



The Constitution

MIDDLESEX TAMIL SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

1. NAME

- 1.1 The name of the club is **Middlesex Tamil Sports and Social Club (MTSSC)**, hereafter to be referred to as "The Club".

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

- 2.1 The aim of the club is to foster and promote participation in amateur sport within the local community. Its main objectives are to:
- establish, promote and provide recreational sports and social facilities to the residents of Middlesex and neighbouring counties to help them lead healthy and balanced lifestyles;
 - provide facilities for sports, social, recreational and other leisure time activities for those who need them because of their youth, age infirmity or disablement, or economic circumstances;
 - foster links with, support and cooperate with other persons and organisations with similar aims; and
 - do all other things that seem to be incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above aims.

3. AFFILIATION

- 3.1 The club is affiliated to the England and Wales Cricket Board through the Middlesex Cricket Board.
- 3.2 The Club and its members shall ensure that members, playing and non-playing, abide by the ECB Code of Conduct which incorporates the Spirit of Cricket and by the Laws of Cricket.

- 3.3 The Club shall adopt and implement the ECB Safe Hands – Cricket’s Policy for Safeguarding Children and any future versions of the policy.¹
- 3.4 The Club shall adopt and implement the ECB Club-Inclusion-Diversity Policy and any future versions of this policy.²

4. MEMBERS:

- 4.1 The Club is open to any person, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs, who supports the aims of MTSSC. Prospective members may apply for membership by submitting a signed application form to the Club Secretary. Membership will be granted upon payment of the full subscription for the current year. Membership will be provisional for an initial period of 3 months. After this full membership will follow automatically provided that Clause 4.3 (below) does not apply.
- 4.2 On application or during the provisional membership period, membership may be declined on a non discriminatory basis, for reasons of limited facilities (eg. coaching). to any prospective or current member.
- 4.3 During or after the provisional period, The Committee shall have the power to suspend or revoke the membership of any member whose conduct, after due enquiry, has been detrimental to the character and interests of The Club, its members or cricket in general. Such a decision to suspend or revoke membership may only be taken, by the assenting vote of a majority of not less than three quarters of The Committee members then sitting. In this event, the person in question shall have been notified in writing in advance and been given 14 days to submit written representations for The Committee to consider at the meeting.
- 4.4 A member may, resign his or her membership of The Club by notifying the Membership Secretary in writing. The Committee may, at its discretion, revoke the membership of a member if he or she fails to pay subscriptions owed within one month after the due date or other debts (eg. Match Fees) owed to The Club despite reminders from The Treasurer. In this case membership shall be reinstated only after re-application for membership and upon payment of all arrears.
- 4.5 Appeal against a refusal of membership shall be to the Appeals Committee as detailed below.
- 4.6 The Membership Secretary shall maintain the ‘Membership Register’ and the contents will include Names and Addresses of club members.

¹ This clause is compulsory for ECB Clubmark.

² This clause is compulsory for ECB Clubmark.

- 4.7 All members will be subject to these Rules and by joining the Club will be deemed to accept these Rules, any Club Regulations and any Codes of Conduct that the Club has adopted.

5. SUBSCRIPTIONS:

- 5.1 The Club will have an equitable pricing policy and will strive to keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.
- 5.2 The Club will have the following classes of membership:
- Life
 - Ordinary
 - o Colts (for those under the age of 17 years on 1st September in the preceding year),
 - o Senior, (over 17 years) and
 - Associate (for parents or guardians of a colt member of the club)
- 5.3 The membership year is defined as 1st October of a given year to 30th September of the following year.
- 5.4 A person who joins The Club after 30th March in any year has the option to pay half the subscription for that calendar year.

6. OFFICERS:

- 6.1 Officers of The Club shall be 'The President', 'Vice President', 'The Chairman', 'The Club Secretary' and 'The Club Treasurer'.
- 6.2 Appointed Officers will cease to be official and function on a voluntary basis on the announcement of the call for the forthcoming AGM.
- 6.3 'The Auditor' and the 'Trustees' are not officers of the Club. The Auditor must not be a Member. The President and the Trustees may but need not be members. All Officers (except The President) must be members of the Club.
- 6.4 Any Officer may retire by four week's written notice to the Secretary, and shall retire at the end of each AGM, but shall be eligible for re-election at that meeting.

