

Brackley Rugby Union Football Club
Fine Lady Fields, Nightingale Close, Brackley, Northants, NN13 6PN
Tel. 01280 700 685
www.brackleyrufc.co.uk

CLUB RULES

Adopted in June 1982 and subsequently amended on 21/10/82, 03/06/83, 02/04/84. 31/07/91, 11/06/93/ 06/06/96, 05/06/97, 04/06/98, 01/06/2000, 20/05/04 and 7/10/04.

1. NAME

The Club shall be called "BRACKLEY RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL CLUB."

2. AIM OF THE CLUB

The aim of the Club shall be:

- a. To play, develop and encourage Rugby Football
- b. To provide such social sporting and recreational facilities for its members as may be decided from time to time.

3. COLOURS

The Club colours shall be:

- a. Royal blue and white jerseys
- b. Dark blue shorts
- c. Blue and white hooped stockings

4. AFFILIATION

The club shall be affiliated to the Rugby Football Union , the East Midlands Rugby Union and the East Midlands Rugby Union Referees Society and shall be bound by their rules.

5. HEADQUARTERS

The Club shall have its headquarters at Fine Lady Fields, Nightingale Close, Brackley, Northamptonshire, NN13 6PN.

6. CONSTITUTION

The club shall consist of :

- a. Honorary Life Members
- b. Life Members
- c. President and Vice Presidents
- d. Playing Members
- e. Junior Playing Members (under the age of 18 years)
- f. Social Members

7. MEMBERSHIP

- a. The President shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.
- b. Honorary Life Members shall be elected from members who have given long and distinguished service to the club by a General Meeting, provided that there shall not be more than ten Honorary Life Members at any one time.
- c. Any ordinary member may at any time after payment of his first annual subscription compound by one payment for all his future subscriptions and shall thereupon become a life member and be entitled to all privileges of membership for life unless he shall cease to be a member as hereinafter determined. The compounding fee shall be determined from time to time by the General Committee.
- d. The General Committee shall have the power to approve suitable persons as Vice-Presidents.
- e. Playing and social members shall be elected at the discretion of the General Committee.
- f. Admission to membership
 - i. Any person seeking membership of the Club must be elected either by the Club in General Meeting or by a simple majority of the General Committee and the name and address of any persons proposed for election must, for not less than two days before the election, be prominently displayed in the Club premises in a part frequented by the members.
 - ii. No person may be admitted to membership, or be admitted, as candidates for membership, to any of the privileges of membership without an interval of at least two days between their nomination for membership and their admission.
 - iii. Those becoming members without prior nomination or application may not be admitted to the privileges of membership without an interval of at least two days between their becoming members and their admission.
 - iv. Membership of the Club is open to all and no application for membership will be refused on other than reasonable grounds.

8. OFFICERS

The officers of the club shall be as follows

- a. President
- b. Chairman
- c. Vice-Chairman
- d. Honorary Secretary
- e. Honorary Treasurer
- f. Membership Secretary
- g. Playing Manager
- h. Clubhouse Manager
- i. Commercial Manager
- j. Youth Section Coordinator

The above officers shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. All retiring officers shall be eligible for re-election.

9. MANAGEMENT

- a. The officers of the Club, called the General Committee, shall be vested with the management of the Club. Six members shall form a quorum. The General Committee shall have the power to appoint ad-hoc sub committees as it requires and shall have the power to fill any vacancies that occur until the next following Annual General Meeting.
- b. The Trustees of the Club, of whom there shall not be more than four, shall be elected by the General Committee and they shall hold office until death or resignation unless removed from office by resolution of the General Committee. The property of the Club (other than cash which shall be under the control of the Treasurer) shall be vested in them. They shall deal with the property of the Club as directed by resolution of the General Committee (of which an entry of the minute book shall be conclusive evidence) and they shall be indemnified against the risk and expense out of the Club property.

10. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- a. These shall fall due on the 1st September in each year and be paid by 1st October in each year and shall be as approved by the members of the Club at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting of the Club.
- b. Playing Members shall pay match fees in addition to their annual subscription. The amount of these fees will be decided by the General Committee.
- c. No Member shall be allowed the use of the Club premises if his current subscription and / or match fees be not paid as above and shall cease to be a member if not paid as above.

