

## **GLASGOW NETBALL ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION**

AGM May 2012, amended 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2022,  
2023, 2024

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### **1. Name**

The Association shall be known as the "Glasgow Netball Association" and shall abide by the rules imposed by our governing body, Netball Scotland and those of the International Federation of

## 2. Objectives

The Association is established, maintained and managed for the purpose of promoting, organising and developing the game of netball in Glasgow and in particular:

- a) To extend and improve the opportunity for participation in the game of netball and to work for improved facilities in Glasgow. To publish and provide information on all matters connected with the game of netball in Glasgow and beyond.
- b) To encourage and improve general and technical training and make awards for special skills in the game of netball.
- c) To arrange, manage and participate in local, national, and international matches, tournaments, competitions, displays and exhibitions of the game of netball.
- d) To formulate, maintain and enforce national and international standards, discipline, byelaws, rules, and regulations of the game of netball.
- e) To arrange with any person, company, undertaking or organisation for the provision of services for Members of the Association in respect of insurances, financial services, travel facilities, or the purchase of goods, equipment, or appliances, and to do so in such a manner as to comply with the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998.
- f) To further the public appreciation and support of the game of netball.
- g) To publish or distribute books, journals and promotional materials relating to the affairs of the Association, and for promoting and furthering the interests and efficiency of Netball Coaches and Umpires and others, or the sport of Netball generally.
- h) To advise and co-operate with departments of government, public and local authorities and other interested bodies in all matters connected with the game of Netball.



## 3. Powers

For the foregoing purposes the Association is empowered:

- a) To raise funds on such terms and securities not inconsistent with its purposes as it may deem appropriate including, without prejudice to the generality, public appeals, applications for grants, donations or contributions from public or private authorities or agencies, institutions or individuals and, by borrowing on the security of the Associations property or otherwise.
- b) To invest, realise, retain, manage and expend the Associations funds and in particular, but without prejudice to the generality, at its uncontrolled discretion to invest its funds in the purchase or lease of heritable property or upon heritable property or in or upon any securities, investments and others, to sell, lease or otherwise dispose of any part or parts thereof, heritable or moveable or borrow on the security thereof, heritable or moveable and for those purposes to grant and enter into all such deeds as may appear to the Association requisite or desirable.
- c) To make donations to anybody or bodies existing of the promotion of similar purposes to those for which the Association is established or to any charitable organization.
- d) To undertake and execute charitable trusts.
- e) To enter into agreements with persons, firms, agents, institutions, societies and companies and public, local and international authorities whose services are necessary or desirable for the carrying out of the purposes of the Association and to employ professional or technical advisers or workers and to pay them reasonable and proper remuneration.
- f) To engage and pay any person or persons whether on a full-time or part-time basis or as consultant or as employee to supervise, organise and carry on the work of or advise the Association.
- g) To take whatever steps, including testing, are deemed appropriate to prevent the abuse of drugs as a means of enhancing performance and to take disciplinary action against offenders,
- h) To do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the purposes of the Association.

- i) To exercise an absolute and uncontrolled discretion in implementing the purposes of the Association.

#### **4. Membership**

Membership of the Association shall be open to:

a. Full Membership of the Association shall be open to any senior netball club, the senior netball section of any association, a university, a college off further education, any other established organisation interested in furthering the purposes of the Association from within the Glasgow City Boundary, all the foregoing being known as full club members. Teams from within the Glasgow City boundary will qualify for full membership and voting rights, at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Any decision to offer full voting rights to new teams will be confirmed at the Association AGM.

b. Associate Membership of the Association is open to:

Any senior netball club, the senior netball section of any association, university, college off further education, or any other established organisation interested in furthering the purposes of the Association, from out with the Glasgow City Boundary. Associate members and Ordinary members shall not be entitled to vote at General Meetings of the Association but are entitled to one vote per team at Association League Meetings.

c. Ordinary Membership of the Association is open to:

- a) Junior Netball Clubs, the netball section of youth associations, a school or other organisation from within and out with the Glasgow City Boundary.
- b) Any individual person (known as 'ordinary members') but not a person who is a member of a netball club or section which is admitted to membership under 4a. or 4b. above, or which operates under the direction of a corporate member under 4a. or 4b. above. Ordinary members do not have voting rights at General Meetings or League Meetings.



