



*Founded in 1968*



*Colours Yellow/Blue*

# Loughrea Athletic Club

(Under Athletics Ireland Rules)

## **Rules And Constitution**

November 2012

# **Loughrea Athletic Club**

## **Rules and Constitution**

1. The Association shall be called the Loughrea Athletic Club.

### 2. **Objects**

The objects of the Association shall be:-

- (a) To promote a sporting activities of all types particularly track and field events, cross country and/all types of sporting activities associated therewith and to provide facilities for the promotion of such activities particularly for the youth of Loughrea and surrounding areas.
- (b) To promote the ideals of sporting and honourable behaviour by the participation in such sporting activities among the people of Loughrea and the surrounding areas and to promote sporting and social links with the people of other parishes and areas in the hope of fostering neighbourly links in the same spirit.
- (c) To provide a social outlet for the people of Loughrea and surrounding areas particularly in connection with sporting and related leisure activities.

### 3. **Membership**

Membership shall be open to:

- (a)
  - (i) All residents of the town of Loughrea and surrounding areas and all other persons or groups of persons as the Committee shall decide to admit to membership.
  - (ii) Who agree to be bound by the rules and constitution of the Association and all persons becoming members shall be deemed to be bound by said rules and constitution and have full notice thereof.
  - (iii) Who pay the subscription as set by the Committee.
  - (iv) Who apply for membership.
  - (v) Membership fees for existing members must be paid within two (2) calendar months of the Annual General Meeting. If a member shall allow his/her membership subscription to be in arrears he/she shall lose his/her membership and will not be permitted to compete for the Club in any competition whatsoever and shall only be readmitted to membership on paying all arrears due by him/her.
- (b) The registration secretary of the Club shall enter the names of all members of the Club in the Clubs membership register.

- (c) The Committee shall decide rates of subscriptions at the Annual General Meeting.
- (d) Subscriptions may be set in the following manner:-
  - (i) For individual membership.
  - (ii) Family membership.
  - (iii) Student membership.
  - (iv) Membership for such persons or groups of persons as the Committee at its absolute discretion shall decide.
- (e) Should the Committee at its absolute discretion decide that in its opinion the interest of the Club would be best served by the following course of action they may by letter request any member of the Club to resign from the Club within a time specified in such letter which shall not be less than fourteen days. In default of his resignation a special general meeting of the Club shall be held within four weeks of the expiration of the said fourteen days for the purpose of discussing the request to resign and the said general meeting shall then discuss the aforesaid request to resign and whether the parties so requested should be expelled from the Club. The member requested to resign shall have at least seven days notice of such meeting and the grounds on which his resignation is requested. At such meeting the members shall be allowed to offer explanation and reasons as to why he should not resign or be expelled from the Club either verbally or in writing and if a majority of the members present shall vote for his expulsion shall thereupon cease to be a member of the Club. The voting at any such special general meeting shall be by ballot and a decision shall be reached by a majority of the members present. If not less than five members present at the said meeting shall so demand the quorum at such a special general meeting shall be 50 percent of the membership otherwise the quorum shall be five members. The Committee shall at its absolute discretion have power to exclude such a member from the activities of the Club, the clubhouse and grounds until such general meeting shall be held.
- (f) Any grievance by a member about Club activities must be submitted in writing to the Secretary. This grievance will be discussed at the committee meeting held after the receipt of the letter. The course of action concerning the grievance will be decided by the Committee in accordance with these rules and constitution and the bye-laws made by the Committee as herein provided for.

#### 4. **Committee**

- (a) The entire day to day management of the Club except as otherwise provided by the rules shall be within the power of a Committee and the Committee shall have the power to make bye-laws for the general management of the Club, clubhouse and grounds.
- (b) The Committee shall consist of such members as are appointed by the Annual General Meeting of the Club as herein provided for. There shall be a minimum of three Committee members.

