

# **BARNSTAPLE BRIDGE CLUB CONSTITUTION**

1. The Club shall be known as **Barnstaple Bridge Club** and shall be affiliated to the **Devon Bridge Association** and the **English Bridge Union**.
2. **The Purpose of the Club** is to provide regular duplicate bridge sessions for its members and to promote the interests of bridge in North Devon.
3. **Membership** shall be open to all bridge players by application to the Committee, which reserves the right to refuse membership.
4. **Management of the Club** shall be vested in a committee consisting of Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and at least two other members. Three committee members including one of the officers must be in attendance for a committee meeting to be quorate.
5. **It shall be the Duty of the Committee:**
  - (i) To manage, regulate and generally supervise the affairs of the Club for the benefit of the Members.
  - (ii) To make every effort to maintain the club membership at an appropriate level and standard. and to ensure that bridge is played in a spirit of friendly competition.
  - (iii) To hold an AGM, reporting to the Members on the state of the Club and presenting accounts showing the Club's financial position.
6. **The Committee shall be Empowered:**
  - (i) The Committee shall be empowered to amend the amount of table money and any other charges they deem necessary should circumstances require it
  - (ii) To authorize such expenditure of Club funds as they deem appropriate.
  - (iii) To admonish, suspend or require the resignation of any member deemed to have acted in a manner detrimental to the Club. Any member suspended or required to resign shall have the right to appeal against the Committee's decision at the next AGM or at an EGM.
  - (iv) To determine any issue arising in connection with the affairs of the Club, which is not specifically provided for in the Constitution.
  - (v) To co-opt Members to fill casual vacancies on the committee until the next AGM.

- 7     **Notice of the AGM**, which is to be held in July, is to be posted at the Club at least three weeks prior to the AGM. The Agenda is to be posted at least two weeks before the AGM
- 8     **Any item for inclusion on the Agenda of an AGM** must be received by the Secretary in writing at least two weeks prior to the meeting.  
Items received after this deadline may be included at the discretion of the Chair.
- 9     **All Officers and Committee Members shall be elected annually at the AGM**  
Nominations for the officers or committee members must be received by the Secretary at least eight days prior to the AGM. in writing with a proposer and seconder , who are current members of the club.  
The existing committee may stand for re-election without formal nomination.
- 10    The committee may call an **Extraordinary General Meeting** at any time and must do so within one month of receiving a written request to do so, stating the purpose of the meeting and accompanied by the signatures of at least eight members of the Club.  
Notice of an EGM is to be posted on the Club notice board at the start of a regular meeting of the club at least two weeks before the date of the proposed meeting
- 11    **A Quorum** for an AGM or EGM shall be twelve members of the club.  
**Voting** at General Meetings will be by show of hands, absentee votes are not permitted.
- 12    **The Chair shall have a Casting Vote but no other vote** at General Meetings of the Club and at all meetings of the Committee.
- 13    **The Club's Constitution** may only be altered or amended at a General Meeting.
- 14    **If the Dissolution of the Club** seems desirable at any time through the withdrawal of Members or other causes, the Committee shall call an EGM. If two-thirds of the Members present and voting at such a meeting agree to dissolution, the Committee shall be empowered to dispose of the assets of the Club in such a way as the Meeting determines.

Chair   ...Carol Ritzen.....

Date: ...5 July2012.....

(Accepted at AGM July 2012 )