



HOLMESDALE CRICKET CLUB CONSTITUTION

Montreal Park Ground, Worships Hill, Riverhead, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 2AP

RULE 1 – TITLE

The club shall be called “Holmesdale Cricket Club” and will be affiliated to the England and Wales Cricket Board.

RULE 2 – OBJECT

- a) The aims and objective of the club will be:
- b) To offer coaching and competitive opportunities in Amateur Cricket;
- c) To provide facilities for and promote participation at the club within the local community of Sevenoaks and District;
- d) To manage Montreal Park cricket playing facility;
- e) To ensure a duty of care to all members of the club by adopting and implementing the ECB ‘Safe Hands – Cricket’s Policy for Safeguarding Children’ & ‘ECB Cricket Equity Policy’, including any future versions of the policies, within the creation of its own club policy;
- f) To provide all its services in a way that is fair to everyone;
- g) To ensure that all present and future members receive fair and equal treatment.

RULE 3 – CLUB COLOURS

The Club colours shall be navy blue, chocolate and white. The club emblem shall be a golden stallion rampant.

RULE 4 – MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

- a) Anyone interested in the objectives of the Club shall be eligible for membership regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs. However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.
- b) The club may have different classes of membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.
- c) The Club Committee may refuse membership, or remove it, only for good cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the club or sport into disrepute. Appeal against refusal or removal may be made to the members.
- d) The membership of the club shall 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 of conduct that the club has adopted. The club offers the following types of membership:
 - e) Full Members are over the age of 18 years on 1st April in any year;
 - f) Social Members are over the age of 18 years on 1st April in any year and wish to enjoy the privileges of membership of the club so that they can participate in all non-playing activities of the club.
 - g) Student Members are in full time education but would otherwise qualify as a full member.
 - h) Junior Members are under the age of 18 years on 1st April in any year.
 - i) Life Members are appointed by the General Committee and become full members for life.
 - j) Membership fees will be reviewed annually by the General Committee and ratified by the membership at the Annual General Meeting. They will be published annually in the fixture card, together with the match fees for the season.

RULE 5 – PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTION AND MATCH FEES

a) Membership Fee (Subscriptions)

The annual Membership Fee becomes due on 1st January each year. A member failing to pay his/her subscription by 1st June each year shall be reported to the General Committee who shall thereupon have power to fine, suspend or expel him/her from membership.

b) Match Fees

Every player in a match played shall pay such match fee as the General Committee shall from time to time determine; such fee to be paid by the player to the Team Captain, or his delegated representative, on the day on which the match is played. A member failing to pay his/her match fees on the day of the match shall be reported to the General committee who shall thereupon have power to fine, suspend or, in the case of persistent offences, expel him/her from membership.

RULE 6 – MEMBERSHIP

a) New Members:

The candidate shall fill in an application form, which shall be sent to the Honorary Secretary of the Club, his/her application form shall then be presented to the General Committee which, notwithstanding anything herein contained or implied, has the sole right of election to the Club, and may, without disclosing its reason, refuse a candidate membership of the Club. On election by the General Committee the Honorary Secretary shall inform the candidate, notify him/her that his/her subscription is due and furnish him/ her with a copy of the Club Rules. The candidate shall become a member and be entitled to the privileges of membership on payment of his/her subscription.

b) Resignation

Any member wishing to resign from the Club shall send his/her resignation, in writing, to the Honorary Secretary before the commencement of the season otherwise he/she shall be liable for his/her subscription for the current season. A member who has behaved in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the Club may be expelled by resolution of the General Committee and shall forthwith lose all his/her rights as a member of the club and shall not be entitled to any refund of his/her subscription; provided that such a member shall have the right to demand, within fourteen days of receipt of notice of his/her expulsion, that the question shall be referred to a General Meeting at which he/she shall be entitled to be

present and at which he/she shall not be debarred from voting by reason of his/her expulsion by the General Committee.

RULE 7 – OFFICERS

Officers of the Club shall consist of President, Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Fixtures Secretary, Team Captains plus up to 3 members. Offices will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Club, and shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.

Any officer may resign at any time and, in the event of a vacancy arising amongst the Officers, the General Committee shall have power to elect a member to hold office until next Annual General Meeting.

