

Main changes in the proposed new SCBA constitution

Background

The SCBA Executive Committee has appointed a subcommittee to review the SCBA Constitution and ways of working. The subcommittee comprises Malcolm Pryor (chair), Jeff Orton, Richard Evans, Peter Bushby and Paddy Lockwood. Having reviewed the findings of the subcommittee, the SCBA Executive Committee now recommends that SCBA adopt a revised Constitution.

Broad principles behind the changes

- 1) Reflect best practice identified during reviews of the constitutions and organisational principles of other county associations and of comparable organisations
- 2) Maximise flexibility for the Executive Committee, while maintaining custodial checks and reflecting EBU guidelines
- 3) Adapt / remove clauses where developments in technology or organisational structures have changed the requirements, or where opportunities arise for a simpler approach / wording
- 4) Be compliant with the checks which are required to be signed off during the county's self-certification of the revised Constitution

Specific aspects of the Constitution which have been revised (major items only)

- 1) Flexible Executive Committee (EC) size 10-16
- 2) AGM elects chairman vice chairman general secretary and treasurer
- 3) EC has flexibility to appoint other EC officer roles; these are not specified in the constitution and the requirements may change over time. Based on the current thinking of the Executive Committee these officers would for 2020/1 include: Website / Membership Database Manager, Competitions Secretary, Chief Tournament Director, Logistics Director, Development Officer, Club Liaison Director, Marketing Director, County Captain / Chairman of Selectors
- 4) EC appoints EBU shareholders
- 5) EC can assign roles to individuals and appoint subcommittees (and remove roles from individuals and disband subcommittees); these people don't have to be members of the EC. EC can also co-opt
- 6) Affiliated clubs can put items onto the EC agenda, and send a representative to attend the part of the meeting which deals with the matter (who can speak but not vote)
- 7) Section on finance simplified
- 8) Use of terms Full and Adopted Member retained (most other counties use ordinary and dual), list of rights for each category shortened to remove reference to SCBA publications
- 9) Rules for Adopted Members changed to "unless in its discretion the EC decides otherwise" rather than positive confirmation required
- 10) Discretion given to EC on Life Member benefits (rather than crystalizing the benefits in the constitution) – note: SCBA does not currently have any Life Members
- 11) Subs and county pay to play component determined at the preceding AGM in line with new model constitution and common practice
- 12) AGM agenda spelt out more
- 13) Process for AGM nominations for officers and special resolutions simplified
- 14) Notification requirements for AGM and EGM simplified – notification is via the website, with copies of the notice to clubs, and best endeavours to widen the circulation via member mailshot
- 15) "Independent examiner" rather than auditor or examiner

- 16) Under member behaviour, additional clause permitting a member to appeal to SCBA if found guilty of a disciplinary offence by their club, provided the club constitution permits such an appeal
- 17) Removal of section referring to regional committees which no longer exist
- 18) Time limit added for making a complaint to SCBA under the member behaviour rules (3 months from alleged offence)
- 19) New clause 8 added to Schedule of Disciplinary Regulations (with 8 sub clauses) – this provides detail about appeals to SCBA from members found guilty of a disciplinary offence by an affiliated club.

Additional changes reflecting feedback received after publication of the proposed new constitution on the SCBA website:

- 1) 3.7 addition of “in person or on-line” reflecting that EC meetings may be on-line
- 2) 6.1 addition of “or on-line” reflecting that an AGM may be on-line
- 3) 6.1 addition of “or if absent a member of the Executive Committee” dealing with the concern about what to do if neither Chairman nor Vice Chairman are available to chair an AGM
- 4) 6.3 addition of “or on-line” reflecting that EC meetings may be on-line
- 5) New clause inserted (6.6) providing additional clarification: “An EGM shall be chaired by the Chairman, or if absent the Vice Chairman, or if absent a member of the Executive Committee, and shall not discuss any items other than those specified in the notice.”