

# Rules of Mortlake Anglian and Alpha Boat Club

## NAME

1. The name of the Club shall be Mortlake Anglian and Alpha Boat Club.

## COLOURS

2. The colours of the Club shall be Black, Red and White.

## OBJECTS

3. The objects of the Club shall be the practice and promotion of rowing and sculling in pursuit of which it shall be non-profit making. As such it requires any surplus income or gains to be reinvested in the Club and does not permit any distribution of Club assets in cash or in kind to members or third parties. This restriction shall not prevent donations by the Club to Charities or other sports clubs that are registered as Community Amateur Sports Clubs, nor prevent whole or part reimbursement to members of expenses incurred in pursuing the objects of the Club to such extent as the Committee considers appropriate.

## MEMBERSHIP

4. The membership of the Club shall comprise:

a. Life Members. Any person who the Club in general meeting may see fit to honour with a presentation of Life Membership. Also any person elected to Life Membership by the former Mortlake Anglian and Chiswick Boat Club or by the Alpha Women's Amateur Rowing Club.

b. Active Members. Members who have paid a current active subscription and are therefore entitled to the use of rowing and training facilities at the discretion of the Captain or Captain's delegate.

c. Junior Members. Members under the age of 18 on 1st January of the current calendar year who are accepted for membership upon payment of a reduced subscription as determined by the Committee. Conditions for membership shall otherwise be the same as for Active Members.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

5. The Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Life Members shall not be liable for an annual subscription except those Vice-Presidents who continue to row or scull shall pay the equivalent of the Active Members subscription. If a prospective member is under the age of 23 and in receipt of full time education (excluding normal vacation periods) on 1st January in the year in which they apply for membership they shall be entitled to a reduced subscription, as determined by the Committee. If a prospective member is over the age of 23 and in full time education on 1st January in the year in which they apply for membership the Committee may exercise its discretion to reduce their subscription. In addition the Committee may exercise its discretion to reduce the subscription for graduates, graduating in the year of their application for membership, from graduation through to the end of the following calendar year after joining the Club. (Rule 5 amended following a Special General Meeting held on 4th August 2019 with the effect of allowing the Committee discretion to reduce the subscription rate for graduates applying to join the club in the year of their graduation, through to the end of the following calendar year). All such reductions shall be reviewed annually. All other members shall pay annually such subscriptions as are determined for the following year at the Annual General Meeting.

6. (i) Subscription fees shall be payable on election to membership and on 1<sup>st</sup> January in each subsequent year.

(ii) Where an applicant is accepted for membership after 1st February, the first year's subscription fees will be reduced in accordance with the rate displayed on the MAABC website. The start date to be used when calculating those fees will be the first full month of temporary membership.

(iii) The full subscription fee is payable on each renewal of membership.

(iv) Subject to Rule 6 (v) below, any member who ceases to row for any reason for any part (or parts) of the subscription year will not be eligible for a reduction or refund.

(v) Any member whose membership has lapsed through non-renewal but who applies to renew their membership before the end of July of the calendar year in which it has lapsed shall be liable to pay a full year's subscription fee for that calendar year.

7. Any member whose subscription has not been paid within 2 months of the due date shall be deemed to have resigned membership unless the Committee determines otherwise.

### **ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP**

8. Every applicant for membership shall apply in the form of application prescribed by the Committee. Every applicant for rowing membership shall also declare whether they have the ability to swim at least 100 metres. An applicant for election shall be elected to membership provided not more than two members of the Committee present when the application is considered, vote against, and in which case the applicant may appeal, and only provided that two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting called for the purpose, concur with refusing the application, and on non-discriminatory grounds, may that refusal of the application be sanctioned. The applicant shall be sent notice of the meeting by Recorded Delivery and shall be entitled to address the meeting. (Rule 8 amended following a Special General Meeting held on 13th February 2016 with the effect of removing the need for applicants for membership to be proposed and seconded by existing club members, and to introduce a form of appeal in the event of rejection of the application at committee level).

In these Rules, and in particular, in Rules 8,12, 15, 22, 32 and 34, the word "present" shall include members present online as well as members present in person. (Agreed at SGM held on 6th August 2023).

### **COPIES OF THESE RULES**

9. The Secretary shall supply a copy of these Rules and any amendments thereto to any member on demand or as soon as possible thereafter.

### **SUSPENSION OF MEMBERSHIP**

10. If in the opinion of the Committee the interests of the Club so require a member may be suspended from membership for up to 60 days after being afforded an opportunity of addressing the Committee at such time as it determines.

### **TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

11. Membership may cease as provided in Rule 7 and Rule 12 or upon the member giving the Secretary written notice of resignation. A member shall not be entitled to any refund of subscription already paid.

