



Club Constitution

The Constitution

1. Title.
 - 1.1 The Club will be known as the Port Sunlight Angling Club (PSAC)
2. **Objectives**
 - 2.1 The objective of the Club shall be as follows:
 - i) To promote and protect the angling interests of the Club's members.
 - ii) To rent, lease, purchase or otherwise obtain and provide fishing rights to be enjoyed equally by all members regardless of gender, age, colour, creed, sexual orientation, or religion.
 - iii) To make all waters available to all members of the Club and to aim to increase the facilities available for the proper pursuit of angling for those persons whom the Club is intending to benefit.
 - iv) To help create and support a flourishing wildlife habitat.
 - v) To encourage and assist juniors to become involved in angling.
 - vi) To provide when possible adequate access to Club waters for club members who experience mobility problems.
3. **Membership**
 - 3.1 Membership of the Club shall be at the discretion of the committee with new members being considered on receipt of a correctly completed online membership application through their Clubmate account with uploaded photo and online payment of the relevant subscription, including any joining fee. Annual subscription and joining fees are determined by the committee and rectified at the Annual General Meeting.
 - 3.2 The committee reserves the right to set a maximum number of Club members and create a waiting list should circumstances require this action.
 - 3.3 **Membership classification (ALL CARDLESS)**
 - i) **Senior Member** (Applies to members being over 18 years of age on the 1st April in the relevant year of membership)
 - ii) **Young Person Member** (Applies to members between 14 and 18 years of age (22 for qualifying students) on the 1st April in the relevant year of membership)
 - iii) **Junior Member** (Applies to members up to 13 years of age on 1st April in the relevant year of membership)
 - v) **Honorary Life Member.** An Honorary Member shall have all the rights privileges of an ordinary member, except the right to vote or be eligible for election to the Committee.
 - vi) **Non-Fishing Member.** Non-Fishing Membership: Available to spouses/partners accompanying full adult members and parents/guardians accompanying junior members on club and affiliated waters.
 - (vii) **Canal Permit**

A twelve-month rolling permit allowing the holder to fish the Club's current stretches of the Shropshire Union Canal & Weaver Navigation at Sutton Weaver only.

- 3.4 Annual Subscriptions to be paid by 31st March. Failure to pay may result in a reapplication for membership having to be made at the discretion of the Membership Secretary.
- 3.5 Members shall agree to the Membership Terms and Conditions of membership and be subject to the Club's Constitution and Byelaws.
- 3.6 All members on production of their proof of membership are eligible to attend any General Meeting.
4. **Disciplinary procedure**
- 4.1 Members of the Club whose conduct is considered to be inappropriate may be expelled or suspended from the Club by the committee. Ref Club [Disciplinary Policy](#)
- 4.2 Any member making derogatory comments, about the Club or any other member, on any social networking site or forum will be deemed to have brought the Club into disrepute and may be expelled or suspended by the committee.
- 4.3 Any member whose membership is terminated by the committee may appeal in writing to the committee. The appeal will be organised and heard by a panel of three committee members who, to the extent possible, have had minimal involvement with the original incident or decision. Ref Club [Disciplinary](#) and [Social Network](#) Policies.
5. **Election of the Committee and Officers**
- 5.1 The membership shall elect at the AGM a Committee and Officers; with all senior Club Members entitled to vote.
- 5.2 **The Committee shall consist of the following:**
- (a) Elected officers of the club namely the Chairperson, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Affiliation and Development Co-ordinator, Work Party Co-ordinator, Health & Safety Officer, and Match Co-ordinator.
- (b) Twelve additional Senior Members of the Club who are not holding the position of an elected office of the Club.
- 5.3 No officer or committee member of any other angling club or society can be elected an officer or committee member of PSAC. Officers and committee member of PSAC, can be an officer or committee member of another angling related body to which PSAC is either affiliated to or is a member of that body.
- 5.4 Any Committee Member not attending consecutive meetings without a written apology will be liable to lose the status as Committee Member by a majority vote taken amongst the Committee Members. The Committee shall be empowered to appoint by co-option at any time Senior Members on to the Committee to be ratified at the next meeting.
- 5.5 **Position of President and Vice-President**
- i) The election to the office of President and Vice President shall be by majority vote of Senior Members at an annual general meeting of the Club following proposition by the committee.
- ii) The President and Vice President shall have the rights and privileges of Honorary Members at an Annual General meeting and in addition will be entitled to attend at committee meetings.
6. **Role of the Committee**
- 6.1 To draft and display the Byelaws, Regulations, Notices, and all matters concerning trophies, prizes and competitions, the time and place of all meetings, the question of Club discipline. Club membership and finance and all matters touching the Constitution and Byelaws of the Club.
- 6.1.1 The duties of the Committee are:
- To Determine:
- a) The relevant subscription and joining fee, as agreed by Annual General Meeting of the Club
- b) To Control the affairs of the Club on behalf of the members.