11. CONDUCT OF MEMBERS

Members shall at all times conduct themselves in a manner that can only add esteem to the Club.

12. CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Members shall cease to be members

- a. By non-payment of subscriptions as detailed in rule 10 (a) and 10 (b). Any member whose membership has ceased from this cause shall not again be nominated for membership until he previously pays all arrears due from him at time of his ceasing to be a member.
- b. By expulsion. The General Committee shall have the power, at any of its meetings, to reprimand, suspend or expel any member whose conduct is, or has been, in their opinion detrimental to the interests of the club.
 - i. No member shall be suspended or expelled without first being summoned before the General Committee to explain his conduct and be given an opportunity to advance a defence nor unless a majority of seventy-five percent of the General Committee then present (not being less than eight members present) shall vote for suspension or expulsion.
 - ii. Every member so summoned shall receive at least three clear days notice in writing from the Honorary Secretary and such notice shall contain a statement of the charge brought against him.
 - iii. A suspended member shall remain liable for his subscription during any period of suspension.

- c. By resignation. A Club member wishing to resign must send written notification to the Honorary Secretary. The member is liable for his subscriptions up to the date the resignation takes effect. Resignations cannot be backdated.

13. BALANCE SHEET AND ACCOUNTS

- a. The Club is to be run as a non profit making organisation and any surplus income is to be re-invested into the club as and where necessary.
- b. The Financial Year for the club shall commence on June 1st and shall end on 31st May annually and a balance sheet shall be prepared for presentation at a Financial General Meeting.
- c. An independent qualified accountant to be elected at the preceding Annual General Meeting shall prepare the accounts.
- d. The Honorary Treasurer shall keep such proper books of account as will enable him to present at every Financial General Meeting of the Club, or at any other time, if required (on reasonable notice to him) by the General Committee, an accurate report and statement concerning the finances of the Club including a statement with regard to the purchase and supply of tobacco and intoxicating liquor for the preceding year, or for the current year as the case may be and shall present such report and statement accordingly..

14. MEETINGS

- a. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in May or June in each year for which notice shall be given at least seven days prior to the meeting.
- b. A Financial General Meeting shall be held in August or September each year for which notice shall be given at least seven days prior to the meeting.
- c. A Special General Meeting may be called, either by the General Committee, or by the signed request of twelve votive members. There shall be at least fourteen clear days between the notification of members of the Agenda for that meeting and the date of its occurrence.
- d. Members defined in Rule 6 (a) to (d) may be permitted to vote.
- e. Fifteen votive members shall form a quorum, voting by proxy is not recognised.

15. GUEST PLAYERS

Guest players shall be allowed to play for the Club, providing that they are not to the exclusion of paid up members, or in contravention of the rules of any Union or Association to which the Club belongs.

16. VISITING CLUBS

The teams, officers and supporters of visiting Sports or Social Clubs and guest players shall be admitted as Honorary Members of the Club on the day of any sporting event organised or hosted by the Club, and on that day only, may at the discretion of the committee be allowed to enjoy the privileges of the Club.

17. OPENING OF THE CLUB PREMISES

The Clubhouse shall be opened and closed at such hours as the General Committee shall from time to time determine.

18. THE CLUB BAR AND SUPPLY OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR

- a. The purchase of intoxicating liquor for supply by the Club shall be in the absolute discretion of a sub-committee of not more than five members, being members of the General Committee, appointed by the General Committee for that purpose. Such committee shall periodically report their proceedings to the General Committee and shall conduct their business in accordance with the directions of the committee.
- b. No person shall be paid at the expense of the Club any commission, percentage or similar payments on or with reference to purchases of intoxicating liquor by the Club nor shall any person directly or indirectly derive any pecuniary benefits from the supply of intoxicating liquor by or on behalf of the Club to members or guests apart from any benefits accruing to the Club as a whole.
- c. No intoxicating liquor shall be supplied to members or any persons on the Club premises otherwise than by or on behalf of the Club.

19. PERMITTED HOURS

The permitted hours for consumption and supply of intoxicating liquor shall be:

- a. On days other than Christmas Day, the general licensing hours, that is:
 - i. Monday to Saturday 11am to 11pm
 - ii. Sundays and Good Friday 12noon to 10:30pm
- b. On Christmas Day from 12 noon to 3pm and 5pm to 8:20pm

and thereafter subject to the general licensing rules and regulations that may apply. The General Committee shall have the power at its discretion to curtail these hours as and when necessary.

