

Simply Play Cricket

CONSTITUTION

Constitution

1. Name

The name of the Organization is **Simply Play Cricket**, hereafter to be referred to as "the Organization".

2. Aims and Objectives

- Organize cricket for member clubs on a competitive basis.
- Promote the highest possible standards of Cricket and playing facilities.
- Ensure that play is conducted within the spirit and laws of the game of cricket and The League competition rules.
- Ensure a duty of care to all member clubs and members regardless of race, gender, disability and sexual orientation.
- To promote, encourage, foster, and cultivate interest in the sport of cricket at all levels within the community and within the sport, providing opportunities for recreation, coaching and competition.
- To initiate, sponsor, promote, and carry out plans, policies, and activities that would further the development and advancement of cricket in Nebraska and nearby states.

3. Membership

- Membership of the Organization shall be open to any clubs/teams(hereafter referred to as "Club") interested in the sport of cricket 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.
- The Organization may have different classes of membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The Organization will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.
- Application for membership of the Organization shall be by completion of a membership application form and by payment of the relevant subscription/joining fees as determined by the Annual General Meeting of the Organization.
- No person shall be eligible to take part in the business of the Organization or be eligible for selection for any club team unless the appropriate subscription has been paid by the specified date or membership has been agreed by the Committee.

- The Organization Committee may refuse membership, or remove it, only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the Organization or cricket into disrepute. Appeal against refusal or removal may be made to the Committee who shall appoint an Appeals Committee to hear the appeal.
- All members will be subject to the regulations of the Constitution and by joining the Organization will be deemed to accept these regulations and any Codes of Conduct that the Organization has adopted. The Constitution shall identify those members eligible to vote at any General Meetings.

4. Classes of Membership

There shall be (*number*) of classes of membership available. These are:

- Full Club Membership (Voting rights, 1 individual from each club, Teams will be eligible for full membership after having held associate membership for 3 consecutive years).
- Associate Membership (Non Voting).
- Student club Membership (Non-voting).
- Non-playing individual Member (Non-voting).
- Social Member (Non-voting).
- Honorary/Life Member (Non-voting).

A list of members in each category shall be maintained by the Treasurer or other Officers of the Organization.

5. Officers

The Officers of the Organization shall be as follows:

Executive Committee

- President
- Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Club Welfare Officer (Public Relations Officer)
- Any other relevant position (*details specified according to club circumstances e.g. Junior Cricket Manager, Club Captain, Social Secretary, Club Development Manager, Publicity Officer etc.*)

6. Election of Officers

All Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Organization from, and by, the Full Members of the Organization.

All Officers shall be elected for a period of one year, but shall be eligible for re-election to the same office or to another office the following year.

7. Management Committee

The affairs of the Organization shall be conducted by an Executive Committee (henceforth referred to as the Committee) comprising the Executive Officers of the Organization elected from, and by, the Full Members of the Organization. Only these members of the Committee shall be entitled to vote at Committee meetings.

The Committee will be convened by the Secretary and shall meet at agreed intervals and not less than four times per year.

The quorum required for business to be agreed at Committee meetings shall 5 (five) Committee members.

The duties of the Committee shall be:

1. To control the affairs of the Organization on behalf of the members.
2. To keep accurate accounts of the finances of the Organization through the Treasurer. These should be available for reasonable inspection by members and should be audited before every Annual General Meeting. The Organization shall maintain a current bank account and the following Officers shall be authorized to sign checks: any two from the Chair and the Treasurer/Secretary (*other Officers as appropriate*)
3. To co-opt additional members of the Committee as the Committee feel is necessary. Co-opted members shall not be entitled to a vote on the Committee and shall serve until the end of the next Annual General Meeting.
4. To make decisions on the basis of a simple majority vote. In the case of equal votes, the Chair shall be entitled to an additional casting vote.

The Committee shall have powers to appoint sub-committees as necessary and to co-opt advisers who may be non-club members invited to advise on specialist subjects.

An elected Committee member ceases to be such if he or she ceases to be a member of the Organization, resigns by written notice, or is removed by the Committee for good cause after the member concerned has been given the chance of putting their case to the Committee. Appeal against removal may be made to the Appeals Committee. The Committee shall fairly decide time limits and formalities for these steps.

The Committee has the power to:

1. acquire and provide grounds, equipment, coaching, training and playing facilities, clubhouse, transport, medical and related facilities
2. provide coaching, training, medical treatment, and related social and other facilities
3. take out any insurance for club, employees, contractors, players, guests and third parties
4. raise funds by appeals, subscriptions, loans and charges
5. borrow money and give security for the same, and open bank accounts

6. buy, lease or license property and sell, let or otherwise dispose of the same
7. make grants and loans and give guarantees and provide other benefits
8. set aside funds for special purposes or as reserves
9. invest funds in any lawful manner
10. employ and engage staff and others and provide services
11. co-operate with or affiliate firstly to any bodies regulating or organizing the sport of cricket and secondly any club or body involved with cricket and thirdly with government and related agencies
12. Do all other things reasonably necessary to advance the aims and objectives of the Organization.

