

Buckingham & District Angling Association Constitution

- 1. Title**

The Association shall be called "Buckingham & District Angling Association" hereafter to be referred to as "the association".
- 2. Object**

The object of the Association is to

 - Protect, preserve, and where possible, improve local fisheries for the benefit of local anglers
 - Prevent pollution, poaching and any practices which bring angling into disrepute
 - Encourage, help and instruct members, especially juniors, in the art of responsible angling
 - Provide and encourage all types of responsible angling for members
- 3. Membership**
 - 3.1 Membership of the Association shall be open to any person, regardless of race, age, gender, sexual orientation or ability, who applies to become a member and pays the relevant subscription / joining fee as determined by the Association's elected committee.
 - 3.2 Membership covers the association's Woodfields Lake and river venues.
 - 3.3 Within the membership there are three categories: -
 - Adult,
 - Concessions
 - Senior Citizen (65+)
 - Disabled - for those in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (or Personal Independence Payment) and Blue Badge Holders
 - Intermediate (17-18 years inclusive)
 - Junior (16 and under).Age on 1st June determines category.
 - 3.4 The membership year runs from 1st June to 31st May.
 - 3.5 A member may at any time by giving notice in writing to the Secretary resign his membership of the Association. Any subscriptions received shall not be repaid.
 - 3.6 The Committee may set a maximum membership limit when necessary to protect the quality of fishing, safeguard club waters, or ensure the effective management of the Association
- 4. Structure & Officers**
 - 4.1 The Association shall be a "non-profit" making organisation and shall be affiliated to the Angling Trust.
 - 4.2 The Association shall consist of the following: -
 - a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Match Secretary, Membership Secretary (called the officers of the Association), other elected members of the General Committee, a President and Trustees
 - Members.
- 5. Election of officers and Committee Members**
 - 5.1 Officers of the association and Committee members shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting and subject to termination of office by resignation or otherwise, shall remain in office for a term of three years. The Committee shall have power to fill any vacancy that may occur until the next Annual General Meeting when the person filling the vacancy can be formally elected. If there is no one willing to hold a specific office a committee member may hold more than one office as required until such time the position is filled.
 - 5.2 Members of the Committee shall be elected in the following manner: -
 - (i) Any member wishing to stand for election to the Committee shall be nominated by any two members of the Association. The name of each member so nominated shall be sent in writing to the Secretary at least 14 days before the Annual General Meeting.
 - (ii) Of the members of the Committee three shall retire every year at the Annual General Meeting but shall be eligible for re-election.
- Members shall if necessary for the purpose of creating vacancies on the Committee retire in order of seniority and in case of equal seniority the order shall be determined by lot. Members wishing to stand for re-election shall be nominated in the manner mentioned in (i) above. Any member so elected will serve for a further period of 3 years.
- 5.3 Any committee member who does not attend at least three committee meetings during the previous 12 months of the AGM will need to stand for re-election and be elected at the AGM to remain on the committee.
- 5.4 The President role is an honorary role appointed by the committee to serve for a three-year term.
- 6. General Committee**
 - 6.1 The Association shall be managed by a Committee consisting of not less than six, but not more than twelve members, of which at least four shall be needed to form a quorum.

Members of the Committee must reside in within a twenty-mile radius of Buckingham except in the two following cases: -

 - (i) In the event of an existing Committee member moving outside of the areas aforesaid he shall retain his right to serve on the Committee.
 - (ii) It shall be permissible for members of the Committee to reside outside the areas aforesaid provided that the number of such members serving on the Committee shall not exceed two at any one time excluding those referred to in (i) above.
 - 6.2 The General Committee shall meet at agreed intervals normally every month and not less than four times per year.
 - 6.3 The duties of the General Committee shall be:
 - 6.3.1 To control the affairs of the Association on behalf of the Members.
 - 6.3.2 To keep accurate accounts of the finances of the Association through the Treasurer. These should be available for reasonable inspection by Members and should be audited before every Annual General Meeting. The Association shall maintain a bank current account and the following Officers Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer shall be authorised to sign Association cheques. (Note:- The financial year ends 31st December.
 - 6.3.3 To make decisions on the basis of a simple majority vote. In the case of equal votes, the Chairman shall be entitled to an additional casting vote.
 - 6.3.4 To review subscription rates and agree them for the forthcoming year.
 - 6.3.5 The association may bestow Life Membership on past members who have served the association. Life Memberships shall be awarded by the committee. Such Life Memberships shall be recorded in the association's Schedule of Trustees, President, General Committee Members and Life Members.
 - 6.4 The Committee shall have power to make byelaws for regulating the conduct and affairs of the Association, provided that the same are not inconsistent with the Association's constitution. Such byelaws shall be binding on all the members. A copy will be made available on initial membership and can also be downloaded from the association's website
 - 6.5 The Committee in addition to the powers hereinafter specifically conferred upon them shall have control of the finances of the Association and all such administrative powers as may be necessary for properly carrying out the objects of the Association in accordance with the Association's constitution.
- 6.6 Trustees**
 - 6.6.1 There shall be four Trustees of the Association who shall be appointed from time to time as necessary by the Association in General Meeting from among those members who are willing to be so appointed. A Trustee shall hold office during his life, or until he shall resign by notice in writing given to the Committee, or until a resolution removing him from office shall be passed at a General Meeting of the Association by a majority comprising of two thirds of the members present and entitled to vote.

