

BATH CITY SUPPORTERS SOCIETY LIMITED

STANDING ORDERS FOR DEMOCRACY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1.0 Introduction

This document is drafted in accordance with the existing rules of Bath City Supporters Society Limited and sets out the Standing Orders for Democracy and Accountability adopted pursuant to a resolution of the Society Board dated 5 October 2016.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Society meets the appropriate standards of democracy, accountability and governance as befits a majority community-owned football club.

2.0 Definitions

2.1 "AGM" means the annual general meeting of the Society.

2.2 "Member(s)" means a member(s) of the Society.

2.3 "Society Board Member(s)" means an elected or Co-opted Member(s) of the Society.

2.4 "Rules" means the rules and regulations of the Society laid out in the separate Rules document

2.5 "Society" means Bath City Supporters Society Limited

2.6 "Society Board" means the elected Board of the Society including any co-opted Society Board Members.

2.7 "Society representative" means the directors of the Club board who have been appointed or elected by the Society or the Society board.

3.0 Principles of Standing Orders

3.1 These Standing Orders supplement the provisions in the Society's Rules relating to General Meetings and other matters. In the case of any inconsistency between the Rules and these Standing Orders then the terms of the Rules shall prevail.

3.2 The Society Board may alter, rescind or add to any part or element of these Standing Orders by a simple majority vote of those present at a Society Board Meeting. The Secretary is to consider, periodically, the need for amendments to Standing Orders and report on this matter to the Board.

3.3 The aim of these Standing Orders is to promote better communication and accountability in all directions between the Club, the Society Board, Society members, supporters and other community members.

4.0 Members' Meetings

4.1 To promote accountability between the Society Board, its representatives on the Club board and Society members, the Society will hold at least four members' meetings per year.

4.2 The AGM will be held in May or June. Members will be able to propose and pass formal, binding motions at AGM. The AGM will be held in accordance with the Rules and the Standing Orders on General Meetings.

4.3 The interim general meeting (IGM) will be held in November or December. Members will be able to propose and pass formal, non-binding Members' Votes at the IGM, to which the Society board will be obliged to consider, debate and respond. The IGM will be held in accordance with the Standing Orders on General Meetings.

4.4 Two informal meetings will be held in February/March and August/September. Members will be able to hear progress reports and ask questions at the informal Q&As. The structure and procedure of the informal meetings shall be at the discretion of the Chair of the Society board.

4.5 As per the Rules, members also have the power to call Extraordinary General Meetings (EGMs) to pass binding resolutions.

5.0 Member Liaison

5.1 The Society board will continue to appoint a Member Liaison officer responsible for sharing information and responding to members' queries, in close working relationship with the Supporters Liaison Officer, which will be a Club board position.

5.2 The Member Liaison officer is responsible for maintaining online and offline communication with members on news and issues affecting the Society.

5.3 During the season, the Society Committee will have a pre-match presence at Twerton Park at least once a month, allowing for face-to-face communication with members.

6.0 Transparency in Club Board and Society Board meetings

6.1 To promote transparency, both the Club board and the Society board will publish summary reports of all meetings, while making appropriate allowances for the non-disclosure of commercially and otherwise sensitive items

7.0 Accountability between Society Representatives on Club Board and Society Board

7.1 At least one Society representative will serve on the Society board and will continue to give reports on Club board activity to the Society board at its monthly meetings.

7.2 The Society board will convene a quarterly meeting between a delegation of its directors and the six Society representatives on a quarterly basis.

7.3 As per the Society's Board Conduct and Membership Policy and the agreed roles and responsibilities of the Society's representatives on the Club board, it is noted that:

7.3.1 Society representatives have a duty to use their own individual judgement to balance their mutual obligations to the Club and to the Society;

7.3.2 Society representatives are not delegates of the Society board, and the Society board cannot issue them with instructions;

7.3.3 Where a Society representative is deemed by the Society board to be acting consistently against the values and objectives of the Society, the Society board may remove them from the Club board by a simple majority vote.

8.0 Communication between the Society, Club and the Community

8.1 To promote better communication among the "Bath City family", the Society Board will invite representatives from the Supporters Club, employees of the Club, playing squad, Bath City Youth and Bath City Community Sports Foundation to attend its quarterly meetings with Society representatives, either in their entirety or for a dedicated portion of the meeting.

8.2 A delegation of the Society's representatives on the Club board will meet with local councillors and community leaders on at least a six-monthly basis to review and assess the Club's impact on the local community. These meetings will also be open to the public.

8.3 The Society's representatives on the Club board will also undertake to hold regular meetings with the club's sponsors and business partners, at the latter's convenience.

ENDS