NONE of the above powers may be used other than to advance the aims and objectives in a manner consistent with the Rules and the general law.

8. General Meetings

The Annual General Meeting of the Organization shall be held not later than the end of November each year. 7 clear days written notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be given to members by circulating a copy of the notice to every member at their home address and posting the notice on the Organization notice board. Members must advise the Secretary in writing of any other business to be moved at the Annual General Meeting at least 14 days before a meeting. The Secretary shall circulate or give notice of the agenda for the meeting to members not less than 7.

The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to:

1. Confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and any General Meetings held since the last Annual General Meeting
2. Receive the audited accounts for the year from the Treasurer
3. Receive the annual report of the Committee from the Secretary
4. Elect the Officers of the Organization (i.e. President; Vice Presidents, Chair etc.)
5. Review club subscription rates and agree them for the forthcoming year
6. Transact such other business received in writing by the Secretary from members 14 days prior to the meeting and included on the agenda.

Nominations of candidates for election of Offices shall be made in writing to the Secretary at least 14 days in advance of the Annual General Meeting date. Nominations can only be made by Full Members and must be seconded by another Full Member.

Special General Meetings may be convened by the Committee or on receipt by the Secretary of a request in writing from not less than two-thirds (66%) of the Full Members of the Organization. At least 14 days' notice of the meeting shall be given.

At all General Meetings, the Chair will be taken by the Chair or, in their absence, by a deputy appointed by Full Members attending the meeting. Decisions made at a General Meeting shall

be by a simple majority vote from those Full Members attending the meeting. In the event of equal votes, the Chair of the meeting shall be entitled to an additional casting vote.

A quorum for a General Meeting shall be 25% of the Full Members and any other categories of membership entitled to vote (as outlined by the membership section of this Constitution) and Officers of the Organization including at least 2 from the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

Each Full Member of the Organization shall be entitled to one vote at General Meetings. Note: Absentee voting must be made in written form.

9. Alterations to the Constitution

Any proposed alterations to the Organization Constitution may only be considered at an Annual or Special General Meeting, convened with the required written notice of the proposal. Any alteration or amendment must be proposed by a Full Member of the Organization and seconded by another Full Member. Such alterations shall be passed if supported by not less than two-thirds of those Full Voting Members present at the meeting, assuming that a quorum has been achieved.

10. Finance

All club monies shall be banked in an account in the name of the Organization.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the finances of the Organization and for providing a report on the financial position as required by the Committee.

The Treasurer shall ensure that the Organization maintains adequate and appropriate insurance to cover the activities of the Organization.

The financial year will be from November 1st and end on October 31st of the subsequent year.

The Treasurer will present an audited statement of annual accounts at the Annual General Meeting.

Any checks drawn against club funds should hold the signatures of the Chair and the Treasurer/Secretary (*other Officers as appropriate*).

11. Property and Funds

- The property and funds of the Organization 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 shall be reinvested in the Organization.
- The Organization may also in connection with the sports purposes of the Organization:
 - sell and supply food, drink and related sports clothing and equipment
 - employ members 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 Organization against any liability incurred in the proper running of the Organization (but only to the extent of its assets).

12. Discipline and Appeals

All complaints regarding the behavior of members should be lodged in writing with the Secretary.

The Committee shall appoint a Disciplinary sub-committee who will meet to hear complaints within 14 days of a complaint being lodged. Any member requested to attend a Disciplinary sub-committee shall be entitled to be accompanied by a friend or other representative and to call witnesses. The Committee (or its sub-committee) has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action, including the termination of membership.

The outcome of the disciplinary hearing shall be put in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made within 7 days following the hearing.

There shall be a right of appeal to the Committee against either the finding or the sanction imposed or both following disciplinary action being taken. The Committee shall appoint an Appeals Committee (a maximum of three) which shall not include members involved with the initial disciplinary hearing but may include non-members of the Organization. The Appeals Committee shall consider the appeal within 7 days of the Secretary receiving the appeal. The individual submitting the appeal shall be entitled to be accompanied by a friend or other representative and to call witnesses. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final and binding on all parties.

13. Dissolution

1. If at any General Meeting of the Organization, a resolution be passed calling for the dissolution of the Organization, the Secretary shall immediately convene a Special General Meeting of the Organization to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.
2. If at that Special Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least three quarters of the Full Voting Membership, the Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realize the assets of the Organization and discharge all debts and liabilities of the Organization.
3. The Committee will then be responsible for the orderly winding up of the Organization's affairs.
4. After settling all liabilities of the Organization, the Committee shall dispose of the net assets remaining to one or more of the following:
 - i) To another club with similar sports purposes which is a registered charity and/or another registered Community Amateur Sports Club and/or to a registered charitable organization.

14. Declaration

Simply Play Cricket hereby adopts and accepts this Constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of all members.