

## **Executive summary of proposed changes to the OBC Articles of Association**

### **Membership**

1. Removal of obsolete references to visitors and guests.
2. Changes to the membership application procedure (2.2 to 2.7) to bring it into line with the requirements of the CIO Constitution
3. Amendment of member subscription refund provision (old 2.16, now 2.8) to deny any refund of current year subscription to ensure entitlement to Gift Aid relief in respect of such payments.
4. Removal of clause (old 6.8) relating to NIL subscription fees for students and juniors, as the trustees already have such a general power in amended clause 6.10.
5. New clause 6.9 authorises a request to non-members for a voluntary donation in addition to standard table money.

### **Sessions**

6. Section 7 has been retitled as it now only deals with Sessions. References to guests and visitors have been removed.
7. A new power (7.2) is given to the director of any session to exclude any player who would in their reasonable opinion not satisfy the general conduct requirements of clause 13.1.

### **Trustees and Officers**

8. Remove the post of Technology Officer (it has not been filled in the last 2 years).
9. Remove the explicit list of appointed officers. The Trustees regarded the list as incomplete. To maintain flexibility in the running of the club, the Trustees will rather solicit volunteers for posts of operational responsibility and appoint members for an annual period following the AGM.

### **Trustee Documentation**

10. Clause 9.3 on minutes of trustee meetings has been tidied up and made more flexible.

### **Financial provisions**

11. Clause 10.2 amended to conform to charity law by referring to “Independent examiner” of the accounts.
12. Expansion of the insurance provisions in 10.10.

### **Intoxication Liquor**

13. These have been substantially rewritten and simplified. It is now made clear that anyone attending OBC to play bridge can be served alcohol provided they are over 18 years of age (11.1 and 11.2).
14. Clause 11.5 has been clarified to ensure no member or beneficiary of the charity supplying intoxicating liquor to OBC can benefit financially from such provision.

### **Schedule A: Disciplinary Procedures**

15. The wording has been tidied up to match the new CIO environment.
16. Clause A.2 has been made more flexible by way of allowing a complaint may be made to any Trustee rather than just to the Chairman or Secretary.