

6th October, 2024

CONSTITUTION

1. Name

The Club shall be called the 'Gordonian Rugby Football Club'.

2. Address

The address of the Club shall be C/O Rob Fraser, Honorary Treasurer, 41 Richmondhill Road, Aberdeen, AB15 5EQ.

3. Object

The object of the Club shall be to develop Club rugby and our people in the Northeast of Scotland, as administered by the Scottish Rugby Union, of which body it is a member.

The Club will uphold its core values of Respect, Inclusiveness, Fun and Enjoyment, Integrity, Excellence and Players' Physical and Mental Wellbeing, by creating a positive and inclusive environment where competitive rugby can be enjoyed by all.

The club is non-profit making and open to all in support of the objective to provide opportunities for all to get involved with the sport of rugby.

4. Membership

The Club is a Sports Section of the Athletic Sub-Committee of the Gordonian Association and shall be under the jurisdiction of the said Gordonian Association. Gordonians being pupils and former pupils of Robert Gordons College, as well as Staff at the College and former members of staff.

Membership of the Club shall consist of an Honorary President and Honorary Vice Presidents; Playing (Adult) Member; Playing (Student) Member; Playing (Touch Rugby) Member; Playing (Junior/Mini) Member; Volunteer Officials; Social Member; and Patron Member, all as hereinafter provided.

Honorary President and Honorary Vice Presidents – persons deemed by the Executive Committee to have given loyal service to the Club and who deserve Honorary and lifelong membership for their contribution. Such members will have all the privileges of membership.

Playing (Adult) Member – those (18 years and over) actively playing rugby for the Club.

Playing (Student) Member – those actively playing rugby for the Club and being in full time further education.

Playing (Touch Rugby) Member – those (18 years and over) actively participating in Touch Rugby sessions.

Playing (Junior/Mini) Member – all those who are under the age of 18 years, who are actively playing rugby for the Club.

Volunteer Officials – all volunteers who hold executive, management and/or operational positions within the Club.

Social Member - former players, supporters, club volunteers and administrators, who wish to retain membership or become members of the Club. The Executive Committee may permit individuals who have never played rugby for the Club to become Social Members.

Patron Member – These are Social Members who give a level of financial support beyond that of a Social Member, without looking for anything in return. The Executive Committee may permit individuals who have never played rugby for the Club to become Patron Members

- (a) All Members of the Club shall be deemed to accept the terms of this Constitution, and any Regulations made by the Executive Committee from time to time.
- (b) Any individual, wishing to become a member of Gordonian Rugby Football Club shall notify the Membership Secretary of such wish. Admission to Membership, at whatever level, shall only be approved in an effort to improve the strength of the Club and for no other purpose whatsoever.
- (c) Playing Members shall be eligible for Social or Patron Membership thereafter upon their retirement from playing the game. As Social or Patron Members they will not be eligible for selection.
- (d) Playing (Junior/Mini) Members shall be eligible for Playing Membership on reaching the age of 18 years or prior to that, if they pass Scottish Rugby's eligibility criteria to play Senior Rugby.
- (e) Membership is open to all the above categories and no application for membership will be refused on other than reasonable grounds. There will not be discrimination on grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, politics and other opinion.
- (f) The Club operates an Equal Opportunities Policy, where there is equality of opportunity in terms of playing rights and the rights of members to attend general meetings, vote and hold office.
- (g) Resignation – any member wishing to resign their membership of the Club must give notice to the Membership Secretary

5. Officials

(a) The Executive Officials of the Club shall be:

The President
The Vice-President
The Honorary Secretary
The Honorary Treasurer
The Honorary Fixtures Secretary
The Honorary Referee Secretary
The Director of Rugby

(b) The Non-Executive Officials of the Club shall be an Honorary President and Honorary Vice Presidents.

6. Management

The affairs of the Club shall be managed by:

(a) An Executive Committee consisting of:

The President
The Vice-President
The Club Captain
The Honorary Secretary
The Honorary Treasurer
The Honorary Fixtures Secretary
The Honorary Referee Secretary
The Director of Rugby
The Director of Coaching/Club Coach

The Executive Committee shall normally meet once per quarter. However, the President, Vice President or Honorary Secretary shall be entitled to call a meeting at any time. The President, Director of Rugby, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall have the power to deal with urgent minor items without prior reference to the Executive Committee.

