

# SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ATHLETIC CLUB

Affiliated to:  
UK Athletics (UKA)  
England Athletics  
Essex County AA

FOUNDED 1905

## THE CONSTITUTION

1. **NAME**  
This shall be the SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ATHLETIC CLUB (referred to hereinafter as “the Club”).
2. **OBJECT**  
The object of the Club shall be to provide facilities for, and promote participation of, the whole community in the sport of Athletics”.
3. **MEMBERSHIP**
  - (A) The Club shall consist of amateurs according to the UKA definition of an amateur: “An amateur is a person who abides by the eligibility rules of the Federation” and is at least 10 years of age.
  - (B) Membership of the Club shall be open to all persons irrespective of ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or beliefs, or of age, sex or disability except as a necessary consequence of the requirements of Athletics as a particular sport.
  - (C) Application for membership shall be made in writing to the Hon. Secretary and approved by a majority of the Management Committee.
  - (D) To resign, a member must inform the Hon. Secretary in writing.
  - (E)
    - (i) By a majority decision of the Management Committee
      - (a) any member found guilty of misconduct regarding any matter relating to the Club may be asked to resign and/or membership suspended;
      - (b) a subsequent act of misconduct (related or unrelated to previous incidents) may result in suspension or expulsion from membership.
    - (ii) The Club may refuse membership or expel from membership only for good and sufficient cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or sport into disrepute. Appeal against such a decision may be made to the Club's members and decided by a majority vote.
  - (F) The Management Committee has the power to:
    - (i)
      - (a) suspend any member whose membership is six months in arrears;
      - (b) expel any member whose membership is twelve months in arrears provided that a month's notice in writing shall have been sent to such member by a recorded delivery letter, addressed to his/her last-known address, informing him/her of the proposed action of the Management Committee.
    - (ii) send the name and address of any person so expelled to the Hon. Secretary of the South of England Athletic Association who shall enter the name in a book to be called "The Suspension Book" kept for that purpose. The suspended person may not compete under UKA Rules until the liability, which shall not exceed one year's membership subscription, has been discharged.
  - (G)
    - (i) Life Membership may be passed and conferred only at an Annual General Meeting of the Club. Recommendations shall first be submitted to and approved by the Management Committee of the Club. Only two members may be elected in any one year.
      - (ii) Honorary Membership: at the discretion of the Management Committee Honorary Membership may be granted to any fully paid up Full or Second Claim member of the Athletic Club who is selected to represent Great Britain at the Olympic Games. Honorary Membership shall continue throughout the active athletic career of the athlete whilst a member of Southend-on-Sea AC.
  - (H) Family Membership shall refer to a family group comprising parent(s) and any of their children between the ages of 10 and 20 years.
  - (I)
    - (i) Second claim members shall not be allowed to represent or compete in or for the Club in any athletic competition under UKA Rules, except
      - (a) in fun events within the Club;
      - (b) where their event is not an event catered for by their first-claim Club;
      - (c) where the organisers have stipulated that such competition is open also to second claim members.
    - (ii) Second claim members shall not be entitled to vote at any General Meeting of the Club, though they may attend.
    - (iii) Athletes not eligible to compete for the Club as first claim members, must join as second claim members if they wish to use the training facilities of the Club.
  - (J) Social members:
    - (i) shall not be allowed to use the changing or training facilities of the Club;
    - (ii) shall not be allowed to represent or compete in or for the Club in any athletic competition under UKA Rules, except in fun events within the Club;
    - (iii) shall not be entitled to vote at any General Meeting of the Club, though they may attend;
  - (K) No prize or medal shall be given to a member unless that member is a fully paid-up member either:
    - (i) at least twenty-eight days prior to the competition, or the selection for, or voting for entry to that competition; or
    - (ii) at least twenty-eight days prior to the competition, or the selection for, or voting for entry to that competition, whichever is the earlier, except where the Management Committee has given special dispensation.
4. **SUBSCRIPTIONS**
  - (A) Subscriptions are due and payable to Southend-on-Sea Athletic Club on the First of April each year.
  - (B) Each member shall pay a subscription decided at the Annual, or other, General Meeting.
  - (C) Subscriptions must be paid for the current year before the member can compete for the Club except where the Club choose to waive this rule.
  - (D)
    - (i) Full members of 60 years of age or over shall pay a reduced rate of subscription;
    - (ii) Full members who are UKA-qualified technical officials or coaches shall pay a reduced rate of subscription of £10. This rate shall apply only to active Technical Officials and active Coaches.
5. **CLUB INCOME AND CLUB PROPERTY**

The Income and Property of the Club shall be applied solely towards promoting the

Club's objects as set forth in this Constitution and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, to the Members of the Club.

