

MADDC CONSTITUTION as approved at AGM Nov 2008

1 Objects To promote all forms of canoeing as a recreational sport and provide facilities for members.
2 Income and property The Income and Property of the Club shall be applied solely towards promoting the Clubs objects as set fourth in this constitution and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, to members of the club.
3 Membership Membership of the club shall be open to all persons irrespective of ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or beliefs, or of age, sex or disability except as a necessary consequence of the requirements of canoeing as a particular sport. Prospective members shall be given the opportunity of trying canoeing for a maximum of 4 sessions after which they will be asked to join the club or not attend again. The Club's committee may refuse membership or expel from membership only for good and sufficient cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or sport into disrepute. Appeal against such a decision may be made to the Club's members and decided by majority vote. If a member is expelled any outstanding portion of the subscription paid will be refunded. Classes of membership able to vote at the Annual or Extraordinary General Meetings are: Adult member (age 18 years and over) Junior member (age under 18 years) Family member (covering all members of one family. One vote only) Honorary Life membership
4 Subscription The cost of the annual subscription and the initial joining fee (to cover administration) can be varied by majority vote at the Annual or Extraordinary General Meetings.
5 Validity of Subscription Subscription for Membership is for one year. All membership fees are due 1 st April. New members joining will be asked to pay one year's fee if joining between April – September. Members joining after September will pay one year plus the remaining months of that year.
6 Arrears Any member whose subscription is two months in arrears, from the date due for payment, will be considered to have resigned.
7 Club Policies Members must comply with Club policies. Currently the Club has a Safety Policy and a Children and Vulnerable Adults Protection Policy. Other policies may be adopted in future.
8 Liability The Club will not be held responsible for any injury sustained by a member, nor will it be held responsible for any damage caused by a member.
9 Officials and Committees The General Committee will consist of the following: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Training Officer and up to eight others. Of these eight, four should be adult members and four junior members, but in the event of a junior position remaining vacant an adult member may fill it. Members will usually be elected to the Committee at the Annual General Meeting, or if necessary at an Extraordinary General Meeting. A Committee member can serve for a continuous maximum period of 3 years after which time the person must seek re-election at the AGM on, or immediately before, the 3-year limit. The re-election can be immediate. The Committee will appoint a Club Welfare Officer who will report to the committee but need not be a committee member. The Committee may co-opt other members but co-opted members are not eligible to vote.
10 Committee Powers The General Committee shall have full control of the Club's funds, management of the Club, and the interpretation of its rules. Five duly appointed members will constitute a quorum.

11 General Meetings

The Annual General Meeting will be held between 1st October and 30th November each year to receive the report of the Committee, the accounts, and to elect members to serve on to the Committee.

An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called by the General Committee or on a requisition signed by five members of the club with voting rights giving 21 days written notice to all members.

12 Club Equipment

The Club's equipment must be used for the means it was intended and in the correct manner. Club boats must be boarded in the correct manner with the boat floating, i.e. no "seal launching". This will protect the environment and club equipment.

13 Membership of British Canoe Union.

All active paddlers should be members of the British Canoe Union (BCU). Non BCU members will be required to pay the BCU affiliation levy.

14 Levies

All levies from Governing Bodies and charges to the Club shall be passed on to members without any additional charge.

15 Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of the Club, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Club, but shall be given or transferred to one or more of the following approved sporting or charitable bodies:

- A registered charitable association(s).
- Another Club which is registered with HM Revenue & Customs as a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC).
- The sports national governing body for use by them for related community sports.