12. A member shall be expelled from the Club if two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting called for the purpose so decide. The member shall be sent notice of the meeting by Recorded Delivery and shall be entitled to address the meeting.

### **OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE**

13. The officers of the Club shall consist of one or two Presidents; a Captain; not more than three Vice-Captains; a Secretary; a Treasurer; an Assistant Treasurer. All Vice-Presidents shall be entitled to serve on the Committee provided that those wishing to do so shall inform the Secretary accordingly in writing within one month of their election or re-election. In 2015 a SGM agreed to abolish the office of Assistant Secretary entirely and reduce the number of Assistant Treasurers from two to one.

14. The Committee shall consist of the officers of the Club and four separately elected members, one of whom will have particular responsibility for Building and Premises issues and another to have responsibility for Bar and Events Management. The Committee shall meet as often as it deems necessary and take whatever decisions it considers appropriate for the good management of the Club. Five members shall form a quorum. On an equality of voting the member occupying the Chair shall have a second or casting vote.

15. Any officer or elected Committee member may be removed from office by a resolution passed by two-thirds of the members present at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose which may then proceed to fill the resultant vacancy.

16. The Committee shall have the power to fill any vacant office until the next Annual General Meeting.

### **TRUSTEES**

17. i. The Trustees must be appointed by the Committee, to hold office until death or resignation unless removed from office by a resolution of the Committee.

ii. The number of Trustees must be not more than four nor fewer than two.

iii. The property of the Club must be vested in the Trustees except for cash which must be under the control of the Treasurer.

iv. The Trustees must deal with the property of the Club as directed by resolution of the Committee and an entry in the Minute Books is conclusive evidence of a resolution.

v. The trustees may be indemnified against risk and expense out of the Club property.

### **BORROWING POWERS**

18. If at any time the Club in General Meeting passes a resolution authorising the Committee to borrow money:

(i) the Committee may borrow for the purposes of the Club the amount of money (either at one time or from time to time) and at the rate of interest, in the form and manner and upon the security specified in the resolution; and

(ii) the Trustees must at the direction of the Committee make any disposition of the Club property or any part of it and enter into any agreement in relation to the Club property as the Committee thinks proper to give security for the loan and interest.

(iii) every member of the Club, whether he or she votes on a resolution authorising borrowing or not, and every one becoming a member of the Club after the passing of such a resolution, is deemed to have assented to the resolution as if he or she had voted in favour of it.

19. Where the Committee recognises a need to raise a capital sum for a particular purpose it shall have the power to waive or vary the subscription due from any member, over such a period as it considers necessary, always provided that it is satisfied that such arrangement is in the financial interest of the Club.

### **GENERAL MEETINGS**

20. A General Meeting shall be held in July or August of each year at which the Captain and Vice Captains shall be elected - to take office following a General Meeting which shall be held in October or November of each year at which all other officers and Committee members and one or more scrutineers shall be elected. (A SGM held in 2015 agreed to change the time of the Captaincy election to July or August each year, with the incumbent Captaincy to remain in office until the AGM in October or November, when the new Captaincy will come into office). An income and expenditure account and balance sheet made up to the preceding 31st December shall be presented and subscription rates for the following year decided. The agenda may include other business of which the Secretary has received due notice, the Secretary shall include such matters in the notice calling the meeting. The Secretary shall cause a notice of any General Meeting to be displayed on the Club notice board at least 21 days before the meeting specifying the business to be conducted.

21. General Meetings shall be chaired by one of the Presidents or, in their absence, the longest serving Vice-President or officer. The member occupying the Chair shall have a second or casting vote in the event of an equality of votes. Nine members shall constitute a quorum.

22. A list of all members proposed for election as officers and members of the Committee shall be posted in the Clubhouse at least six days before the Annual General Meeting. The list shall state the office for which they are proposed, the names of the Proposers and Seconders and the signatures of the nominees signifying their willingness to stand for election. Nominees for President or Vice-President shall not be required to sign the list but the Secretary shall be satisfied of their willingness to be elected. Subject to the consent of two-thirds of the members present it shall be open to a meeting to accept a nomination made at the meeting. Only full members are entitled to vote on the election of Committee members and other officers of the Club.

23. The Secretary shall convene a Special General Meeting at any time when directed by the Committee or within 21 days of receiving a request signed by at least ten members of the Club.

### **DUTIES OF MEMBERS**

24. Unless otherwise stated in these Rules the duties of officers shall be those assigned to them by the Committee.

25. The Captain shall have power to decide all matters appertaining to the use of rowing equipment, training, the selection of crews and regatta entries. No Club boats may be used without the permission of the Captain or other person authorised by the Captain to act instead.

