



# LODSWORTH CROQUET CLUB

## CONSTITUTION

*Adopted at the Inaugural General Meeting held at the Village Hall on Thursday 25th April 2013  
Amended at AGM 25th October 2018 and again 2nd November 2023*

### 1. TITLE

- 1.1 The Club shall be called Lodsworth Croquet Club, hereafter to be referred to as “The Club” and shall be affiliated to the South East Croquet Federation and shall become a member club of **Croquet England**.

### 2. OBJECTS

- 2.1 To foster and promote the sport of Croquet at all levels, providing opportunities for recreation and competition.

### 3. MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 Membership of the Club shall be open to any member completing an application form and paying the relevant subscription / joining fee as determined by the Annual General Meeting of Club Members.
- 3.2 There shall be four classes of membership available. These are:-
- 3.2.1 Full adult member
  - 3.2.2 Family membership 2 adults plus children under 14
  - 3.2.3 Junior Member (14 to 21 years of age)
  - 3.2.4 Social Member
- 3.3 Membership will run annually from April 1st and the Croquet playing season, subject to weather, will be from 1st April to 1st October.

### 4. OFFICERS

- 4.1 The officers of the Club shall be as follows:

President	Non-Executive Officer
Chair}	
Secretary}	Executive Officers
Treasurer}	
Four General Committee Officers	

### 5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- 5.1 All officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Club, from, and by, the Full Members of the Club.

- 5.2 All officers are elected for a period of one year, but may be re-elected to the same office or another office the following year.

## 6. **COMMITTEE**

- 6.1 The affairs of the Club shall be controlled by a Committee comprising the Executive Officers of the Club and four Members elected from, and by, the Full Members of the Club. The Committee shall meet at agreed intervals and not less than four times per year. It may appoint sub-committees.

- 6.2 The duties of the Committee shall be:

- 6.2.1 To control the affairs of the Club on behalf of the Members

- 6.2.2 To keep accurate accounts of the finances of the Club through the Treasurer. These should be available for reasonable inspection by Members and should be audited before every Annual General Meeting.

The Club shall maintain a Bank current account and the following Officers shall be authorised to sign Club cheques: two from the Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.

- 6.2.3 To co-opt additional members of the Committee as the Committee feels this is necessary. Co-opted members shall not be entitled to a vote on the Committee, unless they have been co-opted to replace a member who has died or has resigned. They shall hold office until the next AGM.

- 6.2.4 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.

## 7. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS & SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

- 7.1 The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held not later than the end of November each year. Twenty-one clear days written notice shall be given to the Members of the Annual General Meeting by circulating a copy of the notice to every member at their home address. or email. Members must advise the Secretary in writing of any business to be moved at the Annual General Meeting at least fourteen days before a meeting. The Secretary shall circulate or give notice of the Agenda for the meeting to Members not less than seven days before the meeting.

- 7.2 The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to:

- 7.2.1 Confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and any other Special General Meetings.

- 7.2.2 Receive the audited accounts.

- 7.2.3 Receive the annual report of the Chair.

- 7.2.4 Elect an auditor.

- 7.2.5 Elect the officers of the Club (i.e. President, Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and other Committee members).
- 7.2.6 Fix Club subscription rates. A Member who has not paid his/her subscription by such default date as the Committee prescribes may at the discretion of the Committee be deemed to have resigned.
- 7.2.7 Transact such other business received in writing by the Secretary from Members 14 days prior to the meeting and included on the Agenda.
- 7.2.8 Such other business except business for which a Special General Meeting is required (e.g. expulsion, dissolution or changes to the constitution) as by common consent of the meeting at the Chair 's discretion.

- 7.3 Special General meetings may be convened by the Committee or on receipt by the Secretary of a request in writing from not less than one-fifth of the Full Members of the Club.

At least 21 days notice of the meeting shall be given.

The business to be considered at the meeting shall be specified in the notice convening the business.

- 7.4 Nomination of candidates for election of Officers shall be made in writing to the Secretary at least fourteen days in advance of the General Meeting date. Nominations can only be made by Full Members and must be seconded by another Full Member.

In the absence of nominations prior to the meeting, nominations may be taken from the floor. All nominations shall have the consent of the nominee.

- 7.5 At all General Meetings the chair will be taken by the Chair, or, in their absence, by a deputy appointed by the Club or by Full Members attending the meeting.
  - 7.6 Decisions made at a General meeting shall be by a simple majority of votes from those Full Members attending the meeting. In the event of equal votes, the Chair shall be entitled to an additional casting vote or alternatively in his/her discretion he/she may direct a written poll.
  - 7.7 A quorum for an Annual General Meeting shall be ten Full Members and four Officers of the Club including two from the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.
  - 7.8 Each Full Member of the Club shall be entitled to one vote on any separate issue at Annual General Meetings.
- 8. A member who is found by vote carried at a Special General Meeting to have behaved in a manner likely to bring the club into disrepute or cause substantial prejudice to it may be expelled from the club, provided that -
    - a) The resolution must be carried by 4/5ths of those attending and voting.
    - b) This is the only business at the meeting.

- c) Before putting the motion to the vote the member shall have a full opportunity to address the meeting.
- d) The decision of the Special General Meeting is final.

## **9 ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

- 9.1 Any proposed alterations to the Club 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 Club and seconded by another Full Member. Such alterations shall be passed if supported by not less than two thirds of those Full Members present at the meeting and voting, assuming that a quorum has been achieved.

An abstention shall be recorded but shall not count as a vote.

## **10 DISSOLUTION**

- 10.1 If at any General Meeting of the Club a resolution be passed calling for the dissolution of the Club, the Secretary shall immediately convene a Special General Meeting of the Club to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.
- 10.2 If at that Special General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two thirds of the Full Members present at the meeting and voting the General Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets of the Club and discharge all debts and liabilities of the Club. Abstentions shall be recorded but shall not count as a vote.
- 10.3 After discharging all debts and liabilities of the Club, the remaining assets shall not be paid or distributed amongst the Full Members of the Club, but shall be paid to the Lodsworth Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee to be used at the discretion of the Committee in support of other already existing village sports clubs.