

THE HULL ROUNDHEADS RUFC

**CLUB
CONSTITUTION**

PLAY ROUGH?

PLAY RUGBY!

Club Constitution

Hull Roundheads RUFC

The club will be called The Hull Roundheads RUFC and will be affiliated with the Rugby Football Union (RFU) governing body and the International Gay Rugby (IGR) Association and Board.

1. Mission Statement

The Hull Roundheads RUFC is an inclusive Rugby club. The club's primary aim is to provide, for all members, supporters and any adult male players aged 18 and over irrespective of sexuality, race, ethnicity, experience or fitness, a safe environment in which to enjoy the game of Rugby. The Hull Roundheads will always strive to foster an environment of mutual respect, equality, tolerance and teamwork, as well as cooperation, friendship and compassion both on and off the pitch.

2. Objects

The objects for which the Club is established are:

- to provide the means and facilities for LGBTQ+ people of all abilities to play rugby football in a safe and inclusive environment;
- principally to provide facilities for rugby union and generally to promote, encourage and facilitate the playing of the Game in the area of Hull and the Humber and amongst the community;
- to promote a positive image of inclusivity in sport;
- to uphold the core values of Rugby Union and promote them within the Club;
- to obtain funding for the activities of the Club to ensure that all services can be provided in a way that is fair to all members;
- to ensure that all present and future members receive fair and equal treatment.

3. Membership

To ensure all present and future members receive fair and equal treatment, membership should consist of officers and members of the club.

All members will be subject to the regulations of the Constitution and by joining the club will be deemed to accept these regulations and codes.

All members shall respect the rules of the game of rugby union.

No person shall become a member of the Club until that person has completed an application for membership, and that application has been approved by the Management Committee.

For the avoidance of doubt, membership is open to all without discrimination and may only be refused when admission to membership would be contrary to the best interests of the sport or the good conduct and interests of the Club and no person shall be denied membership on the grounds of race, ethnic origin, creed, colour, age, disability, sex, occupation, sexual orientation, religion, political or other beliefs. A person may appeal against such a decision by notifying the Management Committee, who shall put the matter to a general meeting for it to be decided by a majority vote of the members present.

Members will be enrolled in one of the following categories:

- Full member.
- Supporting member.

Supporting members (non-playing affiliates) shall have no voting rights in relation to the club but may enjoy some or all of the social benefits of the Club that members enjoy.

Any member may withdraw from membership of the Club by giving seven days notice to the Club in writing.

Entrance and Membership fees will be set annually and agreed by the Executive/Management Committee or determined at the Annual General Meeting.

Fees can be paid annually or monthly.

Fees set for 2018 membership are:

- Employed – £120 PA/£10 PCM
- Unwaged/Student – £60 PA/£5 PCM
- Supporters – £30 PA/£2.50 PCM

Any member who does not have their membership fees up to date or is in arrears by more than 7 days, is automatically to have resigned from the club. Anyone who leaves part way through a month or year and has paid for their fees in advance cannot receive a partial refund.

4. Officers of the Club

The officers of the club will be:

- Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Welfare

Officers will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

All officers will retire each year but will be eligible for re-appointment.

There will be a management structure consisting of these officers and a committee made up of various additional positions determined in agreement with the membership body. Those roles – which may include Team Captain, Social Secretary, Sponsorship Manager, Fixtures Secretary, Publicity Officer, etc. – may change each year, dependent on decisions made by the club Officers and agreed upon at the AGM.

5. Committee Organization and Powers

The club will be managed through a Management Committee consisting of Officers and those additional positions deemed necessary by the Officers and confirmed by agreement of the membership body.

All Committee members will have the right to vote at meetings of the Management Committee. In circumstances where a post is shared, the holders of that post will constitute one voter between them.

The Management Committee meetings will be convened by the Secretary of the club and held no less than *three* times per year.

The Management Committee will be responsible for adopting new policy, codes of practice and rules that affect the organisation of the club.

The Management Committee will have powers to appoint subcommittees as necessary and appoint advisers to the Management Committee as necessary to fulfil its business.

For policy decisions to be agreed at the Management committee, at least half of the Committee position holders must be present. Votes on policy and committee business resolution require a majority to be carried.

If a proposed decision of the committee is concerned with a transaction or arrangement with the Club in which a committee member is interested, that member is not to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum or voting purposes.

The Committee Secretary must ensure that the Club keeps a record, in writing, of every majority decision taken by the committee and by the Club at general meeting.

