



MIDDLEWICH CRICKET CLUB

Haddon Field, Croxton Lane, Middlewich, Cheshire

Telephone Middlewich (01606) 832369



CONSTITUTION

Edition: Dec. 2008

Middlewich Cricket Club Rules

RULE 1 The name of the Club is “**Middlewich Cricket Club**”.

RULE 2 **Objects of the Club**

To promote the amateur sport of cricket in Middlewich and community participation in the same. Particular emphasis is placed on the involvement, well being and development of young people.

(Amended Dec. 2008)

RULE 3 The club shall consist of a President, Vice President and an unlimited number of members.

(Amended Nov. 94)

RULE 4 **Management**

The Management of the club shall be under the control of a Management Committee, which shall be elected at the General meeting.

The Management Committee shall consist of the following honorary officials, namely, a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, 1st and 2nd Team captains and at least five other members.

(Amended Nov. 2003)

All members of the Management Committee will automatically resign at each Annual General Meeting, but will be eligible for re-election.

(Amended Nov. 2003)

The Committee may co-opt club members (up to a maximum of five) to serve up to the end of the next General Meeting.

(Added Dec. 2004)

Any Committee member may be re-elected or re-co-opted without limit

(Added Dec. 2004)

RULE 4a **Committee Powers**

The committee has the power to:

- Acquire and provide grounds, equipment, coaching, training and playing facilities, clubhouse transport, medical and related facilities
- Provide coaching, training, medical treatment and related social and other facilities
- Take out insurance for the club, employees, contractors, players, guests and third parties
- Raise funds by appeals, subscriptions, sponsorship, loans and charges

- Borrow money and give security for the same and open bank accounts
- Set aside funds for special purposes or as reserves
- Invest funds in any lawful manner
- Employ and engage staff and others and provide services
- Co-operate with or affiliate to, firstly, any bodies regulating or organising the sport and, secondly, any club or body involved with it and, thirdly, with government and related agencies
- Do other things reasonably necessary to advance the objects of the club

(Added Dec. 2004)

RULE 5 Membership of the Club

Membership of the club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport on application, 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

(Added Dec. 2004)

There shall be five categories of membership:

- Senior player (Over 18 on 1st September of the previous calendar year) and to include wife or partner
- Unemployed or in full time education
- Under 18 (17 or under on 1st September 2007) and to include parents of player
- Under 18 playing senior cricket Saturday or Sunday
- Non-playing social membership

(Amended Dec. 2008)

New applicants for membership of the club can apply via the Membership Secretary, or any Committee member, and will receive an application form to be completed and returned to the Membership Secretary for processing. The application will be discussed at the next Committee and a majority of the Committee must vote in favour for the application to be accepted.

The Management Committee may refuse membership only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the club or sport into disrepute.

On receiving Committee approval the new member will receive a letter of acceptance together with a copy of the club rules.

(Amended Dec. 2008)

RULE 6 **Life and Honorary Members**

Upon compliance with the procedure set out in Rule 5, the Management Committee may recommend to the Annual General Meeting that any person who has rendered the Club outstanding service shall be eligible for Life Membership. Such nominations shall be voted upon at the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting held for that purpose.

(Amended Nov. 94)

Upon compliance with the procedure set out in Rule 5, the Management Committee shall have the power to appoint Honorary members for the duration of one year, and such Honorary members shall be permitted to enjoy full facilities of the club.

(Amended Nov. 84)

RULE 6a **Members' Code of Conduct**

All Members and Guests of Middlewich Cricket Club will:

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person within the context of Cricket
- Treat everyone equally and not discriminate on the grounds of age, gender, disability, race, ethnic origin, nationality, colour, parental or marital status, religious belief, class or social background, sexual preference or political belief
- Not condone, or allow to go unchallenged, any form of discrimination if witnessed
- Display high standards of behaviour
- Promote the positive aspects of Cricket, e.g. fair play
- Encourage all participants to learn the laws and rules of the game of cricket and play within them, respecting the decisions of match officials
- Actively discourage unfair play, rule violations and arguing with match officials
- Recognise good performance and not just match results
- Ensure that activities are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the individual
- Place the well-being and safety of young people above the development of performance
- Respect young people's opinions when making decisions about their participation in Cricket

- Not smoke, drink or use banned substances whilst actively working with young people in the Club.
- Not provide young people with alcohol when they are under the care of the Club
- Report any concerns in relation to a young person, following reporting procedures laid down by the ECB

(Added Dec. 08)

RULE 7 **Visitors and Guests**

Any member of a visiting club and Umpires for the day on which a match is arranged shall be admitted to the Club premises and may purchase intoxicating liquor for consumption on the premises of the day of their visit and it shall not be necessary for the names of such persons to be inserted in the Visitors Book.

