



EATON FLYFISHERS

CONSTITUTION

FEBRUARY 2020

V1.0

1 TITLE

1.1 The Club shall be called Eaton Fly Fishers, hereafter to be referred to as "the Club".

2 OBJECTS

2.1 To foster and promote the art of fly fishing at all levels providing opportunities for recreation for its members and where possible to obtain fishing waters for the use of its members.

3 MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Eligibility and Awarding of Membership on initial application or renewal as described in clause 3.1.2 is subject at all times to the following criteria:

3.1.1 Membership being awarded or renewed annually at the discretion of the General Committee.

3.1.2 The application for membership being made direct to the Secretary.

3.1.3 The total number of members shall not exceed 50, except where special circumstances apply at the sole discretion of the General Committee.

3.1.4 Agreement to comply and continuing to comply with the General Rules and the provisions of this Club Constitution.

3.2 Membership of the Club shall be open to any person completing a membership application form and paying the relevant subscription/joining fee as determined by the Annual General Meeting of the Club Members and as set out in the General Rules and accepting and continuing to comply with the General Rules and Constitution of the club.

3.3 There shall be 2 of classes of membership available. These are:

3.3.1 Full Member;

3.3.2 Junior Member, such persons being under 18 years of age.

4 OFFICERS

4.1 The Officers of the Club shall be as follows:

4.2 Chairperson - who will lead the General Committee and have a casting vote in the relevant circumstances.

4.3 Secretary - Who will be responsible for keeping of the Minutes relating to all Committee Meetings, dealing with correspondence and endeavouring to preserve the regularity and coordination of the Club.

4.4 Treasurer - Who will be responsible for keeping the Accounts and all financial transactions, producing a balance sheet at the AGM and proposing the fees for the coming season.

- 4.5** River Keeper - Who will be responsible for stocking the river, collating returns, work parties, poaching and pollution matters.

5 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- 5.1** All Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Club, from, and by, the Members of the Club.
- 5.2** All Officers are elected for a period of one year, but may be re-elected to the same office or another office the following year.

6 GENERAL COMMITTEE

- 6.1** The affairs of the Club shall be controlled by a General Committee comprising of the Officers of the Club and at least three other Members elected from, and by, the Full Members of the Club. The General Committee shall meet at agreed intervals and not less than two times per year.

6.2 The duties of the General Committee shall be:

- 6.2.1** To control and manage the affairs of the Club on behalf of the Members.
- 6.2.2** To appoint and monitor Trustees relating to ownership of land and any other assets of the Club, asking Trustees for an annual report to be provided to the General Committee at the AGM as to their stewardship of such land and assets, and the condition of the land and assets, and any matters arising or pertaining to such land or assets.
- 6.2.3** To keep accurate accounts of the finances of the Club through the Treasurer. These should be available for reasonable inspection by Members and should be audited before every Annual General Meeting.
- 6.2.4** The Club shall maintain a bank current account and the following Officers shall be authorised to sign Club cheques: two from the Officers of the Club.
- 6.2.5** To co-opt additional members of the Committee as the Committee feels this is necessary. Co-opted members shall not be entitled to a vote on the Committee.
- 6.2.6** To make and alter the General Rules and/or Constitution of the Club, to govern the control of fishing and waters held by the Club and to deal with any matters not governed by the Constitution and/or the General Rules.
- 6.2.7** To make decisions on the basis of a simple majority vote. In the case of equal votes, the Chairperson shall be entitled to an additional casting vote.
- 6.2.8** To ensure appropriate insurance is in place to protect against third party and public liability.
- 6.3** A quorum of four is required for decisions to be made by the General Committee.

7 INDEMNITY

7.1 The membership of the Club shall indemnify the officers of the Club and the members of the General Committee with respect to any actions taken by the officers of the Club and the General Committee in controlling and managing the affairs of the Club on behalf of the members.

8 GENERAL MEETINGS

8.1 The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held not later than the end of November each year. 28 clear days notice shall be given to Members of the Annual General Meeting by emailing club members and by posting the notice via the Club Whatsapp Group (or such other method of communication the Secretary deems appropriate). Members must advise the Secretary in writing or by email of any business to be moved at the Annual General Meeting at least 14 days before a meeting. The Secretary shall circulate or give notice of the agenda for the meeting to Members not less than 14 days before the meeting.

8.2 The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to:

8.2.1 Confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and any General Meetings held since the last Annual General Meeting.

8.2.2 Receive and approve the accounts for the year from the Treasurer.

8.2.3 Receive the annual report of the Committee from the Officers of the Club.

8.2.4 Elect the Officers of the Club (i.e. Chairperson; Secretary; Treasurer, River Keeper and other General Committee Members).

8.2.5 Review Club subscription rates and agree them for the forthcoming year.

8.2.6 To review and revise the General Rules of the Club.

8.2.7 Transact such other business received in writing by the Secretary from Members 14 days prior to the meeting and included on the agenda.

