



BALLYROAN JUNIOR CHESS & SOCIAL CLUB

"THE KNIGHTS OF ÉANNA"

Constitution

As adopted at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the BCCC.club held on 20th May 2016.

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Article 1. NAME

The name of the club shall continue to be "The Ballyroan Community Chess Club" and shall operate from the first Friday in September until the last Friday in April with the exceptions of mid-term breaks.

Article 2. GENERAL POWERS OF THE CLUB

The BCCC. will be the governing body of chess in the school (Colaiste Eanna) and will be affiliated to the Irish Chess Union of Ireland. In this capacity it will have sole responsibility to nominate individual players and teams to represent the school or club in Regional, National and International chess tournaments.

Article 3. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES AND POWERS OF THE CLUB

3.1 The Club shall have the following specific objectives:

- a. To maintain affiliation to the I.C.U.
- b. To encourage, develop and promote the sport of Chess in the school.
- c. To fulfil club obligations.
- d. To maintain the club's rating register.
- e. To ensure that the club and school is represented at Irish Chess Championship annually.
- f. To administer the playing of competitive Chess.
- g. To endeavour to raise the standard of Chess playing in the club.
- h. To obtain sponsorship for the club and its members.

3.2 The Union shall also have the following powers:

- a. To affiliate to any other body that the committee of the club shall from time to time deem appropriate with a view to furthering the aims and objectives of the club.
- b. To raise funds and accumulate income and to receive subscriptions, donations and bequests.
- c. To invest all monies of the club in any forms of investment authorised by law as proper investments for charity funds ie student develop via coaching and subvention to members of cost incurred in representing both school and club in registered competitions.
- d. To adopt such measures of making known the activities of the club as may seem expedient.
- e. To enter into joint ventures for the promotion, administration or playing of Chess either in Ireland or internationally.

- f. To lay before the membership rules for the orderly running of the club. These rules shall form Appendix A of this constitution and shall be adopted and/or amended by a General Meeting by simple majority and shall be binding on all members.

Article 4. CODE OF GOOD PRACTICE FOR CHILDREN IN CHESS

The club undertakes in all its activities to have special regard for the protection of children in chess. It undertakes to ensure that a Code of Good Practice for Children in Chess is implemented in the club, and that procedures for dealing with any complaints are put in place.

Article 5. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the club shall be open to all persons from the local community and particularly those who are or have been affiliated to the school as students, both past or present, parent, guardian thereof, and sibling of and who agree to be bound by the provisions of this constitution and comply with its bye laws.

Article 6. FEES FOR MEMBERSHIP

The fees and subscriptions to be paid for membership shall be determined by the Executive annually in advance of the Annual General Meeting and shall be reported to that meeting in the Treasurer's Report.

Article 7. GENERAL MEETINGS

7.1 The AGM shall be held between 1st and 30th May in each calendar year

7.2 Not less than two weeks' notice shall be given to members of the club of the date and venue of the meeting, of the agenda for the meeting, of any motions for consideration at the meeting, and of any valid nominations for membership of the Executive Committee.

7.3 Without prejudice to other forms of communication with members of the club, publication on the school's web site shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements of giving notice to members.

7.4 No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum is present; the quorum shall consist of 3 persons entitled to vote at General Meetings of the club.

7.5 The Chairman of the Executive Committee or in his/ her absence the Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee shall preside at General Meetings. If the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are not present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for the holding of the meeting or are unwilling to act the members (including the members of the Executive Committee) who are present shall elect one of their number to act as Chairman of the meeting.

7.6 Only fully paid members of the club are qualified to receive notice of, to attend, speak or vote at General Meetings of the club. However, members of the club who are under the age of fourteen years on the previous 1st of January, shall be entitled to attend but not to vote at General Meetings. Whether in the case of an AGM or an EGM, payment of membership fees before the notice of the meeting is issued, shall determine eligibility to vote. However, if an EGM is called within four months of an AGM, those who were eligible to vote at the AGM, will be considered eligible to vote at the EGM.

7.7 Any motion must be seconded at the General Meeting before it may be discussed. A Motion or Resolution may be moved or seconded by the Executive Committee in its own name. Nothing in this rule shall operate so as to prevent guests of the Executive Committee from attending any general meeting of the club and from addressing the meeting if so invited by the Chairman of the meeting. Motions shall not be accepted at any General Meeting of the club of which one clear week prior notice shall not have been given unless:

- a. They relate solely to the conduct of the meeting; or
- b. They relate to a matter which could not reasonably have been the subject of a written Motion with the appropriate notice; or
- c. In the opinion of the Chairman of the General Meeting they are of a minor nature.