(b) Guests - a Member shall be at liberty to introduce as his or her guest not more than 2 persons on any one day. A guest shall be accompanied by the member by whom he or she is introduced and his or her name shall be entered in the Visitors Book on the premises together with the signature of the member introducing the guest.

Visitors and guests are required to conduct themselves according to the same code of conduct as members (see Rule 6a above).

(Amended Dec. 2008)

RULE 8 **Subscriptions**

Subscriptions will be determined at the annual General Meeting and shall be kept at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating. They shall be payable to the Treasurer on the first day of January each year. If payment has not been made by 1st May then a premium of 25% shall be applied to the outstanding amount, payable immediately.

Members whose subscription is unpaid on the last day of May shall not be eligible to partake in any activities of the Club or exercise membership. New members' subscriptions shall be due immediately after election.

(Amended Dec. 2008)

RULE 9 **Cessation of membership** **Expulsion of members**

All members of the Club will conduct themselves in a proper manner and in line with the code of conduct described in Rule 6a whilst on the club premises, or taking part in Club activities. Any member failing to do this, failing to comply with the Club rules, or whose conduct or character are likely to bring the club or the sport into disrepute may be expelled from the

Club by the Management Committee forthwith. Any member having been expelled from the club shall have the right to appeal to the members at the General Meeting. No refund of subscription will in any circumstances be paid to an expelled member.

(Amended Dec. 2008)

RULE 9a **Resignation of members**

Members wishing to resign from the Club should write to the Secretary. On acceptance of the resignation by the Management Committee, the Member shall immediately cease to exercise the right of Membership. No refund of subscription will in any circumstances be paid to a resigning member.

RULE 10 **Hours of opening and closing of the club**

The club shall be open at the discretion of the Management Committee. The said hours of opening shall be exhibited on the Club premises.

(Amended Dec. 2008)

RULE 10a **Hours of opening and closing and operation of the bar**

The Club shall be open for the sales of intoxicating liquor to Members at such times as may be decided by the Management Committee within the hours that may be permitted by the Local Licensing Authorities. The hours for the sale of intoxicating liquor shall be exhibited on the Club premises.

The price list of all items sold shall be exhibited in the bar of the Club.

(Added Dec. 08)

RULE 11 **Property and Funds**

The property and funds of the club cannot be used for the direct or indirect private benefit of members, other than as reasonably allowed by the rules, and all surplus income or profits are reinvested in the club.

The club may provide sporting and related social facilities, sporting equipment, coaching, courses, insurance cover, medical treatment, away-match expenses, post match refreshments and other ordinary benefits of Community Amateur Sports Clubs as provided for in the Finance Act of 2002

The club may also, in connection with the sports purposes of the club:

- Sell and supply food, drink and related sports clothing and equipment.
- Employ members (though not for playing) and remunerate them for providing goods and services, on fair terms set by the Committee without the person concerned being present.
- Pay for reasonable hospitality for visiting teams and guests.

- Indemnify the Committee and members acting properly in the course of the running of the club against any liability incurred in the proper running of the club (but only to the extent of its assets).

(Amended Dec. 08)

RULE 12 Annual General Meeting and Extraordinary General Meeting

All members may attend general meetings in person

The quorum for all general meetings of the club is 12 members present.

General meetings shall be presided over by the Chairman, or in his or her absence, another member chosen at the meeting

Except as otherwise provided in these rules, every resolution shall be decided by a simple majority of the votes cast on a show of hands

The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held normally in November of each year, although the Committee may change the date as near to November as possible due to unforeseen circumstances. The audited accounts for the year to the last day of September will be presented at the meeting together with the reports of Officers and the Management Committee.

Officers and Management Committee Members will be elected at this meeting for the ensuing year. If nominations are in excess of requirements, elections shall be by secret ballot. Only Senior Members and Student Members shall be permitted to vote on financial matters.

Voting for cricket officials is to be by all playing members over the age of 15 plus ex-playing members who are still members of the Club. Such voting shall be carried out by secret ballot if more than one person is nominated.

An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened at any time and shall be convened within 14 days of a request giving notice of a resolution in writing and signed by at least 12 members. No business other than that for which the Extraordinary General Meeting has been convened shall be transacted at such a meeting.

Notice of the Annual General and Extraordinary Meetings shall be posted on the Club Notice board at the Club premises and/or the club's website not less than 14 days in advance of the date of the meeting, along with a copy of the current club rules

(Amended Dec. 2008)

RULE 13 Audit

The treasurer shall submit an annual income and expenditure account and balance sheet as at 30th September to the Club's Auditor or auditors each year, prior to the said account being presented at the Annual General Meeting.

