

# LANCASTER, MORECAMBE & DISTRICT INDOOR BOWLING LEAGUE

## CONSTITUTION

### 1 Name and location

- 1.1 The name of the League shall be Lancaster, Morecambe & District Indoor Bowling League.
- 1.2 Bowling takes place in the Sports Hall, Salt Ayre Leisure Centre, Doris Henderson Way, Lancaster, LA1 5JS.
- 1.3 Bowling takes place each Monday between October and March, with a break over the Christmas and New Year period.

### 2 Objective

- 2.1 To provide access to indoor bowls, for players of all standards, in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere.

### 3 Membership

- 3.1 Membership is open to all and no application for membership shall be refused on other than reasonable grounds that would be prejudicial to the objective of the League as set out in Section 2 of this constitution.
- 3.2 There shall be no discrimination on grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex; sexual orientation, political or other opinion.
- 3.3 The League Secretary shall communicate in writing to any applicants who have been refused membership to the League explaining the reasons for refusal. Refused applicants shall also be given the right of appeal. The appeals panel shall be independent to the committee and or individuals making the original decision.
- 3.4 Members shall pay the annual subscription as fixed at each Annual General Meeting (AGM). Payment shall be due on the first date of the new season, or on the first date of bowling in any given season. Members shall also pay a game fee, as fixed at each AGM, for each game that they play in the League.
- 3.5 All persons joining the League shall be deemed to accept the terms of this Constitution and the League Rules, in particular including the requirement to conduct themselves in accordance with the Code of Conduct, and the Disputes and Disciplinary procedures.
- 3.6 Notices of General Meetings shall be posted on the League website (<https://bowlsresults.co.uk/morecambeindoor/>). Written copies of such notices shall be provided to any current member on request. Such requests shall be made to the League Secretary at the earliest opportunity.

### 4 Suspensions and Termination of Membership

- 4.1 If the conduct of any member (either in or out of the Salt Ayre Leisure Centre) brings the League into disrepute or contravenes the objective of the League as set out in Section 2 of this Constitution, the Executive Committee shall have the right to terminate or suspend any membership provided that the member concerned shall have the right to be heard by the Executive Committee before a final decision is made.
- 4.2 Any reason for refusal or termination must be communicated in writing to the individual and can be

appealed to an appeals panel.

4.3 The appeals panel shall be independent to the committee and or individuals making the original decision.

4.4 Any person who fails to pay their annual subscription or game fee shall forfeit their membership rights, and shall be suspended from taking part in any event under the control of the League until such fees are paid in full.

## **5 League Executive Committee Structure**

5.1 There shall be an Executive Committee responsible for the overall management of the League, which shall be elected by the members at the AGM.

5.2 The Management Committee shall consist of the following officers:

Chairperson.

League Secretary.

Membership Secretary.

Fixtures Secretary.

Treasurer.

Safeguarding Officer.

Two committee members.

5.3 The quorum for the Executive Committee shall be 60%.

5.4 The Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt a replacement, or replacements, for any roles, and the replacement(s) shall remain in that role until the next Annual General Meeting.

5.5 The Executive Committee will meet at least four times per year. The League Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings and record all proceedings and resolutions.

## **6 Election of Officers to the Executive Committee**

6.1 The members of the Executive Committee shall be drawn from the membership, as defined in Section 3 of this constitution and subject to paragraph 6.3.

6.2 Candidates shall be elected by ballot at the AGM, and shall be members of the Executive Committee from the conclusion of that AGM until the conclusion of the following AGM.

6.3 Membership of the Executive Committee is limited to a maximum of 9 years.

6.4 Uncontested posts may be filled by nomination(s) and election at the AGM.

6.5 Election to any position on the Executive Committee shall not be limited by or discriminated on the ground of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, political or other opinion.

## **7 Annual General Meeting**

7.1 The Annual General Meeting shall be held each September and may be attended by all current members.

- 7.2 Each team Captain present at the AGM possesses the right to vote on League business.
- 7.3 If a team Captain cannot attend the AGM then they can nominate one of their team members as their deputy. The deputy then assumes the voting right for that team providing that the League Secretary is notified in writing (a text or email is acceptable) to this effect before the meeting starts.
- 7.4 Voting shall be by simple majority of Team Captains (or nominated deputies) present. In the event of a tied vote, the Chairperson shall exercise a casting vote.
- 7.5 An agenda giving notice of the AGM, along with a copy of the audited accounts, must be posted on the League website at least 14 calendar days in advance of the AGM. A printed copy of the agenda and of the audited accounts shall be provided by the League Secretary to any current member on request.
- 7.6 The Chairperson, or in their absence a member selected by the meeting, will take the Chair.
- 7.7 The AGM will:-
- Approve the minutes of the last AGM and any other General Meetings held during that year;
  - Present the Chairperson's report;
  - Present the League Secretary's report;
  - Present the Membership Secretary's report;
  - Present the Fixtures Secretary's report;
  - Present the Treasurer's report;
  - Approve the audited accounts for the last financial year;
  - Approve Officers honoraria
  - Elect officers and Committee members;
  - Appoint Auditor(s);
  - Consider and approve any changes to the Constitution, League Rules, Disputes Panel Procedures, Disciplinary Panel Procedures and Code of Conduct;
  - Deal with any other relevant business, including team resignations and proposals for new teams to take part in the League.
- 7.8 The League Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings and record all proceedings and resolutions.

## **8 Extraordinary General Meetings**

- 8.1 An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be called by the Executive Committee or by two or more team captains. Said meeting shall be held at the earliest opportunity. The full powers of an AGM shall be extended to any such EGM.
- 8.2 Any such request from team captains must be submitted to the League Secretary by written motion, setting out the rationale and basis for the meeting being called. Said request must be dated and signed by the team captains involved.
- 8.3 At least 21 calendar days' notice of an EGM must be given to the full League membership.

- 8.4 Notice of the EGM must be posted on the League website at least 21 calendar days in advance of the EGM. A printed copy of the agenda shall be provided by the League Secretary to any current member on request.
- 8.5 The Chairperson, or in their absence a member selected by the meeting, will take the Chair.
- 8.6 The EGM will consider and approve any changes to the Constitution, League Rules, Disputes Panel Procedures, Disciplinary Panel Procedure and Code of Conduct.
- 8.7 Each team Captain present at the EGM possesses the right to vote on League business. If a team Captain cannot attend the EGM then they can nominate one of their team members as their deputy. The deputy then assumes the voting right for that team providing that the League Secretary is notified in writing (a text or email is acceptable) to this effect before the meeting starts.
- 8.8 Voting shall be by simple majority of team Captains (or nominated deputies) present. In the event of a tied vote, the Chairperson shall exercise a casting vote.
- 8.9 The League Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings and record all proceedings and resolutions.

## **9 Dissolution**

- 9.1 If the Executive Committee by a simple majority, decide at any time, on ground of expense or otherwise, that it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the League, it shall call a Special General Meeting of the League. The meeting at which this decision is made must be quorate and minuted.
- 9.2 All members of the League must be given 21 days written notice of the calling of the SGM, stating the terms of the resolution to be proposed.
- 9.3 At the SGM the resolution to dissolve the League will be put to the members. The meeting should be quorate and minuted. Should the members agree by a simple majority the decision to dissolve the League organisation can then be acted on.
- 9.4 Any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities, shall be given or transferred equally to any charitable organisation with similar aims and objectives to the League. If, upon the winding up or dissolution of the League, there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the League.

09.08.2024