

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE WEST WALES BRIDGE ASSOCIATION OF THE WELSH BRIDGE UNION

1. NAME

The organisation shall be known as the 'West Wales Bridge Association of the Welsh Bridge Union' hereinafter called the 'Western Area'.

2. OBJECTIVES

To control and promote Contract Bridge in the Western Area of the Welsh Bridge Union.

3. MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Membership of the Area is open to any person who has satisfied the conditions of membership laid down by the constitution of the Welsh Bridge Union and who has paid the specified Area subscription for the year.

3.2 The Committee may appoint Honorary Members in recognition of previous services to Area bridge.

3.3 If a person being considered for Honorary Membership is no longer a member of the Welsh Bridge Union, the Committee must apply to the WBU for approval of WBU Honorary Membership and eligibility to earn Masterpoints.

4. THE AREA COMMITTEE

4.1 The affairs of the Area shall be run by the Committee of the West Wales Bridge Association hereinafter called 'the Committee'.

4.2 The Committee shall consist of the officers of the Area, club representatives and co-opted members.

4.3 The Officers of the Area hereinafter called 'the Officers' are:

- (a) The Chairman
- (b) The Honorary Secretary
- (c) The Honorary Treasurer
- (d) The Honorary Tournament Organiser
- (e) The Honorary Webmaster
- (f) The Honorary Auditor

4.4 Nomination of Officers must be proposed and seconded, countersigned by the nominee, and received electronically or in writing by the Secretary at least fourteen days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

5. CLUB REPRESENTATION

5.1 Club representation shall be chosen by clubs within the Area which are affiliated to the Welsh Bridge Union.

5.2 Each club with less than 40 Area members shall be entitled to one representative on the Committee. Each club with greater than 40 members shall be entitled to two representatives on the Committee.

5.3 No representative may represent more than one club.

5.4 Each club entitled to representation shall notify the Secretary annually (prior to the A.G.M.) electronically or in writing, of its representative(s).

5.5 Any change in such representation shall also be notified electronically or in writing to the Secretary.

5.6 At the discretion of the Committee, a club may be requested to hold an election of its representative(s) or forfeit representation.

5.7 In the event of sickness etc, clubs may nominate substitutes to attend Committee meetings. Such substitutes shall have full voting rights.

5.8 The Committee has full power to co-opt extra members who should have some function within the Area.

5.9 Co-opted members who are not Officers of the Area shall cease to be members of the Committee at the time of the A.G.M.

5.10 Committee Meetings

5.10.1 The Secretary shall notify all Committee members of such meetings giving at least one week's notice.

5.10.2 The Quorum for a meeting shall be at least one third of the Committee members one of which shall be the Chairman of the Area or a Committee member designated by him to perform the duties of the Chairman for that Meeting.

5.11 Online bridge

5.11.1 The following policy is subject to review dependent on any future negotiations with the WBU.

5.11.2 The online section of WBU-affiliated clubs that run events both face to face and online, or WBU-affiliated clubs that play purely online, may apply to the Committee for their members to be Area members and if accepted, will be required to pay the Area subscription for each member.

6. VOTING POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

6.1 The Officers of the Area and each club representative shall have a vote.

6.2 Co-opted members who are not Officers of the Area shall not have a vote except at the discretion of the other members of the Committee.

6.3 The Chairman shall only use his vote as a casting vote.

7. POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

7.1 The Committee shall determine the annual subscription of the Area at the first convenient meeting subsequent to the A.G.M.

7.2 The Committee shall determine the allocation of the finances of the Area.

7.3 The Committee shall appoint other officials of the Area and elect officials of the Welsh Bridge as delegated by the Welsh Bridge Union.

7.4 The Committee shall be responsible for the running of Area events and the organisation of all such matters as delegated to the Area by the Welsh Bridge Union.

8. THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE AREA

8.1 Time of Meeting

The meeting shall be held prior to the 30th June each year.

8.2 Quorum

A quorum shall be fifteen Area members one of which shall be the Chairman or an Area Committee member designated by him to perform the duties of Chairman.

8.3 Notice of Meeting

The Secretary shall give at least twenty-eight days' notice of the meeting, electronically or in writing, to each club in the Area affiliated to the Welsh Bridge Union.

Any member of the Area may request a vote on a particular motion to be taken at the A.G.M. subject to eighteen days' notice electronically or in writing to the Secretary accompanied by the signatures of two Area members. The Secretary shall inform all Area clubs of such notices at least eight days prior to the meeting.

8.4 Voting

8.4.1 Each member present at the A.G.M. except the Chairman shall have one vote.

8.4.2 The Chairman shall have the casting vote.

8.5 Agenda

8.5.1 The A.G.M. shall contain a report from the Officers on the previous year, including a proper presentation of the finances and expenditure of the Area.

8.5.2 Any change to the Constitution of the Area shall be effected subject to the approval of two thirds of the members present following which the Committee may require, at its discretion, a poll of Area members in which an absolute majority shall be decisive.

9. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

9.1 Such a meeting will be called subject to either
(a) a request electronically or in writing to the Secretary accompanied by the signatures of at least twenty Area members, or
(b) a vote of the Committee.

9.2 Subject to the specified requirements, the Secretary shall:
(a) arrange the meeting within twenty-one days of receipt of such notice, and
(b) inform all Area clubs electronically or in writing of the meeting and its purpose, at least fourteen days prior to the meeting.

[Originally] Typed by Lloyd Lewis in July, 1995; and verified to be correct by John Isaac, Max Powell, and Tony Haworth.

This version typed by Peter Milewski in May 2022; and verified to be correct by David Newman, Bob Alderdice and Tony Haworth.