RULE 8 – MANAGEMENT OF THE CLUB

a) The management of the Club shall be vested in a General Committee consisting of up to TWELVE members of the Club, elected at the Annual General Meeting to hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.

b) The General Committee will be convened by the Secretary of the club and held no less than four times per year.

c) At a meeting of the General Committee one-half plus one of the number of its members shall form a quorum.

d) The General Committee shall conduct the management of the Club in such a manner as it may deem most expedient in the interests of the Club; it shall have power to appoint Sub-Committees and to co-opt other members on the General Committee or Sub-Committees and to delegate to such Sub-Committees such of its powers as it may deem expedient, provided (a) the General Committee shall not increase its membership by more than one third in the exercise of its power to co-opt, and (b) that where a Sub-Committee is appointed, not less than two thirds of its members shall be members of the General Committee.

e) The General Committee will appoint a Disciplinary Sub-Committee to be responsible for disciplinary hearings of members who infringe the club rules/regulations/constitution. The Committee will be responsible for taking action of suspension or discipline following such hearings.

f) A member who has been the subject of a decision by the Disciplinary Sub-Committee can appeal against the decision. The appeal will be heard by the full

committee within seven days of the appeal being lodged. The general committee's decision will be final and binding to all parties.

RULE 9 – VESTING OF PROPERTY OF THE CLUB

a) The real property of the Club shall be vested in two Trustees who shall be appointed from amongst the members of the Club who have been members of the Club for at least a continuous period of two years immediately before appointment at a General Meeting of the Club. The Trustees shall hold Office for one year but shall be eligible for re-election. A Trustee who ceases for any reason to be a member of the Club shall thereupon be deemed to have resigned his trusteeship and to have become incapable of acting as such Trustee.

b) A General Meeting shall have power to remove either or both of the Trustees for the time being and all vacancies occurring through removal, incapacity, resignation, or death of any Trustee, shall be filled at the same or next following General Meeting. The Trustees shall deal with property of the Club as directed by resolution of the General Committee (of which any entry in the General Committee Minute Book shall be conclusive evidence) and they shall be indemnified against risk and expense out of the Club property.

c) The Trustees shall not, except on a resolution of the Club passed at a General Meeting duly convoked for that purpose by a majority of two-thirds of the members of the Club present thereat and voting, selling, leasing or parting with the possessions of the real property of the Club. Notwithstanding anything contained in Rule 18, this Rule shall not be repealed, altered or amended except by a resolution of the Club passed at a General Meeting duly convoked for that purpose by a majority of two thirds of the members of the Club present thereat and voting.

RULE 10 – GENERAL MEETINGS

(a) Annual General Meeting of the Club

- i. Shall be held not later than 30th November in each year.
- ii. All full members present shall be entitled to vote on all matters excepting the election of captains.
- iii. One-third of the Club members eligible to vote shall form a quorum.

- iv. The Chairman shall have a second and casting vote except on the election of the members of the General Committee.
- v. The Honorary Secretary shall give members at least twenty-one clear days notice of the meeting together with the Agenda, and minutes of the previous meeting. The AGM will receive a report from officers of the Management Committee and a statement of the audited accounts.
- vi. Nominations for officers of the General Committee will be sent to the Secretary 14 days prior to the AGM
- vii. Elections of officers are to take place at the AGM
- viii. All full members entitled to vote but unable to be present shall be entitled to vote by proxy on election of officers. Proxy forms will be available from the Club Secretary before the meeting. No proxy forms will be opened until the election of captains takes place.

(b) Extraordinary General Meetings of the Club

- i. An Extraordinary General Meeting of the club shall be convened by the Honorary Secretary upon the direction of the General Committee or upon receipt of a request, in writing, signed by at least TEN full members stating the business to be dealt with.
- ii. An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be held within not less than fourteen days and not more than twenty- eight days from the date of receipt, by the Honorary Secretary, of the request to call it.
- iii. All full members present of the Club shall be entitled to vote.
- iv. One-third of the Club members eligible to vote shall form quorum.
- v. The Chairman shall have a second and casting vote.
- vi. No business other than that on the Agenda shall be considered at such Extraordinary General Meeting.
- vii. The Honorary Secretary shall give members at least fourteen days notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting together with an Agenda.

