



## London Irish Supporters' Club

# CONSTITUTION

### Glossary:

**The Club** means the board members, management, and players of London Irish Rugby Football Club, London Irish Scottish Richmond Limited and London Irish Amateur Rugby Football Club;

**The Officers and General Committee** means those paid up members elected by the membership from time to time as provided for below;

**The Members and/or The Membership** mean those persons aged 16 or over who have completed the membership application form and have paid the annual membership fee of the London Irish Supporters' Club and the annual membership shall be for the period of each rugby union season and in any event from 1<sup>st</sup> August through to 31<sup>st</sup> July. Under 16s may join but they will hold no voting rights;

**London Irish Supporters' Club** shall be abbreviated as LISC and/or the Supporters' Club.

### 1. Objectives:

- i) To serve the interests of the Members of the Supporters' Club by enhancing their enjoyment of the Club and its activities;
- ii) To liaise with the Club in order to foster constructive cooperation, dialogue and mutual understanding and improve the social facilities for the supporters;
- iii) To endeavour to encourage and facilitate an increase in support of the Club's teams at home and away fixtures;
- iv) To organise charitable fund raising and social events;
- v) To provide moral, practical and financial support to the London Irish Academy;
- vi) Own a shareholding in London Irish Holdings Ltd or such company as represents the Club commercially so that LISC has the right to attend the Annual General Meetings and other meetings of the club to represent the views of LISC Members. Such shareholding being the minimum practical level to permit attendance at the AGM.

### 2. The Officers

- i) The Officers of the Club shall be as follows:
  - Chairperson
  - Vice Chairpersons (maximum of 2)
  - Honorary Secretary
  - Honorary Treasurer
  - Honorary Membership Secretary

- ii) The Chairperson must have served on the General Committee, in either the capacity of officer or ordinary member, for a period of at least one year prior to his or her election.
- iii) All Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the LISC by the members of the LISC who are eligible to vote.
- iv) All Officers are elected for a period of two years at which point they may stand for re-election.

**3. General Committee:**

- i) The affairs of the LISC shall be controlled by a General Committee comprising of the Officers of the LISC and up to 6 Ordinary members elected at the Annual General meeting of the LISC by the members who are entitled to vote. Ordinary members of the Committee shall serve for a minimum of one year at which point they may stand for re-election.
- ii) The LISC representative to the National Rugby Supporters' Association or any other body considered by the General Committee to represent the interests of the LISC at a national level may be an ex-officio member of the General Committee and shall not retain voting rights at any General Committee meeting.
- iii) A quorum of the Committee shall consist of not less than one third of the general committee, but to include a minimum of two officers. However, if necessary, the General Committee may still agree to meet but any decisions or resolutions will be subject to ratification by a quorum.
- iv) There shall be a minimum of six committee meetings per year. The Committee will provide a written report of its discussions to the membership in such format as the General Committee deem appropriate.
- v) The committee will endeavour to meet regularly with the club. The Committee will provide a written report of its discussions to the membership in such format as the General Committee deem appropriate.
- vi) The duties of the General Committee shall be:
  - (a) To control the affairs of the LISC on behalf of the Members;
  - (b) To keep accurate accounts of the finances of the LISC through the Honorary Treasurer. The LISC shall maintain a current bank account and the following officers shall be authorised to sign LISC cheques: two from Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary.
  - (c) To co-opt additional members to the General Committee as is considered necessary. Co-opted members shall not be entitled to vote on the General Committee, unless they have been co-opted to replace a member who has died or resigned. They shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.
  - (d) 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.
  - (e) To appoint, if it sees fit, an Honorary President of the LISC who shall be an ex officio member of the General Committee and shall not retain voting rights at any General Committee meeting.

**4. Membership Fees and Voting Rights:**

- i) The annual subscription fee for membership of the Supporters' Club will be determined by the Committee from time to time and will be proposed to the membership at the Annual General Meeting.
- ii) Payment of the annual subscription fee will become due on 1<sup>st</sup> August of each calendar year. Any member who has paid his subscription fee by 14<sup>th</sup> August in each calendar year shall be entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting of the LISC in the September which immediately follows.
- iii) The financial year-end for the accounts of the Supporter's Club shall be to 31st July of each calendar year.
- iv) Audited accounts will be circulated and reported upon at the Annual General meeting of the LISC.
- v) The Committee may expel any member whose actions are deemed to be contrary to the objectives of the Supporters' Club. Any such decision will be communicated to the member concerned in writing and, if challenged by the member, may be voted upon by the membership at the next Annual General meeting of the LISC or at an Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose.
- vi) Any member/s expelled from the Supporters' Club will have no entitlement to a refund of his membership fee in whole or in part.

**5. Annual General Meeting:**

- i) The Annual General Meeting of the LISC will take place during the month of September or October, unless the prevailing circumstances are such as not to permit this. In the event that the Annual General Meeting cannot be held the Committee will give notice to the membership in writing. However, in any event, no more than 15 months shall normally elapse between one Annual General Meeting and the next.
- ii) The committee will give notice in writing (either by post, document exchange or electronic mail depending upon the preference of the member if notified) of the date and venue of the Annual General Meeting not less than 21 days prior to the Meeting.
- iii) Any Agenda items for consideration at the Annual General Meeting will be lodged, in writing, with the Honorary Secretary, or other nominated General Committee Officer, not less than 7 days before the date of the meeting either by post to the LISC post box number or by electronic mail to a nominated electronic mail address.
- iv) Any nominations for election of officers or ordinary members to the General Committee, will be signed by the Nominee, Proposer and the Secunder all of whom must be members of the LISC entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting, and must be lodged with the Honorary Secretary, or other nominated Committee Officer, not less than 7 days before the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting either by post to the LISC post box number or by electronic mail to a nominated electronic mail address.

- v) The business of the Annual General meeting shall be to:
- (a) Confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and any other General Meetings;
  - (b) Receive the Honorary Treasurer's report and the accounts of the LISC;
  - (c) Receive the annual report of the Chairman;
  - (d) Elect such officers and ordinary members as are required to the General Committee of the LISC;
  - (e) Fix the subscription rates. A member who has not paid his subscription by 14<sup>th</sup> August in each calendar year may be deemed by the Committee to have no effective vote at the subsequent AGM and will be deemed to no longer be a member for that current year until his membership is renewed by payment of the relevant subscription;
  - (f) Transact such other business received in writing by the Secretary from any member as prescribed in clause 5 (iii) above.

**6. Extraordinary General Meetings:**

- i) The General Committee may call an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Supporters' Club at any time.
- ii) A minimum of one third of the membership of the Supporters' Club who sign a motion to that effect which will specify the issue to which discussion will be confined may call an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Supporters' Club at any time.
- iii) In the event an Extraordinary General Meeting is called, notice of the date, venue, and the issue to which discussion will be confined shall be delivered in writing not less than 14 days prior to the date fixed for the meeting.
- iv) If members of the Supporters' Club call for an Extraordinary General Meeting they shall give notice in writing together with a copy of the motion calling the meeting as specified in clause 6(ii) above to the Honorary Secretary or other nominated General Committee Officer by post to the LISC post box number.

**7. Dissolution:**

- i) In the event of the dissolution of the London Irish Supporters' Club, any income or property remaining will be devoted to a charitable purpose associated with the club.

**8. Constitution**

- i) The Constitution of the Supporters' Club can only be amended at an Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose, and subject to two-thirds of the members attending voting in favour at any such meeting.

**End**