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- 6.6.2 All property of the Association, including land and investments (but excluding cash in hand or held in the Association's Bank Accounts), shall be held by the Trustees for the time being, in their own names, so far as necessary and practicable, for the use and benefit of the Association. On the death, resignation or removal from office of a Trustee, the General Meeting shall take steps to procure the appointment by the Association in General Meeting of a new Trustee in his place; and shall as soon as possible thereafter take all lawful and practicable steps to procure the vesting of all Association property into the names of the Trustees as constituted after the said appointment.
- 6.6.3 The Trustees shall in all respects act, in regard to any property of the Association held by them, in accordance with the directions of the Committee; and shall have power to sell, lease, mortgage or pledge any Association property for the purpose of raising or borrowing money for the benefit of the Association in compliance with the Committee's directions. But no purchaser, lessee or mortgagee shall be concerned to enquire whether any such direction has been given.
- 6.6.4 The Trustees shall be effectually indemnified by the Association from and against any liability, costs expenses and payments whatsoever which may be properly incurred or made by them in relation to the trusts of the property and investments of the Association or in relation to any legal proceedings or which otherwise relate directly or indirectly to the performance of the functions of a Trustee.
- ## 7. General meetings
- 7.1 An Annual General Meeting shall be held before the end of May each year. The date of the Annual General Meeting shall be published in advance on the membership card, noticeboard at Woodfields and posted to the Association's website.
- 7.2 All resolutions to be handed to the Association Secretary at least 28 days prior to the AGM.
- 7.3 The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to:
- 7.3.1 Receive apologies for absence.
- 7.3.2 Read and confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and any General Meetings held since the last Annual General Meeting.
- 7.3.3 Receive the annual report from the Chairman of the committee.
- 7.3.4 To receive the Treasurer's Report and receive the audited accounts for the year and, if approved, to adopt a statement of the Association's account to the end of the preceding year, which statement shall not be disclosed in any way whatsoever to any without the prior consent of the Committee in writing
- 7.3.5 To appoint an auditor or auditors.
- 7.3.6 Receive the Match Secretary's Report.
- 7.3.7 Election and re-election of the Officers of the Association, members of the General Committee and election of Trustees.
- 7.3.8 Resolutions - Transact such other business received in writing by the Secretary to the meeting and included on the agenda.
- To deal with any special matter which the Committee desire to bring before the members and to receive suggestions from the members for consideration by the Committee. Notice convening the general meeting shall be given to the members not less than 28 days before the meeting and shall specify the matters to be dealt with.
- To consider proposed changes to the Association's Constitution as per clause 9.1.
- 7.3.9 Any Other Business - Members are encouraged to refer other items to the General Committee and give the required notice for important Annual General Meeting business.
- 7.3.10 Inform the meeting of the date for the next AGM. This shall be printed on the Membership card, and advertised on both the noticeboard at Woodfields and the Association's website.
- 7.4 Special General Meeting - The Secretary may at any time and shall on the requisition of any twelve members stating the business for which it is required convene a special general meeting for specific purposes and less than 7 days before the meeting and shall specify the matters to be dealt with.
- 7.5 At all General Meetings, the chair will be taken by the President or in their absence, by the Chairman, Vice Chairman, or a deputy appointed by the Association or by Members attending the meeting.
- 7.6 Decisions made at a General Meeting shall be by a simple majority of votes from those Members attending the meeting. In the event of equal votes, the Chairman shall be entitled to an additional casting vote. Note any proposed changes to the Association's Constitution are as per clause 9.1.
- 7.7 A quorum for considering and voting on resolutions (See 7.3.8.) for a General meeting shall be 14 members including 4 from the elected Officers & Trustees.
- Note – For an AGM, provided the meeting has been advertised on the membership card and website, a quorum is not required for passing or accepting the other matters covered during an AGM where a simple majority of those members present at the meeting will suffice. This will allow the club to operate when attendance at the AGM doesn't meet the requirements of a quorum as set out above.
- 7.8 Only members who can produce a valid membership card shall be entitled to vote at the AGM or a special general meeting.
- ## 8. Expulsion of Members
- 8.1 The Committee shall have power to expel any member who shall offend against the Association Management Rules of the Association or whose conduct shall in the opinion of the Committee render him unfit for membership of the Association. Before any such member is expelled the Secretary shall give him seven days written notice to attend a meeting of the Committee and shall inform him of the complaints made against him. No member shall be expelled without first having the opportunity of appearing before the Committee and answering complaints made against him nor unless at least two thirds of the Committee then present vote in favour of his expulsion.
- ## 9. Alterations to the Constitutions
- 9.1 Any proposed changes to the Association's Constitution may only be considered at an Annual or Special General Meeting convened with the required written notice of the proposal. Any alteration or amendment must be proposed by a Member of the Association and seconded by another Member.
- Such alterations if voted for by two-thirds majority of those members present at the meeting, assuming that a quorum has been achieved, will need to be ratified by a majority vote of the General Committee and Trustees before being accepted and the constitution being changed. Once accepted the revised constitution will be published on the association's website.
- ## 10. Dissolution
- 10.1 If, at any Committee Meeting of the Association, a resolution be passed calling for the dissolution of the Association, the Secretary shall immediately convene a Special General Meeting of the Association to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.
- 10.2 If, at that Special General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least a majority of the 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 Association and discharge its debts and liabilities of the Association.
- 10.3 After discharging all debts and liabilities of the Association, the remaining assets shall not be paid or distributed amongst the members of the Association, but shall be given or transferred to some other voluntary Association having objects similar to those of the Association.

Revision 7 passed at AGM 21 May 2026 and recorded in the minutes,

Barry Smith Chairman

Simon Bumstead – Trustee

Signed copy held on file