## 6. MANAGEMENT

- (A) Management Committee shall consist of Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Club Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Vice chairman, Assistant Secretary, Men's Secretary, Women's Secretary, Under 17s' Secretary, Cross Country Secretary, Road Running Secretary, Walking Secretary, Track Secretary, Schools' Secretary, Press Secretary, Social Secretary and Coaching Secretary, who will be elected at the AGM.
- (B) An Honorary President may also be elected at the AGM.
- (C) Honorary Vice Presidents may also be elected at the AGM.
- (D) A quorum for the Management Committee shall be 6, and must include at least one of the Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Assistant Secretary or Treasurer.
- (E) All decisions will be by a majority vote, one vote per person, except the Chairman of the meeting, who will have only a casting vote in the event of a tie.
- (F) The Management Committee has the power to co-opt extra members up to a limit of three; to create trustees, and to form a sub-committee as and when considered necessary.
- (F) In the event of a non-quorate situation that either (a) the Executive Officers, ie Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, or (b) any two of the Executive Officers (Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer) and one other member of the Management Committee be empowered to take decision on matters of urgency, at any time.

## 7. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- (A) The Club's financial year ends of 31<sup>st</sup> December, the Annual General Meeting will be held in March and the following business undertaken:
  - (i) the report will be read and discussed;
  - (ii) the audited accounts will be presented and discussed;
  - (iii) to elect all the officers of the Club;
  - (iii) Any office that remains vacant at the end of the AGM to be filled by the Management Committee as soon as possible.
  - (iv) No person may hold more than one of the offices of Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Treasurer and Assistant Hon. Secretary.
- (B) Motions to be discussed must be submitted in writing to the Hon. Secretary by the end of January.
- (C)
  - (i) Standing orders or Rules may only be changed by a two-thirds majority decision.
  - (ii) All other voting will be decided by a simple majority.
- (D) Twenty paid up members will constitute a quorum.
- (E) Only fully paid full members of 14 years and over will be eligible to vote.
- (G) The Chairman, or person acting as Chairman for the purposes of the meeting (hereafter referred to as the Chairman) shall have a casting vote in the event of a tie.

- (H) Fourteen days' notice shall be circulated to all Club members of the Annual, or other, General Meeting and shall include:
  - (i) the Agenda for the meeting;
  - (ii) any motion(s) to be discussed at the meeting.

- (H) Auditor(s) who must not be (a) Committee member(s) must be elected annual at the AGM.

## 8. CLUB COLOURS

- (A) The colours of the Club shall be red vest with black and white curved side panels and black shorts.
- (B) Club colours must be worn by all competitors representing the Club at every competitive meeting.

## 9. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

- (A) The Management Committee, by a two-thirds majority at a quorum meeting, may propose amendments to the Constitution. The changes may be made only at the AGM or other general meeting called for that purpose. Fourteen days' notice must be circulated for such a meeting. Any general meeting quorum consists of twenty paid up members. If the motion(s) is/are passed by two-thirds majority the amendment(s) to the Constitution will be adopted at the conclusion of the meeting.
- (B) Alternatively, 10 paid up full members may petition the Hon. Secretary in writing, to call a Special or Extraordinary General Meeting in which the conditions in Rule 7 will apply with respect to calling the meeting and voting at it.

## 10. DISSOLUTION

- (A) The Management Committee, by a two-thirds majority at a quorum meeting, may decide to dissolve the Club. They must then call a Special General Meeting giving four weeks' notice to all Club members. If the motion is passed by a two-thirds majority the Club is then dissolved.
- (B) Alternatively 10 paid up full members may petition the Hon. Secretary in writing, to call a special general meeting in which the conditions in 9(A) will apply with respect to calling the meeting and voting at it.
- (C) Voting rights as at the AGM pertain.
- (D) Upon dissolution any funds remaining after all debts have been met will be donated to the County AAA to be used in the furtherance of amateur athletics in the County.

## 11. INTERPRETATION OF RULES

The Management Committee shall decide all questions as to interpretation of the foregoing Rules or otherwise as to the management of the Club.

## 12. THIS CONSTITUTION

was adopted at an Annual General Meeting held on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2009.