**EASTCOTE BOWLING CLUB**

**Constitution amended at the AGM 23 February 2018**

**1** The Club shall be known as **Eastcote Bowling Club** and the Club Colours shall be blue and yellow.

**2** The Club shall be affiliated to Bowls England, the Middlesex County Bowling Association, the Middlesex Women’s County Bowling Association, the Harrow & District Bowling Associations and the Chiltern & Thames Association of Mixed Bowls Clubs.

 **Management**

**3** The Management of the Club shall be vested in a committee, which will be responsible for the administration of the Club, the determining and collection of subscriptions, the use and maintenance of the pavilions, the changing rooms and any other buildings occupied by the Club. The Committee will also be responsible for the administration of the green.

 **The Committee**

**4** The Committee shall consist of the President, the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Treasurer, the Club Captain, Ladies Captain, Mid-week Match Captain, Match Secretary, Competition Secretary, Social Secretary and two Club representatives (one man and one lady).

**5** The Committee shall meet at the call of the President or as required. Seven members shall constitute a quorum.

**6** The Members of the Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. In the event of any vacancy occurring amongst the members, the Committee shall have the power to fill such vacancy until the next Annual General Meeting.

 **The Annual General Meeting**

**7** A notice convening the Annual General Meeting together with a copy of the Accounts and any other papers to be discussed at the Meeting, will be sent to all members at least twenty one days prior to the Meeting.

**8** The Meeting shall be held at a suitable time determined by the Committee following the end of the financial year when the Club Accounts duly audited will be presented to the members of the Club for approval.

**9** Twenty five members shall constitute a quorum. The Meeting shall elect the President, who shall preside at all Annual General and any Extraordinary General Meetings and all Committee Meetings. The President shall be entitled to vote on all matters and in the event of a tie shall have the casting vote. The Meeting shall elect the other Members of the Committee and the other officers of the Club, namely Club Vice-Captain, Mid Week Vice-Captain, Ladies Mid-Week Captain, Welfare Officer, Club Coach and Green Ranger. An Auditor (not being a member of the Committee) and the Club’s representatives to the Club’s affiliated bodies will be appointed.

 **Special Meetings**

**10** A Special General Meeting of Club Members may be convened: (a) at any time by order of the Committee or (b) within fourteen days of a request signed by a minimum number of fifteen members, stating the specific purpose of the meeting. At any such meeting no business other than that specified on the convening notice shall be transacted.

 **Minute Books**

**11** The Minute Books containing the Minutes of the Committee Meetings and General Meetings shall be open to inspection by Club Members on application to the Honorary Secretary, giving seven days notice.

 **Membership**

**12** Applications for membership of the Club must be made on the appropriate form and submitted to the Honorary Secretary. Applicants must be approved by aClub Coach or the Club Captain. Applications must be proposed and seconded by two members and submitted for election at a Committee Meeting. In the event that no one or only one person knows the applicant the proposal form will be posted on the noticeboard for two weeks to enable members to object.

 This does not apply to newly coached bowlers within the Club.

**Honorary Membership**

**13** Honorary membership which shall carry all the benefits of full membership without payment of the annual Club subscription may be conferred at an Annual General Meeting on suitable Members recommended by the Committee.

**14** **Members**

**a) Senior Members**

Senior membership is open to all members who are over 85 and have been full members for four years or more. Senior members will be entitled to a 50% reduction in their subscription.

1. **Junior Members**

For members who are 18 or younger, Junior Membership will be available at a reduced subscription. Junior Members may attend all Club General Meetings but may not take part in any voting.

 **Social Members**

**15** For Members who do not wish to play, Social Membership will be available at a reduced subscription. Social Members may attend all Club General Meetings, but may not take part in any voting.

 **Subscriptions**

**16** Subscriptions for all members shall be paid annually at a time to be decided by the Committee. The amount shall be determined by the Committee and agreed at an Annual General Meeting. A joining fee payable by new members shall also be determined by the Committee. Any member failing to pay the annual subscription within a reasonable time shall at the discretion of the Committee, be removed from the list of members and will forfeit their membership.

 **Indemnity Clause**

**17** Each member of the Club shall (to the extent that such a person is not entitled to recover under any other policy of insurance) be entitled to be indemnified out of any and all funds available to the Club, which may lawfully be so applied, against all costs, expenses and liabilities whatsoever incurred by such a person in the proper execution and discharge of duties undertaken on behalf of the Club or arising therefrom, or incurred in good faith in the purported discharge of such duties.

 Part of the activities of the Club include short mat bowling out of season.

 **Equal Opportunities Policy**

**18** The Club operates an Equal Opportunities Policy.

 **Child and Vulnerable Protection Policy**

**19** The Club fully accepts its legal and moral obligation to exercise its duty of care and to protect all children and vulnerable adults participating in its activities, and to safeguard their welfare.

 The Club is committed to do this by acknowledging that the welfare of the individual is paramount and that each individual irrespective of age, gender, race or disability has the right to protection from abuse. The Club also acknowledges that each individual has a right to be safe, and to be treated with respect and dignity.

 The Club will also use its best endeavours to ensure that all allegations of abuse are taken seriously and that the response to them will be swift and appropriate. The effect of the Club’s policy will be reviewed annually.

 **Child Protection Officer**

**20** The Club will appoint a Child Protection Officer annually to whom members can address any concerns.

 **Code of Dress**

**21** Members using the green must wear approved bowling shoes. When selected to play in matches against other clubs members must wear a dark blue or navy blue blazer with the Club badge. Gentlemen must wear white or grey trousers and the Club tie or the Club shirt. Ladies must wear a white or grey skirt or white or grey trousers or crop trousers and a white shirt or blouse or the Club shirt. Members may wear white or grey tailored shorts.

Recognised Club stickers should be affixed to a players bowls when representing the Club.

 **Dissolution**

**22** If any any General Meeting of the Club, a resolution is 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.

 If at the Special General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two-thirds of the Full Members present at the meeting, the Committee shall thereupon, or at such a 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.

After discharging all debts and liabilities of the Club, the remaining assets shall be given or transferred to some other voluntary organisation having objects similar to those of the Club.

**Misconduct**

**23** Bowls England Regulation 9 must be adhered to when dealing with disciplinary matters. The full 67 page document of all Bowls England rules and regulations can be viewed on their website [www.bowlsengland.com](http://www.bowlsengland.com).

**Amendments to these Rules**

**23** Any proposed change or amendment to this Constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least 21 days prior to the next Annual General Meeting. A copy of the proposed change or amendment shall be made available to all Club Members before the Annual General Meeting. The amendment or change should be submitted to a vote and will require a majority of two thirds of those present and voting to become effective.