(b) Team Selection

The Director of Coaching/Club Coach, along with any Assistant Coaches and the Director of Rugby will have full responsibility for the selection of players to the Team(s) which they are responsible for.

In the event of a call for a vote and a tie the Director of Coaching/Club Coach shall have a casting vote.

(c) The members of the Executive Committee will retire annually but any such member shall be eligible for re-election.

- (d) The Executive Committee shall have power to fill any casual vacancies among the officials and to add to their numbers.

7. Indemnity

The Members shall be jointly bound to indemnify the members of the Executive Committee against any claims arising in respect of any decision or act, whether by commission or omission, made or done by any of them in the exercise of their duties.

8. Sub-Committees

The Executive Committee of the Club may appoint Sub-Committees as it may from time to time consider necessary and appoint Conveners thereof.

9. Chairman

- (a) The President, who failing the Vice-President, shall take the chair at all meetings of the Executive Committee or Club. In the absence of both, the Director of Rugby, shall act as Chairman.
- (b) The Chairman of any meeting (including any Sub-Committees) shall have a deliberative as well as a casting vote.

10. Annual General Meeting

- (a) The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held on a date fixed by the Executive Committee which shall not be later than 30th June and the meeting shall be called at least twenty-one days prior to the date of the Meeting. The Annual General Meeting shall be called by Electronic Notice served on each member at least seven days prior to the date of the Meeting and stating the business of the Meeting.
- (b) the business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to:
 - (i) approve the Minute of the previous year's Annual General Meeting.
 - (ii) receive reports from the President, Club Captain and Honorary Treasurer.
 - (iii) approve the annual accounts of the Club.
 - (iv) fix annual subscriptions for all categories of membership.
 - (v) elect /re-elect the Executive Officials of the Club.
 - (vi) elect a SRU District Representative.
 - (vii) subject to the discretion of the Executive Committee, appoint an Auditor.
 - (viii) consider and vote upon any proposed changes to the Club's Constitution.
- (c) No person shall have power to vote or take part in the proceedings who is not a member of the Club.

- (d) Prior to the Annual General Meeting any members wishing to nominate officials should submit to the Honorary Secretary the names of those nominated for election as officials and members of the Executive Committee. Such nominations should be in writing, signed by the proposer and seconder and counter-signed by the nominee to signify his consent to nomination.

11. Extraordinary General Meetings

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club may be called by the Secretary at any time by authority of the Executive Committee or at the request of twenty voting members giving due intimation to the Honorary Secretary. The electronic Notice calling an Extraordinary General Meeting must be served on each member at least fourteen days prior to the Meeting and must give full particulars of the purpose for which the Meeting is called.

12. Quorum

Ten voting members of the Club shall form a quorum at any General Meeting of the Club and four members at Executive Committee Meetings. In the event of a quorum not being present, the meeting shall be adjourned for one week to enable a quorum to be formed.

13. Voting

Except for changes to this Constitution, decisions put to vote at all General Meetings, Executive Committee Meetings and Team Selection Meetings shall be resolved by a simple majority vote.

All Members, except Playing (Junior/Mini) Members, shall be entitled to vote at Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings.

Every voting member of the Club shall have one vote. At General Meetings only those voting members who have paid their subscription (or are in the act of paying their subscription) shall be entitled to vote.

The Chairperson of all Meetings shall have the casting vote as well as a deliberative vote.

14. Duties of the Honorary Secretary

The Honorary Secretary shall convene all meetings of the Club and of the Executive Committee, minute proceedings, conduct correspondence, keep a complete record of the names and addresses of all members, preserve all Club books and papers and generally conduct the business of the Club, in accordance with the directions of the Executive Committee.

15. Duties of the Honorary Treasurer

- (a) The Honorary Treasurer shall keep a detailed account of his intromissions and deal with all financial matters pertaining to the Club and shall submit a Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account to the Annual General Meeting of the Club. The Financial Year will be to the 30th April or such other date as may be fixed for the Annual General Meeting.

