

CONSTITUTION

HOCKEY WRITERS' CLUB

1. TITLE

The name of the Club shall be: "The Hockey Writers' Club".

2. OBJECTIVES

The objects of the Club shall be:

- a. To promote increased publicity for hockey and to advance the interest of writers, broadcasters and photographers in the execution of their duties relating to the game:
- b. To seek the provision of satisfactory facilities for press, radio and television (hereafter – the media) when covering events and activities concerning the game:
- c. To channel approaches on matters of common interest affecting the media to official bodies forming part of the organisation and direction of the game of hockey. However, nothing in this paragraph shall be construed as limiting the right of individual members to approach official bodies direct in the pursuance of their duties:
- d. To affiliate to any other body with similar aims, e.g. Sports Journalists' Association of Great Britain, to ensure that the Club's views are aired amongst Sports media:
- e. To act in all circumstances for the good of the game of hockey.

3. MEMBERSHIP

The Club shall be open to membership by men and women in three categories - Full, Associate and Honorary.

All new members must be duly proposed and seconded by two full members and elected by the Committee.

- a. Full – all contributors within the United Kingdom on hockey to press, television, or radio, whether as writers, broadcasters or photographers:
- b. Associate – as at (a) above, non-resident in the United Kingdom:
- c. Honorary – such membership may be extended to anyone connected with hockey to whom the Club wishes to accord special recognition, and who is ineligible to become a Full or Associate member:
- d. Honorary Life Members. Shall be given at the discretion of the Committee or at the direction of an Annual General Meeting. It shall be awarded in recognition of a very special contribution to the Club or, exceptionally, to hockey journalism:
- e. The Committee shall have power to suspend for up to 12 months, or to expel any member who, in its opinion, infringes any of these rules; or prejudices the good name of the club, or renders themselves unfit for membership. Before a member is suspended or expelled they shall have the opportunity of appearing before the Committee and be given every opportunity to explain their conduct.
- f. Any member wishing to resign shall notify the Hon. Secretary. Subscriptions received prior to the resignation shall be retained by the Club.

4. COMMITTEE

The affairs of the Club shall be managed in accordance with the Rules, by a management committee to be known as 'the Committee'.

- a. The Committee shall consist of the Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and a maximum of six other members. A quorum shall be not less than four:
- b. The Chairman shall be elected at an AGM for a term of two years unless he/she retires voluntarily. The Chairman shall be eligible for re-election:
- c. The Committee may also appoint a Vice Chairman from within the committee

if it is felt desirable:

d. The Committee, if it deems desirable and necessary, recommend the appointment of a President, subject to confirmation by an AGM.

The President must be a member of the Club:

The President shall

i) be primarily the figurehead of the club at such functions where his/her presence is deemed appropriate.

ii) not be required to attend meetings of the Committee unless specifically requested to do so, but would be expected to attend the AGM.

iii) be subject to re-appointment after three years in office, or sooner if circumstances dictate.

e. All other officers and committee members, except the Chairman, shall be elected annually at the AGM

f. All members of the Committee shall have equal voting rights. In the event of equal voting, the Chairman shall have a second and casting vote.

g. The Committee shall have powers to co-opt.

h. Committee meetings shall be called at the instance of the Chairman or Hon. Secretary or by written request to the Hon. Sec. signed by three Committee members.

i. The Committee may appoint such sub-committees as it may from time to time think desirable.

5. SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscriptions for Full members shall be payable on 1st January, each year, the rate to be fixed at the AGM. There shall be no joining fee.

Associate members shall pay an initial £5 membership fee and no annual subscription. Membership to be confirmed every four years (though at no additional cost).

Any member whose subscription remains unpaid on the last day of February, shall be reported by the Hon. Treasurer to the Committee. Members joining after 30th June in a year shall be given membership to the end of the following year.

6. AGM

The AGM shall be called by the Committee on a convenient date each year at a suitable venue. Seven shall form a quorum.

A minimum of two weeks' notice of the date of the AGM, together with a copy of the agenda shall be given to all members. Resolutions for consideration at, and Agenda items for, the AGM shall be forwarded to the Hon. Secretary by the preceding 1st December.

In the event of equal voting the Chairman shall have a second and casting vote.

The AGM shall have the power to appoint a member from the Committee as acting chairman, if the elected chairman is not present.

A Special General Meeting may be called by the Committee or following a written request to the Hon. Secretary by a minimum of six members. The rules concerning the calling of a SGM will follow those for an AGM..

7. FINANCE

The Hon. Treasurer shall be responsible for all monies. A bank account shall be maintained and cheques drawn on Club funds shall require the signatures of the Chairman/Hon. Secretary and the Hon. Treasurer.

The accounts of the Club at 31st December shall be audited each year by a qualified person prior to the AGM, when copies shall be available to all members. The auditor shall be appointed at the AGM for the following year.

Should the Club be wound up at any AGM or SGM, the Committee shall have power to dispose of all assets and funds for the benefit of hockey.

8. AFFILIATION

Affiliation to any other Club, Association or recognised body, shall be at the discretion of the Committee. Representatives of the Club to meetings of such bodies shall be appointed, as necessary, by the Committee.

9. RULES

a. Addition to, alteration and deletions of these rules shall be valid and binding only when authorised by two-thirds of members present and voting at an AGM or SGM.

b. Should there be any question of interpretation of these rules, the decision of the Committee shall be final, and the position clarified at the next AGM.

Redrafted February 1995. Updated 6th February 2001 Redrafted. January 2005.

HWC Constitution – APPENDIX

RULES GOVERNING HWC AWARDS

The Club annually shall make awards to:

a – THE HWC UK PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

The MALE AND FEMALE winners will be decided by ballot of the UK membership. Each member voting is required to make three nominations in order of merit. If a voter fails to nominate three persons in a category, his votes in that category will be void.

b – THE CHRIS MOORE MEMORIAL REGIONAL HOCKEY WRITERS' AWARDS

The Committee will decide annually the categories, ideally a 'staff writer' (professional) and 'local writer' (non professional), and arrange a judging panel.

Contestants will be required to submit entries in accordance with the Committee's advertised requirements.

Judging panel to make recommendations to the Committee for the winners.

c – THE SYDNEY FRISKIN MEMORIAL SILVER GOBLET

To be awarded annually, if appropriate, to a person who has given outstanding service to UK hockey, preferably with a special contribution in the year under consideration.

A judging panel will be appointed by the Committee annually who will report their decision to the committee.

d – THE MARJORIE POLLARD SALVER

To be awarded annually if possible, at a major international home match/event to the Women's Player of the Match/Tournament.

The winner will be decided by a straight majority vote of HWC members at the occasion.

Exceptionally the Salver might be presented at an overseas occasion.

e – THE CHRIS MOORE SALVER

To be awarded annually, if possible at a major international home match/event to the Men's Player of the Match/Tournament.

The winner will be decided by a straight majority vote of HWC members at the occasion.

Exceptionally the Salver might be presented at an overseas occasion.

f – THE HWC UK YOUTH HOCKEY AWARD.

To be awarded annually to the outstanding boy and girl in UK youth hockey.

Nominations may be made in respect of a player, umpire, coach, manager, administrator etc. or, a combination of several of these.

Candidates to be 18 or under on 31 December of the year of the award.

Nominations may be submitted by any HWC member but preferably from UK clubs.

A judging panel who will report their decision to the committee, will be appointed annually by the Committee.

[Ends]