The Management Committee will be responsible for disciplinary hearings of members who infringe the club rules/regulations or the Constitution. The Management Committee, along with the player's Team Captain, will be responsible for taking any action of suspension or discipline following such hearings.

6. Finance

The income and property of the Club shall be applied solely toward the promotion of the Objects.

All club monies will be banked in an account held in the name of the club.

The Club Treasurer will be responsible for the finances of the club.

The financial year of the club will end on 1st June.

An audited statement of annual accounts will be presented by the Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting.

Any cheques drawn against club funds should hold the signatures of the Treasurer plus one other agreed officers.

7. Annual General Meetings

Notice of Annual General Meetings (AGM) will be given by the Club Secretary not less than 21 clear days' notice to be given to all members.

The AGM will receive a report from officers of the Management Committee on the activities of the Club since the previous annual general meeting.

The AGM will receive the Club's accounts and the Treasurer's report as to the financial position of the Club.

The AGM will transact such other business as may be brought before it.

No business other than the appointment of the chairperson of the meeting is to be transacted at a general meeting if the persons attending it do not constitute a quorum (consisting of one-tenth of the membership of the Club). If the meeting is not quorate, the meeting should be adjourned.

Nominations for officers of the Management Committee will be sent to the Secretary prior to the AGM.

Any member may nominate another member to be the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer or Welfare Officer. Any nomination must be seconded by another Voting Member.

In the event of there being more nominations than vacancies, there shall be an election at the AGM.

Elections of officers are to take place at the AGM.

All members have the right to vote at the AGM. In an event of a tie the Chair holds casting vote.

A resolution put to the vote of a general meeting must be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is duly demanded by the membership.

The Management Committee has the right to call Extraordinary General Meetings (EGMs) outside the AGM. Procedures for EGMs will be the same as for the AGM.

8. Representing the Hull Roundheads

When we are out as a team either at training, at a match or socially you are representing the Roundheads and you have the responsibility to conduct yourself in an appropriate manner at all times.

When wearing club attire, regardless of the situation or the company you are in, you are representing the Roundheads and should conduct yourself accordingly.

Violence, drug taking, abuse, discrimination, bullying or illegal activity will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action and potential suspension or cancellation of membership.

The Hull Roundheads agree to comply with the RFU's strict "Anti-Doping and Illicit Drugs Policy". This includes performance enhancing and recreational drugs. At any point we as a club can be tested by the RFU without warning.

The full Anti-Doping and Illicit Drugs Policy can be found on the link below. It is your responsibility to read this full policy.

https://www.englandrugby.com/mm/Document/Governance/Anti-DopingandIllicitDrugs/01/30/36/01/final-illicitdrugspolicy_Neutral.pdf

11. Discipline and appeals

All concerns, allegations or reports of poor practice/abuse relating to the welfare of all members will be recorded and responded to swiftly and appropriately in accordance with the club's safeguarding policy and procedures. The club Welfare Officer is the lead contact for all members.

In the event of any concerns all complaints regarding the behaviour of members should be presented and submitted in writing to the Secretary.

The Management Committee will meet to hear complaints. The committee has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action including the termination of membership.

The outcome of a disciplinary hearing should be notified in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made within *seven* days of the hearing. Any hearing must take place within 14 days of the complaint.

There will be the right of appeal to the Management Committee following disciplinary action being announced. The committee should consider the appeal within *seven* days of the Secretary receiving the appeal.

Any on field indiscipline will be notified to the Management Committee by the Team Captain. A yellow card will be dealt with by the Team captain, with full backing of the Management Committee. A red card will result in an internal hearing, consisting of the player, the Team captain and at least two members of the Management Committee. This meeting will be recorded, with a copy being issued to all parties present and where appropriate forwarded onto the Yorkshire RFU as outlined by the RFU guidelines.

12. Amendments to the Constitution

The Constitution will only be changed through agreement by majority vote at an AGM or EGM.

Notice of any proposed amendment to the constitution should be given to the Club secretary by a person entitled to vote at a general meeting not less than 48 hours before the meeting it to take place.

The chairman of the meeting will propose the amendment at the general meeting to be voted upon.

13. Dissolution

A resolution to dissolve the club can only be passed at an AGM or EGM through a majority vote of the membership and any assets will become part of a body chosen by the membership, or donated to a local charity.

14. Declaration

Hull Roundheads Rugby Union Football Club hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members.

Signed:

Date:

Name:

Position: Club Chair

Signed:

Date:

Name:

Position: Club Secretary