- c) To co-opt additional members of the Committee as the Committee feels necessary.
 - d) To make decisions based on a simple majority vote, with the Chairperson having a casting vote.
 - e) To recruit and support members who volunteer to represent the committee as Club Bailiffs and Water Keepers whose duties are to help maintain safety and security at our waters and to protect against theft or damage.
- 6.1.2 The Committee will be responsible for keeping accurate accounts of the Club's affairs through the Treasurer. The accounts approved by the Treasurer will be made available at the AGM. The Committee may request the Treasurer to arrange for the accounts to be audited by an independent company of Chartered or Certified Accountants but is free to adopt the Treasurers accounts without an independent audit.
- 6.1.3 The Committee will make accounts available for inspection at the AGM, the accounts will then if deemed satisfactory, be adopted by the members at the AGM.
- 6.1.4 The Club will maintain a current bank account and the following officers will be authorised to sign cheques, a minimum of two from the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.
- 6.1.5 The Committee will apply all profits accruing from the Club's activities for the benefit of the Club.
- 6.1.6 The committee are responsible for keeping accurate minutes of any of the Club's meetings.
- 6.1.7 The Committee will be responsible for the purchase of land or waters on behalf of the Club, such asset purchases will be approved by the Trustees and legal ownership will be vested in the Trustees. The Club will always remain the beneficial owner.
- 6.1.8 The Committee shall have the power to create sub-committees who will be responsible for the supervision of aspects of the Club's activities and to submit any propositions to the Committee.
- 6.1.9 The Committee will be responsible for implementing and maintaining the Club's Child Protection Policy.
- 6.1.10 The Committee will be responsible for bringing or defending any legal action in the courts affecting the Club, such action will be in the names of the trustees.
- 6.1.11 The Committee and trustees will be indemnified in respect of costs of any such proceedings out of assets of the Club unless any action brought against the Committee, or a Committee member is shown to be the result of their misconduct or actions in breach of law at which point the Committee or Committee member concerned is individually or jointly and severally liable at their own expense.
- 6.1.12 In addition to the above the Committee has the power to but not restricted to:
- a) Acquire and provide grounds equipment, transport, medical and related facilities.
 - b) Taking Out an insurance for club members, employees, contractors, guests and third parties.
 - c) Raise funds by appeals, subscriptions, loans, and charges.
 - d) Borrow money and give security for the same, and open bank accounts.
 - e) Buy, lease or licence property and sell, let, or otherwise dispose of the same.
 - f) Make grants and loans and give guarantees and provide other benefits.
 - g) Set aside funds for special purposes or as reserves.
 - h) Invest funds in any lawful manner.
 - i) Employ and engage staff and others and provide services.
 - j) Co-Operate with or affiliate to firstly any bodies regulating or organising the Sport of Angling and secondly any club or body involved with it and thirdly with government and related agencies.
 - k) Do all other things reasonably necessary to advance the purposes of the Club and its members.
- 6.1.13 The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of this Constitution and the Byelaws and Regulations made there under.

The decision of the Committee upon any question of interpretation or upon any matter affecting the Club and not provided for by these rules or Byelaws and regulations made there under shall be final and binding on all members.