Subject to any directions which may be given to the Association in General Meeting, the Executive Committee, or any sub-committee thereof set up specifically for such a purpose, shall have an uncontrolled discretion in determining whether or not to admit an applicant as a member of the Association. Members may be admitted at any time in accordance with procedure to be determined by the Executive Committee. GNA byelaws made by the Executive Committee may prescribe further categories of membership with differing rights, privileges, and responsibilities. In particular, said byelaws may establish categories of 'associate members' and 'registered individual members' of the Association who may not be entitled to attend or vote at the General Meetings of the Association. Said byelaws shall prescribe the procedure for the appointment by club members of accredited representatives.

Should a team from within the Glasgow City boundary wish to join the Association they will be given priority over any non-Glasgow team, should there be no space available for a new Glasgow team, the lowest ranking non-Glasgow team of the new associate members will lose their place to the Glasgow team. Teams from within the Glasgow City boundary will qualify for full membership and voting rights, at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Any decision to offer full voting rights to new teams will be confirmed at the Association AGM. Changes to this bye law can only be voted on by existing Glasgow clubs.

From June 2017 new member teams from outside the Glasgow City boundary may apply to become associate members of the Association. Their application will be considered by the Executive Committee and any decision confirmed at the AGM. The new associate teams will have no voting rights at any General Meetings of the Association. (Byelaw 2.5)

All members (including persons who belong to or who are members of a club) shall comply with the constitution and the byelaws, rules and regulations of the Association and in playing the game, with the rule of the game as prescribed by the International Federation of Netball Associations.

Anyone involved in any official capacity with any GNA event or committee must be registered with Netball Scotland. In addition, Junior and Senior Clubs will pay a registration fee to the GNA. Amount

to be decided at the AGM.

All Junior and Senior individual members must be affiliated to Netball Scotland.

A member may only enjoy the privileges of membership if the appropriate current year's affiliation fee, registration fee, subscription, or levy as aforesaid has been paid. In the event of non-payment by a club of its affiliation fee by 30th May in any year a reminder notice will be sent by the Treasurer. Any member who fails to pay an affiliation fee, by 30th August of that year shall cease to be a member of the Association.

Junior and Senior clubs will pay a registration fee. The amount to be decided at the AGM. All clubs with Junior members must have a child protection policy, a child protection officer, a club signatory, social media policy, data protection policy and disclosure for coaches responsible for coaching these junior members.

## **5. Clubs, Schools, and Districts**

Clubs or schools in membership of the GNA are located within the Glasgow City Council district. Similarly, district squads should be located inside the Glasgow District. If there is no functioning District out with Glasgow, a club or school or district player may apply for membership to the GNA.

## **6. General Meetings**

An Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held before the Netball Scotland AGM on such date and at such time and place as the Executive committee shall determine. The GNA affiliated clubs must hold their AGM 28 days prior to the GNA.

The AGM is open to all affiliated members of the GNA who may participate in discussion of the business to hand. The quorum at the AGM should be no less than 10.

Clubs with Full Membership will be allocated one vote per team and all decisions reached by the Association (other than resolutions to alter this constitution) shall be determined by a simple majority of members present.



The AGM agenda shall include:

- a) Notices of motions to alter GNA Constitution submitted by the Executive provided they are submitted in writing at least 21 days prior to any General Meeting.
- b) Notices of motions to alter GNA Constitution in the name of a full member of the Association and signed by them or on their behalf provided they are submitted in writing at least 21 days prior to any General Meeting.
- c) Notices of motions to alter GNA byelaws submitted by the Executive provided they are submitted in writing at least 21 days prior to any General Meeting.
- d) Notices of motions to alter GNA byelaws in the name of Association and signed by Full or Associate members and signed by them or on their behalf provided they are submitted in writing at least 21 days prior to any General Meeting.
- e) An overview of the season by the office bearers
- f) Election of new office bearers.

All proposals to alter the terms of the byelaws must be proposed and seconded. Any alterations to the byelaws will come into effect the following season if accepted at the AGM.