7.8 All questions arising at general meetings of the club shall be decided by a majority of votes of the members present and voting. In the case of votes for the election of

members of the Executive Committee, voting shall be by written ballot. Votes on all other questions shall be cast by a show of hands, unless the presiding Chairman shall decide otherwise. In the event of a tied vote, (either in an election or on a motion), the presiding Chairman shall have an additional casting vote.

7.9 The annual general meeting shall be held to receive the reports of the Hon. Secretary, the Hon. Treasurer, and of other members of the Executive Committee having specified executive functions, to approve the audited accounts of the Union, to elect the Executive Committee for the ensuing year, to appoint an auditor, and for the transaction of any other business.

7.10 Accidental failure to advise any fully paid up individual member of the Union of any meeting shall not invalidate the holding of that meeting.

Article 8. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS

8.1 An Extraordinary General Meeting of the club shall be convened by the Hon. Secretary at the request of the Chairman or on the written requisition of not less than two-thirds fully paid individual members of the club. The requisition must state the objects of the meeting and must be signed by the requisitionist and may consist of several documents in like form each signed by one or more requisitionist.

8.2 An extraordinary General Meeting must be convened by the Hon. Secretary of the club within 60 days of the receipt by him or her of the request or requisition mentioned above. At least one clear weeks' notice of the date, time and venue of the meeting and of motions for consideration at that meeting shall be given.

8.3 The other rules of this Constitution applicable to general meetings shall also be applicable to Extraordinary General Meetings.

Article 9. MEMBERSHIP OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

9.1 No person shall be eligible to stand for election to membership of the Executive Committee unless that person:

- a. Is a fully paid up individual member of the club; and

- b. Subject to rule 9.3 below, has been proposed in writing by a fully paid up member (such proposal to reach the Hon. Secretary prior to the notice of the Annual General Meeting being sent out) for a specific position; and
- c. Is seconded at the Annual General Meeting by a fully paid up member of the club; and
- d. Subject to rule 7.3 gives at least 7 clear days' notice in writing to the Hon. Secretary of the club prior to the Annual General Meeting of his/her willingness to stand for election otherwise that person shall be deemed not to be qualified to stand.

9.2 The Executive Committee shall consist of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Officer, Game Development Officer, Junior Officer, Tournament Director.

9.3 At each Annual General Meeting of the club, one person shall be elected to each of the officer positions mentioned in Article 9.2. If the number of candidates qualified to stand for a position exceeds one, a ballot shall be held using the system of proportional representation (single transferable vote). In the event of a tie, the presiding Chairman shall have a casting vote.

9.4 If no candidates have been validly nominated for a particular position, the Chairman shall accept nominations from the floor. If more than one candidate is validly nominated, a secret ballot shall be held among these candidates and the candidate attracting the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected.

9.5 None of the successful candidates shall take up their positions until after the end of the meeting.

9.6 In the event that there are no candidates for an Officer position at the Annual General Meeting, after nominations have been sought from the floor, the incoming Executive will have the power to nominate a member of the club to carry out these duties. This power shall also apply in the event of casual vacancies arising over the course of a year.

9.7 If one officer holds more than one Executive Committee position, that officer shall have only one vote.

9.8 If an executive member misses 2 committee meetings during their term without apologies, they are deemed resigned.

Article 10. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

10.1 The affairs of the club shall be managed by the Executive Committee which may exercise all powers of the club which are not by these rules required to be exercised by

the club in general meeting subject to any directions being not inconsistent with this constitution as may be given by the club in general meetings; but no such direction given by the club in general meetings shall invalidate any prior act of the Executive Committee which would have been valid if that direction had not been given.

10.2 The Executive Committee shall have the power to make amend or repeal from time to time all such bye-laws regulations and standing orders consistent with this Constitution as it shall think expedient for the management and wellbeing of the club. It alone shall exercise the powers of the club to award internal chess competitions or other titles connected with Chess for the club.