7. THE CLUB COMMITTEE (THE COMMITTEE):

- 7.1 The Committee consists of the Officers (except The President) and not fewer than four and not more than eight other Members.
- 7.2 Voting: Those names listed in the Membership Register as 'Paid Members' (except Colts and associate members) on 31st March will be eligible to vote at the next AGM scheduled for October of the same year.
- 7.5 An elected Committee member ceases to be such if he or she ceases to be a member of the club, resigns by written notice, or is removed by the Committee for good cause after the member concerned has been given the chance of putting their case to the Committee. Appeal against removal may be made to the Appeals Committee.
- 7.6 The quorum for any meeting of the Committee shall be five.
- 7.7 Routine decisions at meetings of the Committee are made by a simple majority and in the event of equality of voting the Chairman (or the acting Chairman of that meeting) shall have a casting vote.
- 7.8 Composition of The Committee:
- (i) Secretaries of the Sub-Committees
 - a. Club Secretary, Club Treasurer, Colts Secretary, Netball Secretary.
 - (ii) Chairpersons of the Sub-Committees will have the option to attend meetings of The Committee, but will continue to remain independent.
- 7.9 The Committee shall appoint a Club Welfare Officer to ensure compliance with safeguarding legislation and the ECB Safe Hands policy. The Club Welfare Office shall report to relevant Committee meetings and the reports, together with any action taken, must be minuted.

8. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM):

- 8.1 Annual General Meeting shall be held in October of every year.

9. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS [EGM]

- 9.1 An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened at any time upon either a resolution of the Committee or a requisition setting out resolution or resolutions to be proposed at it. The requisition must be signed by at least thirty (30) members or one-tenth of the Membership (whichever is the smallest number) and served on The Club Secretary by personal

delivery or recorded delivery post. If the Secretary does not give notice of the meeting pursuant to the requisitions on or before the expiry of 14 days from service of the requisition the requisitionists or any one or more of them on behalf of the others may give notice of the meeting.

- 9.2 The business which may be conducted at an extraordinary general meeting may be any one or more of:
- ❑ Removing all or any of the officers of The Committee, Trustees and Auditor of the Club and filling the vacancies caused by such removal;
 - ❑ To approve Annual Accounts and Auditors Report, if presented, for filing with the Charity Commission.
 - ❑ Appointing persons to fill any other vacancy in any office or The Committee;
 - ❑ Considering and if thought fit making decisions on any matter that the Committee by resolution refers to a general meeting;
 - ❑ Altering the rules, or
 - ❑ Dissolving the Club.

10. PROCEEDINGS AT ANNUAL AND EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS

- 10.1 Resolutions at AGMs shall be passed by a simple majority of the votes entitled to be cast by the Members present at the meeting.
- 10.2 Resolutions at extraordinary general meetings shall be passed by a majority of three-quarters of the votes entitled to be cast by the Members present at the meeting.
- 10.3 Each Member shall have one vote on every resolution.
- 10.4 In the event of equality in voting at an annual general meeting the Chairman (or Acting Chairman at that meeting) shall have a second or casting vote, but there shall be no second or casting vote on any resolution proposed at an extraordinary general meeting.

11. TRUSTEES

- 11.1 The number of Trustees shall be not fewer than two or more than Five.
- 11.2 The Trustees shall hold office until death, resignation or removal from office by a resolution of the Members.
- 11.3 There shall be vested in the Trustees all the property of the Club other than cash and bank and similar accounts that will be under the control of the Committee.