- (c) The committee shall further have power to discipline a member or members as the Committee shall provide for in such bye-laws. Such discipline shall consist of all or any of the following:-
    - (i) Expulsion as herein provided for.
    - (ii) Suspension from competition for such length of time as decided by the Committee.
    - (iii) Suspension from Club property and facilities for such length of time as decided by the Committee.
- Any member so disciplined may appeal this decision at the Annual General Meeting or as herein provided for.
- (d) **Voting of the Committee:** Decisions shall be reached by a majority vote. The Chairman will have an ordinary vote plus a casting vote.
  - (e) **Vacancy on the Committee:** The Committee shall have the power to fill a vacancy occurring during the year by co-option.
  - (f) The Committee may at any time for any special purpose call a special general meeting and they shall do so forthwith upon the requisition in writing of any 75 percent of the members stating the purposes for which the meeting is required.
  - (g) It is further declared that the Committee shall have the power to amend repeal and add to such bye-laws except in so far as such amendment appeal or addition to such bye-laws shall be in conflict with or contrary to any resolution passed by the Club in general meeting or these rules and constitution.

5. **Special General meeting of the Club**

- (a) A special general meeting of the Club shall be called only by the Committee. The Committee shall meet at least monthly to examine the accounts and arrange the affairs of the Club. Notice of such meeting shall be sent to each member of the Committee and the quorum of the Committee shall consist of five (5) members.
- (b) The Committee shall appoint a Secretary who shall have responsibility of taking the minutes of all proceedings of the Committee, such minutes shall be open to inspection by any member of the Club applying to the Secretary therefore within fourteen days of said application in writing.
- (c) The Committee may from time to time appoint from among their numbers or from the members of the Club as they shall at their absolute discretion decide such Committees and sub-Committees as they may deem necessary for particular purposes and for the better running of the Club and may depute or refer to such Committees and sub-Committees such powers and duties of the Committee as the Committee at its absolute discretion may determine.
- (d) Such sub-committee shall periodically report their proceedings to the Committee and shall conduct their business in accordance with the directions of the Committee. Such sub-

committee shall terminate at the time of the elapsing of the appointing Committee term of office and shall cease to function unless re-appointed by the newly appointed Committee.

- (e) The Chairman of the Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Club.
- (f) The members of the Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Club.

6. **Annual General Meeting**

- (a) The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held in the month of November each year on a date and at a time to be fixed by the Committee for the following purposes:-
  - (i) To receive from the Committee a report, balance sheet and statement of account, for the proceeding year.
  - (ii) To elect a Committee.
  - (iii) To elect a Chairman.
  - (iv) To decide any resolution which may be duly submitted to the meeting.
  - (v) Any resolution submitted at least one week (7 days) prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting shall be deemed to be properly before the Annual General Meeting.
- (b) The outgoing chairman of the Committee shall preside over the Annual General Meeting.
- (c) In any discussion on a resolution brought before the Annual General Meeting with less than fourteen days notice to all of the members shall if a majority of members of the Club at such meeting so request be adjourned for discussion at a further general meeting of the Club to be held not less than fourteen days after the Annual General Meeting or any adjournment thereof.
- (d) In the absence of the Chairman of the Committee such other party as nominated by the Committee shall preside.
- (e) Every member of the Club present shall have one vote on every motion and in the case of equality of votes the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote which he shall not be precluded from exercising by virtue of the fact that he has already cast his vote as an ordinary member.
- (f) The quorum at all general meetings shall be as follows:-
  - (i) 50% for motions proposing any repeal or amendment of the rules.
  - (ii) 50% for the repeal of any bye-laws made by the Committee for the general management of the Club, clubhouse and grounds.
  - (iii) 50% for motions relating to the expulsion of any member or members.
  - (iv) 25% for all other business.

