

Cheshire Wire Basketball Club

A member of the Junior National Basketball League



The Club Constitution

April 2017

1. Name

- The Club shall be called **Cheshire Wire Basketball Club** (hereinafter referred to as the Club) and it shall be affiliated to, and be bound by the rules of the sport's National Governing Body, Basketball England.

2. Objectives

- The objectives of the Club are:
 - to encourage, promote and provide the opportunity for the playing of basketball at the National League level in the town of Warrington, the county of Cheshire and the wider surrounding communities
 - to organise teams to represent the Club in national leagues and competitions
 - to provide those new to the sport with the opportunity to participate in basketball activities through a community program
 - to provide coaching and training to Full and Community members
- The Club is committed to encouraging the highest ethical standards. All individuals involved in the Club should conduct themselves with integrity, transparency, accountability and in a fair and equitable manner.

3. Membership

- The membership shall consist of the following categories:
 - Full members
 - Associate members
 - Community members
- Full members are those players who are part of a National League roster. Associate members are the coaches, parents, guardians, carers or other family members of a Full member. Community members are those players who are part of the Community programme.
- Members in each category shall pay membership fees as fixed at the Annual General Meeting. The Club in General Meeting may, if deemed necessary, require members to contribute to the funds of the Club by way of a special levy.
- All members joining the Club shall be deemed to accept the terms of this Constitution and any policies and procedures adopted by the Club. In particular, the requirement to conduct themselves in accordance with the Club's ethical framework and the policy and procedure as to discipline set out therein.
- Any person seeking to join the Club shall submit an application to the Committee. Members shall be admitted by the Committee. Membership is open to all and no application for membership will be refused, other than on reasonable grounds. There will be no discrimination on the grounds of race, occupation, sex, religion, political or other opinion.
- Honorary life membership of the Club may be conferred upon any member by a majority vote of those present at an Annual General Meeting (AGM) in recognition of someone who has performed an outstanding service, or who has made an outstanding contribution to the Club.

4. Suspension, Refusal or Termination of Membership

The Club Committee shall be entitled to:

- Refuse any application for membership on the grounds that such membership would be prejudicial to the objectives of the club as set out in Rule 2 of this constitution.
- For good and sufficient reason to refuse renewal of any existing membership or terminate or suspend any membership provided that the member concerned shall have the right to be heard by the full Club committee before a final decision is made.
- Allow the member to apply for reinstatement at the next General Meeting.

- Any member who fails to pay their fees by the date required may forfeit their right to representation on the Club committee and at general meetings, and may be suspended from taking part in any event under the control of the Club until such fees are paid.
- Barr any member, under suspension, from taking part in any match or event under the control of the Club.
- Inform any member, in writing, of any decision to terminate their membership.
- Notify the National Governing Body of the termination of a membership and under what circumstances the decision was taken.

5. Subscriptions

- Monthly subscriptions for Full members are due for payment on the 1st day of each calendar month, with the amounts being determined by the AGM. These are to be paid by the electronic transfer of funds to the *Cheshire Wire Basketball Club bank account*
- Any subscriptions for Associate members are due for payment once a year prior to the AGM.
- Subscriptions for Community members will be paid on a pay as you play basis.
- The Club will attempt to keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.
- The Club reserves the right to remove the entitled rights and privileges of Full membership for failing to make subscription payments for three consecutive months provided that notice has been sent, at least twice, to the member informing them of the proposed action.
- Any cases of hardship will be dealt with sympathetically by the Club committee.

6. Management

- The affairs of the Club shall be conducted by a Committee which shall consist of the Officers of the Club, all of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- The Officers of the Club who shall be honorary are the Chairperson, Treasurer and Club Secretary. If the post of any officer should fall vacant after such an election, the Committee shall have the power to fill the vacancy until the next Annual General Meeting.
- The Committee shall have the power to co-opt members for particular projects. Co-opted members will not have a Committee vote.
- The Committee shall also have the power to establish any sub Committee deemed appropriate to assist in meeting the objectives of the Club, and to delegate to these sub Committees such duties as may be considered appropriate.
- All Committee members and those in volunteer roles must be members of the Club.
- The Committee shall have full power to deal with all matters relating to the Club not reserved to a General Meeting in terms of this Constitution, including the power to make public and enforce such policies and procedures as the Committee feel necessary to govern the activities of the Club (including policies relating to discipline).