The club Auditor or Auditors shall be elected each year at the Annual General Meeting.

RULE 14 Management Committee Meetings

The Committee shall meet for the transaction of the Club business at least once a month. The Secretary shall at any time convene a Committee Meeting on request in writing signed by any two members of the committee.

At all Committee Meetings five members shall be present to form a quorum. The club Chairman, if present will chair committee meetings; otherwise a Committee member elected by those present will chair them.

Whenever a Committee member has a personal interest in a matter to be discussed he/she must declare it, withdraw from that part of the meeting (unless asked to stay), not be counted in the quorum for that matter, withdraw during the vote and have no vote on the matter concerned.

Decisions of the Management Committee will be taken on the basis of a simple majority of votes, cast by its members. Each Member shall have one vote except the Chairman, who shall not vote, except in the instance on an equality vote.

The Committee shall cause minutes to be recorded in writing of all proceedings of Annual General Meetings, Extraordinary General Meetings, Management and Sub-Committee Meetings. Such minutes shall be signed by the Chairman or acting Chairman of the meeting at which they are read, after being confirmed by the members present. Minutes of Management Committee Meetings shall be displayed on the Club notice board within 14 days of them being approved at the subsequent meeting. The Management committee may elect to omit financial elements from the copy on display.

(Amended Dec. 2004)

RULE 15 Amendment of Bye-laws

The Management Committee shall have powers to make, repeal or amend such bye-laws as they consider necessary for the well-being of the Club, which bye-laws repeals and amendments shall have effect until set aside by the Management Committee or a Members' General Meeting.

RULE 16 **Sub-Committees**

The Committee may delegate any of its functions to sub-committees but must specify the scope of the activities and powers of each sub-committee, including its members, its duty to report back to the Committee and the extent to which it can commit the club's funds. The Committee may wind up or change the mandate and operating terms of any sub-committee at any time.

(Re-written Dec. 2004)

RULE 17 **Complaints**

All complaints shall be made in writing to the Secretary who shall submit same to the Management Committee at their next meeting.

RULE 18 **Expulsion of Committee Members**

In the event of any Member of a Committee being absent for four consecutive Meetings without reasonable excuse, the said member shall be asked for an explanation for the absence; should the explanation not be satisfactory to the majority of the Committee the member will be asked to resign the place on the Committee. Should the request for an explanation of a member's absence be ignored, the committee will assume the member has resigned, and declare the place on the Committee vacant.

(Amended Dec. 2004)

RULE 19 **Alterations or amendments of rules**

The Rules of the Club may only be altered at an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting convened for that purpose and provided that notice of the proposed alterations is received by the Secretary at least fourteen days prior to the date of such meetings.

RULE 20 Copies of the club rules shall be posted in the Club premises in such places as the Management Committee shall decide

(Amended Dec. 2008)

RULE 21 The Management Committee may decide any questions relative to the Club and may do whatever they deem necessary for the well being of the Club, which is consistent with the Rules, but not provided for therein.

RULE 22 On not more than 6 occasions within any 12 month period or such other occasions as the Justices may by condition impose upon the Club's Registration Certificate, persons other than members and their guests may be admitted to the Club premises and may purchase intoxicating liquor for the consumption on the same premises.

(Amended Nov. 84)

RULE 23 Non members may be admitted to the Club premises and may purchase intoxicating liquor for the consumption on the said premises at a function organised by a Member provided that such Member shall be present and the function shall relate to either a Birthday, Engagement, Anniversary, Reunion, Funeral or pre and post wedding Party and reception.
(Amended Nov. 84)

RULE 24 Middlewich Cricket Club premises are no smoking zones.
(Added Dec. 2004)

RULE 25 **Winding Up**

The members of the club may vote to wind up the club at a properly convened general meeting, if not less than three quarters of those present and voting support that proposal.

Following such a vote the Committee shall be responsible for the orderly winding up of the club.

After settling all liabilities of the club, the Committee shall dispose of the net assets remaining to one or more of the following:

- To another club with similar sports purposes which is a registered charity and/or
- To another club with similar sports purpose which is a registered Community Amateur Sports Club and/or
- To the club's governing body for use by them for related community sports.

(Added Dec. 2004)

RULE 26 **CHILD WELFARE**

The club will ensure a Duty of Care to all members of the Club by adopting and implementing the ECB Safe Hands- Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children and any future versions of the Policy

(Added Dec. 2008)

RULE 27 **DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION LEGISLATION**

The Committee will have due regard to the law on disability discrimination.

(Amended Dec. 2008)