7. **Members**

- (a) No member shall except for professional services rendered at the request of the Committee or trustees receive any profit or stipend from the funds or transactions of the Club save in so far as expenses may be paid to any Club member, Committee member or officer for his participation in official attendance at involvement or in any Club business carried out in connection with Club business and/or sporting occasions.
- (b) These rules may be added to repealed or amended by the resolution at any annual or special meeting provided that no such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless it is carried by a majority of at least two thirds of the members voting thereon.
- (c) The Committee shall from time to time make repeal and amend all such bye-laws and regulations not in consistent with these rules as they shall think expedient for the internal management of the Club, club facilities and well being of the Club. All such bye-laws and regulations shall be binding among the members until repealed by the Committee or set aside by resolution of a general meeting of the Club, such bye-laws shall be subject to the powers restrictions and provisions of these rules.
- (d) The Committee shall have power to make arrangements for holding sports meetings or other like competitions including the imposition of a charge for the admission of members and non-members to the grounds and to provide cups and other prizes for competition and to reserve facilities as may be required in any occasion as the Committee in their discretion think proper.
- (e) If at any time the Club in general meeting shall pass a resolution authorising the Committee to borrow monies the Committee shall thereon be empowered to borrow for the purposes of the Club such amount of money with interest accruing thereon either at one time or from time to time and at such rate of interest and in such manner and upon such securities as shall be decided by the Committee in consultation with the trustees and thereon the trustees shall at the direction of the Committee make all such dispositions of the Club property or any part thereof and enter into such agreements in relation thereto as the Committee may deem proper for giving security for such loans and interest.
- (f) All members of the Club whether voting on such resolution or not and all persons becoming members of the Club after the passing of such resolution shall be deemed to have agreed to the same as if they had voted in favour of such a resolution.

8. **Trustees**

- (a) The initial trustees of the Club shall were as follows:- Joe Grace and T.J. Beatty

Trustees of Loughrea Athletic Club:- TJ Beatty, Noel Loughnane, John Coughlan, Martin Collins, Colm Moorehead and Martin Smyth

and the said trustees shall have the power - to appoint Successors as trustees as they think fit and such power may be exercised by all of the trustees or the survivors or survivor of them and in default of such survivor by the personal representative of the last deceased such survivor.

- (b) In addition to all statutory powers the trustees shall have the power in the event of the Club defaulting in respect of any of its commitments or in the event of the Club property falling into disuse at their absolute discretion to dispose of such Club property and after discharging all commitments and debts of the Club properly due to invest the balance in hands in trustee investments.
- (c) The Trustees shall be not more than 6 (six) and not less than 3 (three) individual members of the athletic club. Such trustees shall be appointed by the members at a General Meeting of the athletic club.
- (d) Each trustee shall hold office until he or she resigns or ceases to be a member of the club or is removed from Office by resolution of the members at a General Meeting of the club.
- (e) The Club premises and such property of the Club as the Committee of Management shall determine shall be vested in and under the legal control of the Trustees and such Trustees shall deal with the property of the Club as directed by a resolution of the Committee of Management which an entry in the Minute Book shall be conclusive evidence.
- (f) If the Trustees, when directed by a resolution of the Committee of Management to perform a certain act consider that the performance of such act is one of such importance that they consider the members of the athletic club should be consulted, then the Trustees may refuse to perform such act until the members of the athletic club have consulted at a General or an Extraordinary General Meeting and a resolution is passed at such meeting authorising or refusing to authorise the Trustees to perform such act as was originally directed by the Committee of Management.
- (g) The Trustees shall be entitled to attend meetings of the Committee without voting powers in their capacity as Trustees.
- (h) The Trustees shall be indemnified out of the Athletic Club property and Assets in respect of all transactions directed by a resolution of the Committee of Management and against all Liabilities and expenses necessarily incurred as a result of their Trusteeship and in the event of the Athletic Club property and Assets being deficient, such deficiency shall be made good by the voting members on whose behalf the property and Assets of the club are held.