10.3 The members of the Executive Committee may meet together for the dispatch of business, adjourn or otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit. Questions arising at any meeting shall be decided by majority vote of those present and voting. In the event of a tie the presiding Chairman shall have a second or casting vote. If the Committee so resolves, it shall not be necessary to give notice of a meeting of the Committee to any member of the Committee who being resident in Ireland is for the time being absent from Ireland.

10.4 No business shall be transacted at any meeting of the Executive Committee unless five members of the Committee are present, either in person or by other communication method, at the time when the meeting proceeds to business.

10.5 The Executive may appoint persons, who are not members of the executive, to carry out specific functions or responsibilities (e.g. Team Selection, Tournament Director, Arbitration, Membership of Disciplinary Committee), provided that any person appointed is a member of the club and shall at all times be answerable to the Executive. No person given a function in this way shall be deemed to be a holder of an office and the Committee may deprive that person of their functions or responsibilities, if it considers they are not being carried out in a satisfactory way.

10.6 The Executive may also appoint sub committees to carry out specific tasks or responsibilities. Sub Committees will normally be chaired by a Member of the Executive.

10.7 There shall be a junior subcommittee which shall have specific responsibility for promoting chess among those under 14 and for organising National Championships teams at various under age levels. This Committee will be chaired by the Junior Officer elected at the Annual General Meeting. It will have a wide level of independence in the organisation of its affairs and will have its own accounts. These accounts will be considered part of the club accounts and be subject to audit.

Article 11. THE PRESIDENT AND HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS

11.1 The Executive Committee shall have power to appoint a non-executive President of the club and one or more non-executive Honorary Vice-Presidents, who shall not necessarily be fully paid up members of the club. The functions and responsibilities of the President and of each of the Honorary Vice-Presidents shall be agreed from time to time between the Committee and the President, or the Committee and each Honorary Vice-President as the case may be, but the President and the Honorary Vice-Presidents shall have the right to attend and be heard at all general meetings of the club and shall have the right to address the Executive Committee. While it is intended that the President shall hold office for a term of three years from the date of his/her appointment the Committee shall have power at any time to declare the office vacant if a resolution to this effect is passed by a majority of two-thirds of the total voting membership of the Committee provided always that the requirements of natural justice shall be observed by the Committee.

11.2 The Executive Committee (and the Executive Committee alone) may recommend to an annual general meeting that a position of Honorary Officer or honorary membership of the club for life be bestowed on any person, whether such a person is a fully paid up member of the club or not.

Article 12. ACCOUNTS

Accounts of the Club shall be prepared in respect of each subscription year by the Hon. Treasurer. Copies of the accounts will be made available to members of the club least one week in advance of the AGM.

The accounts of the club shall be submitted to the schools Board of Management for approval and the B.O.M. will have the right and the authority to make any changes to the club's accounts as it sees fit.

Article 13. DISCIPLINE

The Executive Committee may discipline by means of a fine or any other suitable penalty and/or suspend from membership of the club any individual member or organisation who contravenes any of these rules or any of the bye-laws made by the Executive Committee or who in the opinion of the Executive Committee is guilty of unacceptable behaviour or has brought the club into disrepute. In exercising these and other functions, The Executive shall ensure that the requirements of natural justice are observed before exercising its powers. The Executive Committee shall be bound by any rules contained in Appendix A.

Article 14. NOTICES

Notices required to be given under the Constitution may be given in any of the following ways:

- a. By handing it to the intended recipient.
- b. By posting it to the postal address recorded in the club membership list.
- c. By delivering it by hand to the postal address recorded in the club membership list.
- d. By sending it through e-mail to the e-mail address recorded in the club membership list.
- e. By publishing it on the school's web-site.

Article 15. INDEMNITY

Every member of the Executive Committee and of any Sub-Committee established under 10.6 shall be indemnified by the club against all actions claims demands costs damages and expenses (other than traveling expenses) incurred by such member in carrying out the duties assigned to him/her unless these arose as a result of any omission or unauthorised act on the part of such member.

Article 16. ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION

16:1 This constitution shall only be amended at an Annual General Meeting of the club, or at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the club specifically called for that purpose. The text of any amendments must be included with the notice convening the meeting and a two-thirds majority of those present and entitled to vote at any general meeting shall be necessary before any amendment is carried.

16:2 The B.O.M. of Colaiste Eanna will have the right and the authority to alter any article of the club's constitution it sees fit with no recourse from club members. The

B.O.M. will also have the right to terminate the existence of club at any time it deems fit and without prodigious from any club member.