8.2.8 To consider Any Other Business as may be raised by a Member at the discretion of the Chairperson.

8.3 At the AGM the Officers of the Club and the members of the General Committee will stand down and new elections for these positions will take place. Nomination of candidates for election of the Officers and members of the General Committee shall be made at the AGM or if possible in advance of the AGM date. Nominations can only be made by Full Members and must be seconded by another Full Member.

8.4 Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM) may be convened by the General Committee, or on receipt by the Secretary of a request in writing, from not less than four Full Members of the Club. At least 7 days notice of the meeting shall be given.

8.5 At all Annual and Extraordinary General Meetings, the chair will be taken by the Chairperson or, in their absence, by a deputy appointed by the Club or by Full Members attending the meeting. The Chairperson will remain in office until the election of a new Chairperson, who will be first to be elected pursuant to clause 8.3 when elections for Officers and Members of the General Committee take place.

8.6 The Chairperson may impose a time limit on any issue.

8.7 Decisions made at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting shall be by a simple majority of votes from those Full Members attending the meeting. In the event of equal votes, the Chairperson shall be entitled to an additional casting vote.

8.8 A quorum for an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting shall be four Full Members and this must include 2 Officers of the Club including 1 from the Chairperson; Secretary and Treasurer.

8.9 Each Full Member of the Club shall be entitled to one vote at General Meetings.

9 ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

9.1 Any proposed alterations to the Club Constitution may only be considered at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting, convened with the required notice of the proposal.

9.2 Any alteration or amendment must be proposed by a Full Member of the Club and seconded by another Full Member.

9.3 Such alterations shall be passed if supported by a majority of those Full Members present at the meeting, assuming that a quorum has been achieved. The Chairperson shall have a casting vote in the event of equal voting on a proposed alteration.

10 BANK ACCOUNT

10.1 The Club will hold a bank account for which two signatories are required in accordance with the Paragraph 6.

11 RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

11.1 Renewal of membership is on the 1st January and not later than the end of February. Fees not paid to the Treasurer by this date may result in cancelled membership and/or, at the discretion of the General Committee, adjusted payment requirements for renewal as set out in the General Rules.

11.2 Junior Members will pay reduced fees as set out in the AGM but when they are 18 years the full fee applies. A full paying Member must accompany Junior Members.

12 EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

12.1 Members of the Club whose conduct is inappropriate or who decline to abide by any of the Constitution or General Rules may be expelled or suspended by a resolution passed at a meeting of the General Committee where their entrance fee and subscriptions may be forfeited. The General Committee has the power to suspend or terminate membership where appropriate.

13 DISSOLUTION

13.1 If at any General Meeting of the Club, a resolution be passed calling for the dissolution of the Club, the Secretary shall immediately convene a Special General Meeting of the Club to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.

13.2 If at that Special General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two-thirds of the Full Members present at the meeting, the General Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets of the Club and discharge all debts and liabilities of the Club.

13.3 After discharging all debts and liabilities of the Club, the remaining assets shall not be paid or distributed amongst the Full Members of the Club, but shall be given or transferred to some other voluntary organisation having objects similar to those of the Club.

14 GENERAL RULES

14.1 Membership is for fly fishing only.

14.2 All Members are deemed to have read and understand these General Rules.

14.3 The season for trout fishing on Club Water is from 15 March to 30 September inclusive.

14.4 The season for grayling fishing on the Club Water at Swettenham is 16 June to 14 March each year.

14.5 No person may fish Club Waters before paying the subscription fee or guest fee. Guests and Junior Members must be accompanied by a Full Member.

14.6 All Members shall pay their annual membership fees by the end of February each year. If fees are not paid on time by an existing member then that Member must then pay the full subscription (joining) fee as well as the whole annual fee.

14.7 If a person, not being a Member in the prior year, wishes to join the Club, then that person must pay the subscription/joining fee and the annual fee. The annual fee will be pro-rated if membership does not commence at the start of the Club year.

14.8 The Secretary will provide a Club Membership card and parking ticket to each Member. Any guest ticket and rod licence must be carried when fishing.

14.9 Members must produce their membership cards when requested by the Riparian owner, environment agency or other club members.

14.10 Members are responsible for the behaviour of accompanied guests and juniors and any club rules broken could result in cancellation of membership.

14.11 Members and guests may take two fish per visit, although catch and return is encouraged. Juniors may take one fish.

14.12 No trout under ten inches may be taken from Club Waters at Hillmoor, Bank and Ladderstile. No trout should be taken from Club Waters at Swettenham. No grayling should be taken, nor any other species, from any Club Waters. A landing net must be carried and be of knotless design, and care must be taken when handling fish. Barbless or debarbed hooks are preferred.

14.13 Members must complete catch returns for each visit to Club Waters.

14.14 Members must park in designated areas and access the river by approved routes. Members must clearly display parking tickets at all times.



14.15 The Club accepts no responsibility for any loss, damage or injury that may be incurred by any Member or Guest.