26. The Secretary shall maintain a register of members which shall be available for inspection at the Clubhouse.

27. Other than provided in Rule 28 the Treasurer shall receive all monies due to the Club and make such payments on its behalf as may be authorised by the Committee.

28. The Committee may appoint a Bar Sub-Committee and delegate thereto such functions and responsibilities as is considered appropriate for the day-to-day running of the Bar. The Bar Sub-Committee shall appoint, from its number, a Chairman who shall report to the Committee, as it requires.

#### **DUTIES OF ACCOUNTS SCRUTINEERS**

29. One or two Account Scrutineers shall be appointed at a general meeting or, failing which, by the Committee, to examine the Club's financial records annually and report to members the result of such examination.

#### **DAMAGE TO PROPERTY**

30. Any damage to or loss of Club property or damage to any other property as a result of which the Club might be involved shall immediately be reported in writing to the Secretary, Captain or Water Safety Adviser. The Committee shall decide what proportion of the costs, if any, shall be borne by the member or members responsible who shall, failing payment of such costs, be liable to suspension by the Committee.

#### **LOSS OR INJURY**

31. All members and any other person using the Club premises or equipment do so at their own risk and no liability attaches to the Club for loss or injury sustained.

#### **ALTERATION OF RULES**

32. No rule may be made, altered or rescinded except at a special general meeting called for that purpose of which 21 days notice has been given and at which not less than three quarters of those present and voting support each rule change.

#### **LIEN**

33. The Committee shall have a lien upon all or any private boats or other property of any member for any money due to the Club from such member and shall have the right to enforce such lien by sale or otherwise.

#### **WINDING UP**

34. The Club may be wound up by a Special General Meeting at which three quarters of the members' present and voting pass a resolution to that effect and also at a further General Meeting called within 28 days of the first and confirm the resolution by a like majority.

The resolutions shall specify that:

- a. the Committee will be responsible for the orderly winding up of the Club's affairs, and
- b. after all liabilities have been met the Committee shall dispose of the remaining assets to one of the following:-
  - i. to another Club with similar sports purposes which is a registered charity, or

- ii. to another Club with similar purposes which is registered as a Community Amateur Sports Club, or
- iii. to the Club's national governing body for use by it for related community sports.

**REFRESHMENT BAR**

35. The overall management of the Refreshment Bar shall be vested in the Committee of the Club (as defined in Rule 28).

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY**

36. The Club will ensure that the talents and resources of all members are utilised to the full and that no member receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of gender, disability, marital status, creed, social class, ethnicity, age or sexual orientation or is disadvantaged by conditions or requirements which cannot be shown to be relevant to performance.

**CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES**

37. The Club accepts the policy and procedures relating the Child Protection as set out by British Rowing, and requires all members to accept them as a condition of membership.

**SAFETY**

38. The Committee shall appoint a member to act as Safety Advisor whose duty it will be to understand the requirements of the British Rowing Code of Practice for Water Safety and advise on their prominent display, their observation and their implementation at all times.

**DECLARATION**

39. Each member upon joining shall sign the following declaration:

Name .....

Upon acceptance into membership of the Mortlake Anglian and Alpha Boat Club I understand that rowing is undertaken at my own risk, I confirm that I do not suffer from any disability or medical condition which may render me unfit for strenuous exercise\*

I also confirm that I am able to swim a minimum of 100 metres.

Signed.....

Parent/Guardian (if under 18).....

\* Should a medical condition exist, this will not necessarily preclude you from membership/participation, but it must be declared. Should you be in any doubt, advice should be sought from your family doctor.

**BYELAWS**

40. The Committee may from time to time alter or rescind the following byelaws regulating the use of the Club house, Club refreshment bar and Club property provided that such bye-laws are not inconsistent with these rules or the provisions of the Licensing Act 1964 or any amendments thereof.

**BYE-LAWS**

**SWIMMING ABILITY**

40 (a) Members who are unable to swim shall be debarred from using any boat in the Club except whilst wearing a life jacket.

#### **VISITORS**

40 (b) Any Member introducing a Visitor into the Club shall be responsible for any damage or expenses incurred by the Visitor. No Member shall introduce into the Club a person who has been black balled or expelled from the Club.

#### **CLUB OPENING HOURS**

40 (c) The Committee shall determine the opening hours of the Club from time to time. Members shall be entitled to use the Club and its facilities between the hours of 06:00 – 23:00 Monday to Sunday inclusive. Members requiring use of the Club and its facilities outside these hours must have the prior permission of the Committee.

#### **REFRESHMENT BAR**

40 (d) The permitted hours for the supply of intoxicants shall be such as may be determined from time to time by the Committee in accordance with the provisions of the Licensing Act 1964 or any amendment thereto and as notified to the Magistrates' Clerk.

**Last revised: 2023**