

# CONSTITUTION AND RULES EFFECTIVE FROM 25 JUNE 2013

## MERSEYSIDE CHESS ASSOCIATION

### CONSTITUTION

#### 1 NAME

The organisation shall be called The Merseyside Chess Association.

#### 2 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Association shall be to promote, encourage and administer the game of Chess within the area of Merseyside without prejudice of race, colour, religion or other interest.

#### 3 MEMBERSHIP

The Association, acting through the Executive Committee, upon payment of the appropriate fees, may accept for membership such individuals or clubs inside or outside the boundaries of Merseyside as the Association may decide.

#### 4 OFFICES

The Principal Offices of the Association shall be:-

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

County Captains

Other offices shall be determined by the AGM, and all appointments to such offices and of general committee members shall be made by the AGM, and shall apply until the next AGM.

Life Vice Presidents may be appointed by the AGM from time to time, being persons who have given exceptional service to the Merseyside Chess Association.

#### 5 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The business of the Association shall be managed by the Executive Committee which shall consist of the Principal Officers of the Association, Life Vice President(s) and a maximum of twenty-four other members. The Executive may co-opt additional members but such members will have no voting rights.

### (1 of 15)

Seven members of the committee shall form a quorum. If present the President will take the chair. Otherwise those present will vote one of themselves as Chairman. Any matters requiring resolution will be determined by a simple majority of votes. The Chairman may vote only when a casting vote is required to break a tie.

The Executive Committee shall have the power to invite individuals to attend committee meetings in an advisory capacity.

The Executive shall be convened by the Secretary on the instructions of the President, or upon the request in writing of four of its members, or as these Rules otherwise provide.

Each member of the Executive Committee shall receive at least seven days notice of each meeting. If at any meeting of the Executive Committee the number of members present does not form a quorum within 30 minutes of the announced time of starting, the meeting shall automatically stand adjourned to a date within 15 days of the original date, when the original business only shall be discussed. At this resumed meeting, the rule regarding a quorum shall not apply.

### 6 ASSOCIATION YEAR

The Association year shall be from 1st May to the 30th April inclusive.

### 7 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held in May or June and shall be open to private members of the Association, all members of associated clubs and others subject to the discretion of the meeting. It shall be the function of the meeting to:

- . receive a report from each Officer
- . consider the inspected accounts of the Association
- . determine the non- principal offices
- . elect all Officers and other members of the Executive Committee
- . fix all membership and other fees, and when these are due
- . fix the date of the next AGM, (the Executive Committee may vary this date in the event of exceptional circumstances)
- . appoint the Financial Inspector for the following year
- . deal with such other business as may be required, due notice having been given on the agenda for the meeting.

The only persons entitled to vote at the AGM shall be the members of the Executive Committee and from each club one delegate for each team entered in the main League competition and each person shall have one vote. A member of the Executive Committee may not be a club delegate. No private member may have a vote. Resolution will be decided by a simple majority of votes as otherwise specified within these articles of constitution. The Chairman may vote only when a casting vote is required to break a tie.

The presence of ten persons entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum. If there is not a quorum within

30 minutes of the announced time of starting, the meeting shall automatically stand adjourned to a date within 15 days of the original date, when the original business only shall be discussed. At this resumed meeting the rule regarding a quorum will not apply.

**(2 of 15)**

The Secretary shall give 14 days notice of the meeting to the secretaries of the associated clubs, to the Executive Committee and to private members.

**8 SPECIAL MEETING**

A Special General Meeting may be called at any time by the President. The Secretary shall give 14 days notice of the meeting to the Secretaries of the associated clubs, to the Executive Committee and to private members. A Special General Meeting must be called if three associated clubs require such a meeting and inform the Secretary in writing of the reasons for calling such a meeting, which reasons shall be specified in the notice convening the meeting.

Persons entitled to attend and vote at a Special General Meeting and the quorum rules relating thereto shall be the same as for the Annual General Meeting.

**9 ALTERATION TO RULES OF CONSTITUTION**

No alteration to the Rules of Constitution shall be made, except at a General Meeting of which 14 days notice in writing giving details of the proposed alterations have been duly given to club secretaries, members of the Executive Committee and private members. No such alteration shall be effected unless the motion proposing it is passed by an affirmative vote of not less than two thirds of persons present eligible to vote. No alteration to the Rules of Constitution shall be made unless a quorum of ten voting members is present.

Any alterations effected must be notified to Club Secretaries, Members of the Executive Committee and Private Members within 14 days of the meeting at which the alterations were made.

**10 RULES OF COMPETITIONS**

Rules governing competitions shall be determined by the Executive Committee.