- 6.1.14 The Committee shall from time to time, repeal and amend such Byelaws and regulations (consistent with this Constitution) as it shall think expedient for the management and wellbeing of the Club.
- 6.1.15 The Committee shall meet on at least twelve occasions in each year. At each meeting five members of the Committee shall form a quorum and if there shall be an equality of votes then the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson or acting Chairperson of the meeting shall have the casting vote.
- 6.1.16 The current Club Committee and current Trustees have full control of all the Clubs assets. The current Committee and current Trustees (as may be in office at any time) to take all reasonable steps to obtain and maintain such full control including the ability to sell without hindrance and such asset as and when it may be deemed to be in the best interests of the Club.

7. Appointment of Trustees

- 7.1 The assets of the Club (including land, buildings, and waters) will be vested in at least three senior members who will be appointed as Trustees.
- 7.2 The Trustees will hold office until death, resignation or until removal from office.
- 7.3 A Trustee may resign from office by giving at least twenty-one days' notice, or if necessary, may remain in office until suitable replacement is found.
- 7.4 Nominations for new Trustees will be made by the officers and Committee.
- 7.5 The officers and committee will have power to remove Trustees from office.

8. Role of Trustees

- 8.1 The Trustees will hold the assets of the Club.
- 8.2 The Trustees will be empowered to open and operate an account with a bank for administration of monies belonging to the Club.
- 8.3 To bring or defend legal proceedings on behalf of the Club.

9 Annual General Meeting

- 9.1 The Annual General meeting of the Club shall be held on such a date, time and place as the Committee shall determine, when the officers and other members of the Committee shall be elected. Notice of such a meeting shall be sent out to each member eligible to attend at least fourteen clear days prior to the date fixed.
- 9.2 The notice concerning the Annual General Meeting of the Club shall specify the Committee's proposals for ensuing year, nominations of officers and other members of the Committee and any proposition or resolutions they intend to move at the meeting. Notice of any proposals for consideration including any additional nominations for elected officers or committee members must be notified in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least ten days prior to the meeting.
- 9.3 The accidental omission to give notice to or the non-receipt of notice by any member shall not invalidate the proceedings at any Annual General Meeting of the Club.
- 9.4 Ten Senior Members shall form a quorum at the Annual General Meeting and if there shall be an equality of votes the Chairperson or acting Chairperson of the meeting shall have the casting vote.
- 9.5 At the Annual General Meeting the Club Accounts for the preceding year will be presented for approval by the membership.

10 Extra Ordinary Meeting

- 10.1 The Honorary Secretary shall at the request of the President upon written requisition of fifteen of the Senior Members or at the request of the Committee call an Extra General Meeting, such meeting to be convened by notice in writing sent to each Senior Member at least fourteen days before such meeting.

The notice convening an Extra Ordinary Meeting shall specify the business which is to be laid before it.

11. Financial Year

11.1 The Financial Year of the Club will be from 1st March to the last day of February of the following year.

12. Alterations to the Constitution

12.1 The Constitution, rules, and regulations of the Club, all the decisions taken at the Club Meetings and all other Club activities shall always be in strict accordance with the conditions and spirit of leases governing the Club Waters.

12.2 No alterations shall be made to this Constitution except by a resolution of at least two thirds of the Senior Members then present at an Annual General Meeting of the Club, notice of such proposed alterations having been given in the circular convening the meeting.

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 will immediately convene an Extra Ordinary Meeting of the Club to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.

13.2 If at the Extra Ordinary Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two thirds of the Senior Members present, the Management Committee and the Trustees shall thereupon, or at such a 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 will not be paid or distributed amongst the members of the Club but shall be given or transferred to a voluntary sporting organisation, such sport being on the list of sports approved by Sport England.

13.4 In the event of deficiency in the assets of the Club, then a meeting of the creditors shall be called, and an agreement entered for the liquidation of the Club's assets on a pro rata basis.

13.5 The Chairperson and not more than two Committee members shall be appointed by the Committee to function as a Liquidation Committee, with full powers to act on behalf of the Committee in the dissolution proceedings.