- (b) No financial obligation by the Honorary Treasurer outside the normal running expenses shall be undertaken without the sanction of the Executive Committee.
- (c) The Accounts shall be audited by a suitably qualified person elected annually at the Executive Committee.

16. Duties of the Director of Rugby

The Director of Rugby shall attend all selection. He shall inter-alia record the names of the players selected for matches, the names of the players who took part therein and the results of all matches, which the Honorary Secretary shall preserve in the Club records.

17. Subscriptions

- (a) The Subscriptions to the Club, shall be such sums as may be fixed from time to time by the Annual General Meeting. Subscription Payment can be made annually or spread throughout the season with the agreement of the Executive Committee.
- (b) The Executive Committee shall withdraw facilities from a member who fails to make payment of their subscription when due if no acceptable excuse is given by the member upon default to said committee.
- (c) There shall be the following categories of subscriptions:
 - (1) Playing (Adult) Member
 - (2) Playing (Student) Member
 - (3) Playing (Touch Rugby) Member
 - (4) Playing (Junior/Mini) Member
 - (5) Social Member
 - (6) Patron Member

18. Changes to the Constitution

The Constitution cannot be altered except at an Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club, called for that purpose, on twenty-one days clear notice. Notice of such intended alteration must be sent to the Honorary Secretary, in writing, who will call a meeting not later than twenty-eight days thereafter and the circular calling the said Meeting giving twenty-one days clear notice shall specify the proposed alterations. Alterations must have the approval of two thirds of those voting members present and of the Athletic Sub-Committee of the Gordonian Association.

19. Expulsion

The Executive Committee shall have power to expel any member whose conduct is in their opinion is such as to make it undesirable in the interests of the Club that they should remain a member. Any member expelled by the Executive Committee may requisition an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club, which shall be held at his request within twenty-eight days thereof and at which they shall be permitted to state their case. A vote of two-thirds of the voting members present at such Extraordinary General Meeting shall be necessary to overturn the decision of the Executive Committee.

20. Byelaws & Regulations

The Executive Committee shall have power to make Rules/Bye-Laws/Policies which shall be binding on all members until the next Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club, when the same shall be confirmed or otherwise, as may be determined by the Club.

21. Club Property

All property of the Club, whether heritable or moveable and including land, leases and investments, shall be held by the President, Vice-President and Secretary for the use and benefit of the Club.

With the consent of the majority of the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee shall have power to:

- 1) enter into contracts and sign documents in connection with the purchase, sale, lease, mortgage or pledge of property, whether heritable or moveable, on behalf of the Club; and
- 2) borrow money on behalf of the Club.

22. Legal Proceedings

If so authorised by Minute of the Executive Committee, the Honorary Secretary or the Honorary Treasurer and one member of the Executive Committee shall have power in all questions between the Club and any of the members or third parties, to institute/defend and follow legal proceedings in the name of the Club.

23. Winding Up or Dissolution

All profits and surpluses generated by Club activities shall be devoted to the continuance or improvement of the Club.

The property, effects and funds of the Club, whence so ever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion and objects of the Club and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus, or otherwise by way of profit to the members of the Club.

If, upon the winding up or dissolution of the Club, there remains after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall be given or transferred to some other organisation or organisations having objects (that is, aims and activities) similar to the objects of the Club, such organisation or organisations to be determined by members of the Club by Resolution passed at a General Meeting at or before the time of dissolution, and in so far as effect cannot be given to such provision, then to some charitable object.

24. Child Protection

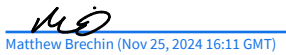
The Club is fully committed to safeguarding the welfare of all children (18 years and under) in its care. It recognises the responsibility to promote safe practice and to protect children from harm, abuse and exploitation. Staff and volunteers will work together to embrace difference and diversity and respect the rights of young people and children.

This Constitution and any associated Club Rules and Policies will be displayed, at all times, on the Club's website and copies will be available on request from the Honorary Secretary.



Bob Fraser

GRFC Treasurer


Matthew Brechin (Nov 25, 2024 16:11 GMT)

Matthew Brechin

GRFC President

Gordonian RFC Constitution Oct 2024

Final Audit Report

2024-11-25

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