7. General Meetings

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

- At least four weeks' notice shall be given to members of the date, venue and agenda items for the AGM.
- The Club shall hold an Annual General Meeting in the month of May or June to:
 - Approve the minutes of the previous year's AGM.
 - Receive reports from the Chairperson and Club Secretary.
 - Receive a report from the Treasurer and approve the Annual Accounts.
 - Receive a report from those responsible for certifying the Club's accounts.
 - Elect the Committee.
 - Appoint someone responsible for certifying the Club's accounts.
 - Fix the subscription for the following year.
 - Consider changes to the Constitution.
 - Review and consider any additions to policies and procedures.
 - Deal with any other relevant business.
- All registered members (Full and Associate) of the Club, who attend the meeting, are entitled to one vote. Community members are not eligible to vote.

Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)

- An EGM may be called by the Committee to discuss changes to the Constitution and Rules or in relation to any other Club business deemed too urgent to wait for the AGM.
- An EGM shall be called by an application in writing to the Club Secretary supported by at least 25% of the members of the Club. The Committee shall also have the power to call an EGM by decision of a simple majority of its members.

- Four weeks' notice, of an EGM, must be given to all members in writing, together with the motion(s) to be discussed. No other business shall be conducted. Procedures for voting shall be as used for the AGM.

Notices

- At least four weeks' notice, and a copy of the Agenda, shall be given to all voting members of any General Meeting. No business shall be conducted unless fair notice and the agenda has been issued.

Voting

- With the exception of changes to the Constitution, decisions put to a vote shall be resolved by simple majority at General Meetings.
- All Full and Associate members are eligible to vote at General Meetings. Community members are not eligible to vote.
- In the case of an equality of votes the Chairperson will have a second, casting vote. Voting shall be by a show of hands except where the Chairperson decides voting shall be by ballot.

Quora

- The quorum at General Meetings shall be 25% of the membership and the quorum for Committee Meetings shall be 50% of the Committee members. Both quora must include at least two of the following to be in attendance, Chairperson, Vice Chairperson or Club Secretary.

Changes to the Club Constitution

- Any change to the Club Constitution shall require a two thirds majority of those present, and eligible to vote, at a General Meeting.
- A proposal to change the Constitution must be submitted in writing to the Club Secretary who shall circulate the proposal to all members and allow seven days for submission of any amendments before calling a meeting in accordance with the rule on Notices above.
- All proposals for changes to the Constitution shall be signed by two members eligible to vote at a General Meeting.

8. Finance and Accounts

- The Club is a non-profit making organisation.
- All profits and surpluses will be used to maintain or improve or develop the Club's operations and activities.
- The financial year shall run from 1st May of the current year to 30th April of the following year.
- The Honorary Treasurer shall be responsible for the preparation of Annual Accounts of the Club.
- The Accounts shall be certified by an appropriate independent person elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.
- All cheques drawn against the Club's funds shall be signed by the Treasurer and one other nominated office-bearer.
- All members of the Club shall be jointly and severally responsible for the financial liabilities of the Club.
- Expenditure above agreed budget levels may only be authorised at a Committee meeting.
- The funds of the Club cannot be used for the direct or indirect private benefit of members.

9. Dissolution

- The members may vote to wind up the Club if at least three quarters of those present vote to support that proposal at a properly convened General Meeting.
- The Committee will then be responsible for the orderly winding up of the Club's affairs.
- After settling all liabilities and debts of the Club, the Committee shall dispose of the remaining net assets to one or more of the following:
 - to another Club with similar sporting purposes which is a registered charity
 - to another Club with similar sporting purposes which is a registered CASC
 - to the Club's National Governing Body for use by them to support related community basketball projects
 - to a registered charity of the Clubs choosing
- If, upon the winding up or dissolution of the Club, there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall be transferred to some other organisation or organisations having objectives similar to the objectives of the Club. Such organisation or organisations will be determined by the members of the Club by resolution passed at a General Meeting or, in the absence of such a resolution, to the National Governing Body to which the Club is affiliated.