- 11.4 The Trustees may deal with the property vested in them by way of sale, mortgage, charge, and lease or otherwise as directed by The Club. Such direction shall be given by a resolution of the Members of the Club passed by a majority of the Members present at duly convened meeting of the Club and when so passed shall, in favour of a purchaser, mortgage, charge, lessee or grantee, be binding upon all members of the Club. A certificate purporting to be signed by The Club Secretary for the time being of The Club shall in favour of those persons be conclusive evidence that a direction complying in all respects with the above provision of this rule was duly given to the Trustees.
- 11.5 One of the Trustees will act as the Chairman of EC Meetings.
- 11.6 Trustee will not have any voting rights in any club meetings.
- 11.7 Trustees are free to attend any Club Meeting.

12. VICE PRESIDENTS

12.1 Appointment

Persons will be invited by Trustees and/or The Committee to hold the prestigious and an important role as an ambassador. All Vice Presidents (VP) will hold that title until they decide not to be part of the organisation. VPs will not have any special voting rights at the AGM or Committee meetings.

13. REMOVAL OF MEMBERSHIP, DISCIPLINE AND APPEALS

- 13.1 Any complaints regarding the behaviour of members, guests or volunteers should be lodged in writing with The Club Secretary.
- 13.2 Any person that is the subject of a written complaint or appeal shall be notified of the procedures to be followed by the relevant committee in reasonable time to prepare for any hearing.
- 13.3 The Committee shall appoint a disciplinary sub-committee (Disciplinary Sub-Committee) which will meet to hear complaints within 21 days of a complaint being lodged. Any person requested to attend a Disciplinary Sub-Committee shall be entitled to be accompanied by a friend or other representative and to call witnesses. The Disciplinary Sub-Committee has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action on behalf of the Committee, including the termination of membership or exclusion from Club premises.
- 13.4 The outcome of the disciplinary hearing shall be put in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the person against whom the

complaint was made within 14 days following the hearing. There shall be a right of appeal within 14 days of receipt of the disciplinary decision. In the event of an appeal, The Committee shall appoint an appeals committee (“Appeals Committee”). The Appeals Committee shall have a maximum of three members who shall not include members involved with the initial disciplinary hearing but may include non-members of the Club. The Appeals Committee shall consider the appeal within 21 days of the Secretary receiving the appeal. The individual who submitted the appeal shall be entitled to be accompanied by a friend or other representative and to call witnesses. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final and binding on all parties.

14. ACCOUNTS, INCOME AND PROPERTY

- 14.1 The financial year of the Club shall end on 30 September in every year, to which day the accounts shall be balanced and drawn.
- 14.2 As soon as is practicable after the end of the financial year, there shall be prepared a statement of the assets and liabilities of the club at the end of the financial year, and a statement of income and expenditure during that year, which statement shall be audited by the Auditor not less than fourteen days before the annual general meeting.
- 14.3 The property and funds of the Club cannot be used for the direct or indirect private benefit of members other than as reasonably allowed by the Rules and all surplus income or profits are to be re-invested in the Club. No surpluses or assets will be distributed to members or third parties.
- 14.4 Copies of the audited statement of Accounts shall be available on request to every Member.
- 14.5 All monies received by The Club shall be paid into an account in the name of The Club at bankers appointed by the Committee, and cheques and other instruments drawn on and directions to the bankers.
- 14.6 No action involving expenditure in the name or on behalf of The Club shall be taken, and no undertakings that would commit The Club to expenditure or other liability above £ 250 shall be made without the prior authority of a resolution of The Committee.

15. INDEMNITY

- 15.1 Except such loss as arises from their respective wilful default, the Trustees and the Members of the Committee shall not be liable (otherwise than as Members) for any loss suffered by the Club as a result of the discharge of

their respective duties on its behalf, and they shall be entitled to an indemnity out of the assets of the Club for all expenses and other liabilities incurred by them in the discharge of their respective duties.

16. DISSOLUTION

16.1 The Club may be dissolved:

- ❖ By a resolution passed under rule 9.2;
- ❖ By a resolution if the number of Members are less than ten for a period of not less than 12 months.

16.2 The dissolution shall take effect from the day when the resolution is passed and the Committee shall be responsible for the winding up of the assets and liabilities of the Club.

16.3 If any property remains after the discharge of all debts and liabilities of the Club, it shall be distributed equally amongst the Members of the Club at the date of dissolution.