RULE 11 – ELECTION OF CAPTAINS

The election of team captains shall take place at a meeting of senior players to be convened by the club secretary. This meeting shall be held no later than April 1st. Only senior players who are members of the club under sections 1 and 3 of RULE 4 are eligible to vote for team captains. A quorum of 50% of players plus 1 must be present at the meeting for a vote to take place.

Nominations for captains are to be submitted in writing to the Secretary for the following season no less than 14 days prior to the above meeting, each nominee to be proposed and seconded by a member of the club. All nominations must be with agreement of nominee.

RULE 12 – CLUB FUNDS

All monies received on account of the Club from any source shall be reinvested and applied towards carrying out the objectives of the Club and shall not be distributed amongst the members or third parties. No money shall be applied in any way to any purposes, whether charitable or otherwise, other than the purposes of the Club itself, except by the direction of a General Meeting.

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

RULE 13 – MISCONDUCT OF MEMBERS

No gambling or other misconduct shall be permitted on the Club premises. Any member offending under this Rule shall, on receipt by the General Committee of a written complaint by a member, be considered by the Disciplinary Sub- Committee within 21 days. The committee shall thereupon have power to impose a penalty, suspend or expel him/her from 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 7 days. There will be the right of appeal to the General Committee which should be considered within 14 days.

RULE 14 – INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

- a) Any full member of the Club, may introduce guests to the Club premises for the time being, provided he/she accompanies them and enters their name in the Visitors' Book. Playing and non-playing members of visiting Clubs shall be guests of the Club for the day of play.

b) It shall be lawful for all guests admitted to the Club premises in accordance with the above Rule to purchase intoxicating liquor over the Club House Bar for consumption on the premises. In no circumstances shall intoxicating liquor be (i) sold to a person who is neither a member nor a guest admitted in accordance with the above rule, or (ii) sold or supplied to any person under the age of 18 years.

RULE 15 – THE CLUB FACILITIES

- a) Management : The Club Facilities shall be managed by a Sub-Committee appointed annually by the General Committee.
- b) Intoxicating Liquor : The Club House shall be open on such days and during such hours as may be determined by the General Committee and the permitted hours in accordance with the Licensing Act, 1964, or any statutory amendment thereof.
- c) Intoxicating liquor for consumption on the premises may also be sold to non-members in the following limited circumstances. The General Committee shall have the power to make the Club premises available for not more than 12 individual functions in any one year organised by outside persons, clubs, organisations, associations or businesses and during the course of such functions may sell intoxicating liquor to persons bona fide attending such functions notwithstanding the fact that they are not visitors signed in by a member under Rule 14.
- d) Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 14, the General Committee shall have power to amend the permitted hours to comply with any alteration of the Licensing Regulations.

RULE 16 – DISSOLUTION

- a) The Club shall be dissolved only by a resolution passed by a majority of not less than three-quarters of the members present at an Extraordinary General Meeting. On dissolution of the Club any excess of liabilities over assets shall be borne equally by all members of the Club.
- b) Upon dissolution of the club any remaining assets shall be given or transferred to another registered CASC, a registered charity or the sport's governing body for use by them in related community sports.
- c) Any excess will become the property of the LORD TAVERNERS CHARITABLE ORGANISATION

RULE 17 – NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Honorary Secretary shall keep on the Club premises a Register of the names and addresses of all members required by the Licensing Act. Every member shall, within fourteen days, give notice to the Honorary Secretary in writing of any change of his/her address. The Register of Members shall be conclusive evidence as to the Membership of any person.

RULE 18 – AMENDMENT OF RULES

No alteration in or addition to these Rules shall be made, save after due notice of the proposed alteration or addition shall have been given to the members and any resolution passed by General Meeting by a majority of the members present at such meeting. Notice of any alteration in, or addition to, these Rules shall be given to every member within twenty-one days.

RULE 19 – RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROPERTY

The Club cannot accept any responsibility for cricket gear, clothes and other articles left in the Club House. Cars and articles in them and other vehicles may be left in the car park and near the entrance to the ground entirely at the owner's risk.

RULE 20 – COMPLAINTS

All complaints shall be made in writing, signed by the member to the Honorary Club Secretary.