appeal Committee of 3 club members will be created by the Committee; no member previously involved in the decision to refuse or remove membership may be part of any Appeal Committee.

**C. B Add to 4.2.** unless the Club has refused membership for good reason (e.g. the membership list supported by the lawns is full)

**D. Add to the roles in Clause 5 of the constitution as follows:**

Chairperson: To provide leadership to the Club and chair General Meetings and the Committee.

Secretary: To maintain the (non-financial) records of the club, including all General Meetings and internal and external communications; to organise general meetings and be the main conduit for general communications.

Treasurer: To maintain the financial records of the club, run its bank account and ensure that the financial aspects of the constitution and those of a CASC are adhered to. To present the financial records to an independent examiner and then (summarised) to the Annual General Meeting.

**E. Amend the financial year (Clause 7) to 1st January to 31st December** thereby extending the current financial year to 31st December 2025.

**F. Add a new clause 8.8.4 (renumbering current 8.8.4 to 8.8.5 and adding one to the subsequent subclauses) stating**

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

**G. Add to clause 10.5 Special General Meetings**

and may include removal of the members of the Committee or specific officers

**H. Replace clause 15.3 with**

Upon dissolution of the Club any remaining assets shall be given or transferred to another registered CASC, a registered charity, or the sport's governing body for use by them in related community sports.

These amendments are proposed on behalf of the Committee, by the Chairman and seconded by the Treasurer