



GAY FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS' NETWORK – CONSTITUTION

NAME:

- 1) The name of this club shall be the Gay Football Supporters' Network.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES:

- 2) To provide the means and facilities to put gay and lesbian supporters in touch with each other and to meet for social and other purposes, and to oppose anything and anyone which prevents or limits this aim, whether directly or indirectly.
- 3) To administer funds for the object set out in Clause 2.
- 4) In pursuance of its aims and objectives, the club may associate or affiliate with such other organisations as may be necessary or desirable to the Executive Committee, AGM or EGM.

MEMBERSHIP:

- 5) Membership will be restricted to be compatible with the aims and objectives of the club.
- 6) Membership is discretionary on the approval of the Executive Committee.
- 7) Only those who have fully paid-up subscriptions and agreed to abide by the club constitution will be deemed to be members of the club.
- 8) Membership fees will be determined annually by the Executive Committee, subject to approval by the AGM, and become payable on the 1st July each year.
- 9) The Membership Secretary will maintain accurate records as to who is a member as defined in Clause 7 above and will have the final decision.
- 10) Life or Honorary membership may be conferred on any individual by the Executive Committee at the AGM or EGM.

MANAGEMENT:

- 11) The club will be managed by an Executive Committee elected at the Annual General Meeting of the club. All elected members shall retire annually and are entitled to seek re-election.
- 12) The Executive Committee shall consist of seven members: a Secretary, a Membership Secretary, a Treasurer, a Social Secretary, a Newsletter Editor and two members without portfolio. The executive Committee should elect a chair from among their number.
- 13) The Executive Committee will have the power to co-opt additional members and appoint sub-committees. Moreover, to fill a vacancy of an elected official, the Executive Committee can either appoint a member or call an EGM or postal ballot to facilitate an election.
- 14) The Executive Committee will have responsibility for the management of the affairs of the club, including disposal of the assets of the club in the event of its abandonment.
- 15) The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a month.

16) Date, time and venue of an Executive Committee meeting shall be fixed at the previous meeting.

17) The quorum for an Executive Committee meeting shall be four. Members unable to attend are expected to submit a written report in advance for consideration at the meeting.

18) The chair of the Executive Committee will chair – or arrange an alternative chair for – all AGMs or EGMs. He or she will be responsible for the conduct of any ballots or votes at meetings .

19) The chair of any meeting is not entitled to vote but, in the event of a tie, will have the casting vote.

AGMs:

20) The Annual General Meeting shall be held each summer on a date to be fixed by the Executive Committee, who shall take account of the date of the annual Pride celebrations.

21) Items and motions for the Agenda and nominations for Executive Committee posts and Regional Organisers must be actively sought from all members by the Club Secretary, to be received at least 2 months prior to the date of the meeting.

22) Notice of the AGM – containing venue, date, time, agenda, reports of Executive Committee members and proxy terms – must be given to members at least one month prior to the date of the meeting.

23) The AGM shall include the following items on the Agenda: i) Chair's report; ii) Treasurer's report; iii) Secretary's report; iv) Membership Secretary's report; v) Election of Executive Committee members; vi) Election of an Independent Examiner.

24) Proxy forms will consist of: i) a ballot form if there is to be a vote or election; ii) a signed proxy to allow each member who cannot attend to nominate any other member to vote on their behalf at the meeting. Members holding such proxy votes must register them with the chair prior to the start of the meeting. Failure to do so will render their use subject to the discretion of the Chair.

25) The quorum for any AGM or EGM shall be 20 members, including proxy votes. Should an AGM or EGM be inquorate, it will be reconvened at the following London meeting at which, no matter how many members are present, a quorum will be deemed to exist and the business transacted.

26) Elections for the positions of Executive Committee members and Regional Organisers will be held by secret ballot. All members will have one vote for each available position.

27) Votes on all other issues shall be done initially by a show of hands but subsequently on a card vote at the request of at least two voters.

EGMs:

28) An EGM may be convened: a) by the Executive Committee giving such notice and in such a form as defined in Clauses 22, 24, 25 and 27 above, or b) upon written request to the Club Secretary, signed by not less than 20 members of the club and containing the reason for the request.

29) Any meeting called under Clause 28(b) above must be convened by the chair within 28 days of such notice being received. Such meetings must be held in accordance with Clauses 22, 24, 25 and 27 above.

FINANCE:

30) The club funds shall be held in a bank or building society account in the club name, and shall only be withdrawn on the signature of two members of the Executive Committee. Three members of the Executive Committee will be signatories to the account, being the Treasurer and two others.

31) The financial year for the club shall end on 5 April.

32) An Independent Examiner, who is not a member of the Executive Committee, shall be elected to audit the club accounts.

33) The Executive Committee shall have the power to undertake such fund raising activities as they deem appropriate.

GENERAL:

34) All decisions taken at AGMs and EGMs shall be binding on the Executive Committee until reversed at subsequent AGMs or EGMs.

35) Any Executive Committee member is obliged to impart any information relating to the decisions taken by the Executive Committee to any club member on request.

36) These rules may only be amended by a two-thirds majority of votes cast at an AGM or EGM.