Buckingham & District Angling Association - Constitution

1. Title

The *Club* shall be called “Buckingham & District Angling Association” hereafter to be referred to as "*the Club*”.

2. Purpose

2.1 The main purpose of the club is to provide facilities for and to promote participation in the amateur sport of Angling in Buckingham and its surrounding area.

2.2 The object of the club 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 club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport on application, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs, except as a necessary consequence of the requirements of Angling.

The club may have different classes of membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.

3.2 The club committee may refuse membership, or remove it, only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the club or sport into disrepute. Appeal against refusal or removal may be made - this is covered in clause 8.

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 Club. 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 Club.

4. Structure & Officers

4.1 The Club shall be a “non-profit” making organisation and shall be affiliated to the Angling Trust the official national governing body for angling in England.

4.2 All income and property of the Club shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its objectives. No portion shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, to any member or third party, except for reasonable and proper expenses incurred on behalf of the Club or for goods and services supplied at market value.

4.3 The Club shall consist of the following: -

- a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Match Secretary, Membership Secretary (called the officers of the Club), other elected members of the General Committee, a President and Trustees
- Members.

5. Election of officers and Committee Members

5.1 Officers of the Club 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 Club. 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 Club 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 Club on behalf of the Members.

6.3.2 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. The Club shall maintain a bank current account and the following Officers Chairman; Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer shall be authorised to sign Club cheques. (Note:-The financial year runs from 1st January with an Accounting Period End date of 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 Club may bestow Life Membership on past members who have served the Club. Life Memberships shall be awarded by the committee. Such Life Memberships shall be recorded in the club'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 Club, provided that the same are not inconsistent with the Club'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 Club's website.

6.5 The Committee, in addition to the powers specifically conferred upon it elsewhere in this constitution, shall have control of the finances of the Club and all administrative powers necessary for properly carrying out the objects of the Club in accordance with this governing document.

6.6 Trustees

6.6.1 There shall be four Trustees of the Club who shall be appointed from time to time as necessary 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 Club by a majority comprising of two thirds of the members present and entitled to vote

6.6.2 All property of the Club, including land and investments (but excluding cash in hand or held in the Club'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 Club. On the death, resignation or removal from office of a Trustee, the General Meeting shall take steps to procure the appointment by the Club 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 Club 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 Club held by them, in accordance with the directions of the Committee; and shall have power to sell, lease, mortgage or pledge any Club property for the purpose of raising or borrowing money for the benefit of the Club 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 Club 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 Club 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 Club's website.

7.2 All resolutions to be handed to the Club 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 Club'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 Club, 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 Club'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 Club'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 Club 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 Club'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 */ Refusal of Membership*

8.1 The Committee shall have the power to expel any member, or refuse membership to any applicant, who offends against this governing document, the Buckingham & District Angling Association Byelaws, or whose conduct, in the opinion of the Committee, renders them unfit for membership of the Club.

8.2 Before any such decision is made, the Secretary shall give the individual not less than seven days' written notice requiring them to attend a meeting of the Committee, and shall inform them of the reason for the proposed expulsion or refusal of membership.

8.3 No member shall be expelled unless they have first been given the opportunity to appear before the Committee and respond to the complaints made against them. A decision to expel a member shall require the support of at least two-thirds of the Committee members then present.

8.4 Any member expelled or refused membership has the right to appeal the committee's decision. An Appeal Committee consisting of no fewer than three members will be formed. This Appeal Committee will not include any person previously involved in the decision to refuse or remove membership.

9. Alterations to the Constitutions

9.1 Any proposed changes to the Club'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 Club and seconded by another member.

9.2 The following caveat applies - The club may revoke, review or amend the constitution (it's governing document) if nothing in the amendment shall prejudice the Club's status as a Community Amateur Sports Club under Chapter 9 to Part 13, Corporation Tax Act 2010 and provided that said amendment shall be consistent with this Constitution.

9.3 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 Club's website.

10. Dissolution

10.1 If, at any Committee 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.

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 Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets *and settle all outstanding debts and liabilities of the Club (including repaying any unspent grant to a grant-making body where this was a condition of it being made).*

10.3 *Upon Dissolution of the club any remaining assets shall be given or transferred to another registered Community Amateur Sports Club, a registered charity or the sport's governing body for use by them in related community sports.*

Revision 8 passed at a Special General Meeting held on 3 October 2026 and recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Signed By	Barry Smith	Simon Bumstead
	Chairman	Treasurer and Trustee

Signed Copy held on file.