

CONSTITUTION

1) Title

The organisation shall be called Abingdon Gymnastics Club and shall be affiliated to the Oxfordshire Gymnastics Association, South Region Gymnastics Association and British Gymnastics.

2) Objectives

The Object of the Club is to provide facilities for and promote participation of the whole community in the sport of Gymnastics

3) Membership

- a) Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport on application regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs. However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.
- b) The Club may have different classes of membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The Club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.
- c) The Club Committee may refuse membership, or remove it, only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or sport into disrepute. Appeal against refusal or removal may be made to the Committee.
- d) Coaches and all parents of gymnasts will be honorary members of the Club.
- e) The Committee may appoint other interested parties as honorary members.

4) Annual Subscriptions

All subscriptions shall fall due on the beginning of the September Term of each year. New members joining during the year are required to pay the full annual subscription except in the case of those joining after Easter when half the subscription fee will be payable.

5) General Meetings

- a) The Annual General Meeting
 - i) The Annual General Meeting shall be held in May of each Year.
 - ii) The Honorary Secretary shall send notice of the meeting to all Officers and Members at least 28 days before the Annual General Meeting.
 - iii) The Honorary Secretary shall send the Agenda for the AGM to all Officers and Members at least 14 days before the AGM.
 - iv) No motion which is not on the said Agenda, other than formal motions of appreciation, congratulations and/or condolences, or motions to amend motions duly before the meetings, shall be in order, except as provided in v) below.
 - v) The AGM shall receive a report from the Chairman and a statement of accounts from the Honorary Treasurer. Both the report and the accounts shall be open to questions and any motion referring to any item in either shall be in order and they shall be voted on.
 - vi) All motions for the AGM, which should appear on the Agenda, shall reach the Secretary not less than 21 days before the date of the said meeting and shall be in writing.

- b) Special General Meeting
 - i) The Committee may at any time call a Special General Meeting and must do so within 21 days of the Honorary Secretary receiving a request in writing, signed by 10 Members and precisely stating the motions to be proposed at the said SGM, together with the names of the proposers and seconders.
 - ii) The Honorary Secretary shall send an Agenda and notice of the SGM to all Officers and Members at least 8 days before the said meeting.
 - iii) No business which is not on the said Agenda shall be in order at a Special General Meeting.

6) Voting

- a) All members over the age of 14 years and Honorary Members shall have one vote at a General Meeting for all purposes.
- b) Voting will be by a show of hands unless either the Chairman shall direct or one-third of the members present shall demand a ballot.

7) The Officers

- a) The Officers shall be elected by members at the AGM and will serve for a period of one year. The President and Vice-Presidents may be elected as life members.
- b) Retiring Officers may be re-selected to serve again.
- c) The Officers shall be –
 - President
 - Any number of Vice-Presidents
 - Chairman
 - Vice-Chairman
 - Honorary Secretary
 - Honorary Treasurer
 - Welfare Officer
 - Volunteer Coordinator
 - Parents Representative
 - Gymnasts Representative

8) The Committee

- a) The Committee shall manage the affairs of the Club according to the Constitution and the resolutions of the General Meetings.
- b) The Committee shall consist of the elected officers, the Head Coach and up to four ordinary Committee members duly elected from within the Club at the AGM.
- c) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt and appoint temporary officers and Committee members to bring the Committee up to full strength between Annual General Meetings.
- d) The committee shall have the power to co-opt and appoint sub-committees. A member of the full committee to be included in the sub-committee and will be required to submit a report to the meetings of the full committee. Such Committees may, with the approval of the full committee, open a bank account for fund raising in the name of that sub-committee. The account must have a minimum of two signatories, of which one must be the full committee member, and a minimum of two signatories must sign each check.
- e) A quorum shall be two-thirds or five members of the Committee, whichever is lower, and must include at least one Officer.
- f) The Committee shall meet at least three times a year.
- g) The Committee shall have the power to decide any matter not covered by the Constitution and the rules of the Club.
- h) The Committee shall review the remuneration of the Coaches as necessary.

- i) The Committee is responsible for ensuring that gymnasts and staff are covered by insurance.

9) Employment

The Committee will ensure that appropriate staffing levels are maintained to ensure the safe and effective running of the club.

10) New rules, amendments to rules and motions for dissolution

- a) Any motion for a new rule or an amendment to the existing rules shall require to be carried by the majority of two-thirds of those present and voting at a General Meeting.

- b) The members may vote to wind up the Club if not less than three quarters of those present and voting support that proposal at a properly convened general meeting.
 - i) The Committee will then be responsible for the orderly winding up of the Club's affairs.
 - ii) After settling all liabilities of the Club, the Committee shall dispose of the net assets remaining to one or more of the following:
 - (1) to another Club with similar sports purposes which is a registered charity and/or
 - (2) to another Club with similar sports purposes which is a registered CASC and/or to the Sports governing body for use by them for related community sports.

11) Finance

- a) Unless the Club is required by law to have its accounts audited, the annual accounts shall be drawn up by the Honorary Treasurer and independently examined by a suitable qualified accountant. That independent examiner shall be appointed by the Committee.
- b) The financial year shall begin on 5th April and end on 4th April.
- c) The Committee shall have the power to open, in the name of the Club, accounts with any bank or building society and all documents including cheques related to the said accounts shall only be authorised if signed by two authorised signatories as nominated by the committee.
- d) The Honorary Treasurer shall receive all subscriptions due and grants payable to the Club and pay all accounts on behalf of the Club.
- e) The property and funds of the Club cannot be used for the direct or indirect private benefit of members other than as reasonably allowed by the Rules and all surplus income or profits are reinvested in the club.
- f) The Club may provide sporting and related social facilities, sporting equipment, coaching, courses, insurance cover, medical treatment, away-match expenses, post match refreshments and other ordinary benefits of Community Amateur Sports Clubs as provided for in the Finance Act 2002.
- g) The Club may also in connection with the sports purposes of the Club:
 - i) sell and supply food, drink and related sports clothing and equipment;
 - ii) employ members (though not for playing) and remunerate them for providing goods and services, on fair terms set by the Committee without the person concerned being present;
 - iii) pay for reasonable hospitality for visiting teams and guests;
 - iv) indemnify the Committee and members acting properly in the course of the running of the Club against any liability incurred in the proper running of the Club (but only to the extent of its assets).

h) The Committee will have due regard to the law on disability discrimination and child protection.

12) Interpretation of the rules and constitution

- a) The Chairman shall have the power to settle all points of interpretation arising from this constitution provided that such power shall not override any subsequent resolution duly passed by a general meeting concerning such interpretation.
- b) Interpretation of all the Rules must be consistent with the statutory requirements for CASCs (which means Community Amateur Sports Clubs as first provided for by the Finance Act 2002.)

13) All members shall be bound by the rules, by-laws and regulations of Abingdon Gymnastics Club.