All nominees for elected positions must be proposed and seconded and must be asked prior to being nominated. The GNA Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt up to a maximum of four affiliated members as deemed necessary. The new office bearers and committee members elected at the AGM will take office following the AGM.

Proposals to change the League rules can be made by the League committee and/ or any Full or Associate member at the League Meeting each year and if passed will be implemented the following season. An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association may be called at any time by direction of the Executive Committee. In addition, an EGM will be called four weeks after receipt of a request in writing signed by or on behalf of at least fifteen Full members of the Association to the GNA secretary. Any person who belongs to a Full Member Club of the Association may attend and speak at a General Meeting and are entitled to vote thereat.

The Chairperson of the Association, who failing another member of the Board of the Association elected by the General Meeting concerned shall preside at General Meetings of the Association and shall have a casting as well as a deliberative vote.

The Association in General Meeting may adjourn the meeting to a later date, place and time and no further notice to members of the Association shall be necessary in respect of such adjourned meeting provided that the date is not more than 21 days after the date of the original meeting. If within half an hour from the time appointed for the holding of a General Meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting shall be dissolved. It shall stand adjourned until a time and place, to be fixed by the Board, is arranged. If at such an adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for holding the meeting, the members present, and entitled to vote shall be a quorum. If clubs are not represented at the AGM or at any EGM called by the Board, the Board shall impose a £100 fine per team unless there are exceptional circumstances (to be decided by the Board). Any such decision will, of course, be open to appeal under Article 14 hereof.

## **7. The Executive Committee**

The management of the affairs of the Association shall be conducted by the Executive Committee who are elected officer bearers comprising:

- Chairperson
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- League Coordinator
- Squad Coordinator
- Junior Club Coordinator
- Technical Umpiring Coordinator

No more than 3 of these office bearers may be from clubs out with Glasgow. Also invited to attend for guidance and information shall be the Netball Development Officer.

The Executive Committee shall stay in office for a minimum of 3 years and will demit office after this



time but shall be eligible for re-election. The Executive committee shall meet for the dispatch of business as and when it may determine. Any such meeting shall require a minimum of seven days' notice, where possible. The Executive committee may appoint other nonvoting officers and officials to assist in the management of the Association and its affairs.

## **8. Powers of Delegation: Management Committee**

The GNA Executive Committee may delegate, as appropriate, any of its powers to a Sub-Committee as per the GNA bylaws. Each Sub-Committee will be responsible for providing written reports and updates to the Executive Committee and attending meetings approximately every other month during the competitive season. The full Committee will be called the Management Committee and should convene at least three times a year. Management sub committees shall be elected at the AGM and shall stay in office for a minimum of 2 years and will demit office after this time period but shall be eligible for re-election.

All sub-committees comprising the Management Committee are responsible to the GNA Executive Committee and changes in their structure or remit are the responsibility of the GNA Executive Committee. The clubs within Glasgow Netball Association shall take on a shared responsibility for the running of the Glasgow Netball Association.

All decisions reached by the Management Committee shall be determined by a simple majority of members present personally and voting with the Chairperson having a casting vote as well as a deliberative vote. Three voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum. The Management Committee shall delegate authority to the Chairperson and one other member of the Management

Committee to deal with matters deemed to be of an emergency or urgent nature.

## **9. GNA Byelaws**

Subject to the constitution, the Executive Committee may make byelaws, rules or regulations for the general conduct of the affairs of the Glasgow Netball Association. Any byelaws, rules or regulations so made may come into force at once but shall be laid by the Executive Committee before the next ensuing General Meeting of the Association for approval.

## **10. Accounts**

The Executive Committee shall keep proper accounts of the funds of the Association and shall cause to be prepared annual accounts comprising of a revenue and expenditure account and a balance sheet as at end of June in each year, which annual accounts shall be audited by a Chartered Accountant and distributed with a report at the Annual General Meeting.

## **11. Funds**

The income and property of the Association whence so ever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the purposes of the association and no portion thereof shall be transferred directly or indirectly to any member of the Association apart from out of pocket expenses incurred in the performance of duties as a member of the Association, its Executive or Management Committee thereof, provided that nothing herein shall prevent the payment of proper and reasonable remuneration and expenses to members of the Association and its servants for services actually rendered.