20. LIST OF MEMBERS ADDRESSES

In the case of intoxicants being consumed in the club premises, the General Committee shall keep thereat a list of the names and addresses of the members.

21. VISITORS

- a. Members may introduce and entertain guests in the Club and there shall be kept at the Club premises a Visitors' book which both member and his guest shall sign. These conditions shall not apply to the introduction by any member of his or her partner, admission of whom shall be subject to such regulations as may from time to time be made by the General Committee.
 - i. The member introducing a guest may not leave the club premises before his guest.
 - ii. No person whose membership of the Club has been terminated or suspended under Rule 12 (a) or (b) or whose application for membership has been declined or who is in breach of Rule 10 (c) shall be introduced as a guest.

- iii. No guest shall be permitted to make any payment of any kind whatever, directly or indirectly.
- b. The sale of intoxicating liquor by the Club may be made to those persons who are not members of the Club (as defined in Rules 6 and 7) only in the following circumstances:
 - i. To members and supporters of visiting clubs as defined in Rule 16.
 - ii. To officials of affiliated organisations visiting the club (RFU, EMRU, EMRURS, referees appointed by any affiliated body.)
 - iii. To those persons attending a private function held by a member of the Club.
 - iv. To those persons attending a private function held by an outside Club, organisation or individual at the Clubhouse premises.

Providing that the number of private functions referred to in item (iv) shall not exceed twenty in any one calendar year and subject always to Rule 27.

22. ALTERATION TO RULES

- a. No alteration to these rules shall be made except at a General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting convened for that purpose.
 - i. Notice of any proposed alteration must be given in writing to the Honorary Secretary not less than fourteen days prior to the meeting.
 - ii. A quorum of 15 votive members is required.
 - iii. A majority comprising two thirds or more of the members present and entitled to vote at any General Meeting shall be required to pass any proposed alteration or amendment.

23. MINUTES

- a. Minutes of all meetings shall be recorded by the Honorary Secretary and signed by the Chairman at the next meeting.
- b. These minutes shall be open to perusal by any member at any reasonable time.

24. EXCLUSION OF LIABILITY

Neither the Club nor any Officer thereof shall be liable to any member or guest of a member for any loss or damage to any property occurring from whatever cause, in or about the Club premises, nor for any injury sustained by any member or guest whilst on or entering or leaving the Club premises or grounds. A notice to this effect shall at all times be displayed in a prominent position on the Club premises.

25. BORROWING POWERS

If at any time the Club in General Meeting shall pass a resolution authorising the General Committee to borrow money, the Committee shall thereupon be empowered to borrow for the purpose of the Club such amount of money either at one time or from time to time and at such a rate of interest and in such form and manner and upon such security as shall be specified in such resolution and thereupon the Trustees shall at the direction of the General Committee make such dispositions of the Club property or any part thereof and enter into such agreements in relation thereto as the General Committee may deem proper for giving security for such loans and interest. All members of the Club whether voting on such resolution or not and all persons becoming members of the Club after the passing of such resolution shall be deemed to have assented to the same as if they had voted in favour of such resolution.

26. DISPLAY OF RULES

A copy of these rules shall be affixed to the Club notice board in the Club House and all members shall be bound thereby.

27. AGE LIMITS

No person under the age of 18 years may be served with, or consume, alcoholic refreshment within the curtilage of the Club.

28. DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB

- a. If the General Committee by a simple majority decide at any time that on the grounds of expense or otherwise that it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the Club it shall call a meeting of all of the members of the Club and not less than 21 days notice shall be given.
- b. If such a dissolution shall be confirmed by simple majority of those present and voting at such meeting, the General Committee shall to the extent of any funds in their hands discharge any outstanding liabilities that have occurred and transfer any remaining assets and surplus funds towards charitable purposes and to such organisation or organisations as have aims similar to those of the Club in the Town of Brackley and as may be approved by the Minister of Education.

NOTE TO THE RULES

The use of the male possessive in these rules is for illustrative purposes only. The rules apply equally to both sexes.