## **12. Doping Control**

All athletes have the right to compete in sport knowing that they, and their competitors, are clean. The use of performance-enhancing drugs and other doping behavior severely damages the legitimacy of sport and undermines the integrity of clean athletes. Netball Scotland has in place a set of Anti doping rules that all athletes, coaches, and athlete support personnel must abide by. The anti doping rules for Netball Scotland are consistent with the World Anti-Doping Code (2015), which governs Anti-doping internationally. Anti-doping rules, regardless of what level you participate at, apply to all members of Netball Scotland, thus these rules apply to all members of Glasgow Netball Association.



## **13. Discipline**

The Executive shall have the power to enforce discipline on or amongst its members and individual persons belonging to or being members of club or individual members by imposing penalties for any breach of the bye-laws, rules or regulations of the Association or the International Federation of Netball Associations or for any conduct deemed by the Executive to be detrimental to the interests, welfare or the good name of the Association or of the game of netball.

Any such allegation shall be investigated by the Executive who shall allow the member, or the individual person concerned a reasonable opportunity to appear before it and/ or make written representations to answer the allegations.

Reports from other individuals, including match officials, the complainant or relevant witnesses may also be sought. To protect the integrity of this process these reports are considered to be confidential and are not shared between parties involved in the investigation. Any Subject Access Request or other request for information will be considered by the Executive Committee, and a decision made taking into account all relevant information. A response will then be sent to the request. Confidentiality of witness statements will be given greater regard in these situations.

- a) Caution or censure the member of individual member concerned.
- b) Suspend the offender from membership of the Association or participation in the affairs or activities of the Association including any game of netball promoted by the Association or any of its members for a specified limited period.
- c) Expel the offender from membership of the Association and prohibit the offender s participation in any of the affairs or activities of the Association including any game of netball promoted by the Association or any of its members.

The imposition of any penalty imposed by the Board shall be notified in writing to the member individual person and any such club or corporate member concerned forthwith.

A club or individual member shall comply forthwith with any direction given to it by the Board for the purpose of enforcing any penalty imposed as aforesaid.

#### **14. Appeals**

Any member or individual person upon whom a penalty has been imposed in terms of the foregoing clause shall be entitled to appeal within one month of the notification of such imposition to an Appeal Committee of five members of the Association, who shall be appointed by the Executive as and when required. An Appeals Committee of a minimum of 7 and a maximum of 10 should be nominated each year at the AGM. Notice of appeal shall be sent in writing within the time limit prescribed to the GNA secretary. 5 members of the Appeals Committee GNA shall be contacted by the GNA secretary to hear an appeal within a month thereafter with due regard to the principles of natural justice. The members of the Appeal Committee hearing the appeal shall not include any individual or any Executive Board member who participated in the original hearing or has any association with the club(s) concerned.

The decision of the Appeal Committee shall be final and binding on the Association, its Executive and the member or individual person concerned. Unless otherwise directed by the Executive, any penalty imposed by the Executive shall remain in operation pending any decision of the Appeal Committee. The provisions of this and the preceding clause shall not apply to any offence involving a breach of the rules of the game of netball in the ordinary course of play which might or does attract a penalty imposed by an umpire in terms of those rules unless the offence amounts to a gross misconduct and is the subject of a complaint to the Executive.

#### **15. Winding Up**

In the event of its being necessary or expedient to wind up the Association, the Executive shall have full power in its uncontrolled discretion to realise its assets in any manner it may deem expedient and to take all necessary steps to pay or settle any liabilities there may be. Any assets remaining after meeting all debts, liabilities and expenses shall be made over to anybody or bodies existing for the promotion of similar objects to those of the Association or generally of sport.

The Association in General Meeting may appoint a Patron of the Association who shall hold office until otherwise determined by the Association in General Meeting. The Association in General Meeting may on the recommendation of the Executive, confer honorary membership of the Association upon any person who has given special service to the Association.



#### **16. Alteration of the Constitution**

Except as otherwise herein before provided, alterations to the terms of this constitution may be made by resolution passed by a two thirds majority of members present and voting at a General Meeting of the Association provided due notice of the intention to move such a resolution has been given.