



# Brackley Athletic Football Club

## Club Constitution

*Valid from 10th January 2018*



## **Brackley Athletic Football Club Constitution**

### **1. NAME**

- (a) The Club shall be called Brackley Athletic Football Club (the “Club”).
- (b) The Club shall be nicknamed ‘The Jaffas’.
- (c) The Club colours shall be orange and black.

### **2. OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the Club shall be to provide facilities, promote the game of Association Football, to arrange matches and social activities for its members, and community participation in the same.

### **3. STATUS OF RULES**

These Rules (the “Club Rules”) form a binding agreement between each member of the Club.

### **4. RULES AND REGULATIONS**

- (a) The members of the Club shall so exercise their rights, powers and duties and shall, where appropriate, use their best endeavours to ensure that others conduct themselves so that the business and affairs of the Club are carried out in accordance with the Rules and Regulation of The Football Association Limited (“The FA”), County Football Association to which the Club is affiliated (“Northamptonshire Football Association”) and Competitions in which the Club participates, for the time being in force.
- (b) No alteration to the Club Rules shall be effective without written approval by Northamptonshire County Football Association. The FA and the Northamptonshire County Football Association reserve the right to approve any proposed changes to the Club Rules.
- (c) The Club will also abide by The FA’s Safeguarding Children Policies and Procedures, Codes of Conduct and the Equal Opportunities and Anti-Discrimination Policy as shall be in place from time to time.

### **5. CLUB MEMBERSHIP**

- (a) The Club membership will consist of:

#### **Club Committee Members**

*Club Committee Members are all of those with roles in the Club Committee plus the Team Managers and all the FA Level 1 qualified Coaches.*

#### **Player Members**

*Player Members are those players who have registered to play with the Club aged under 18 years.*

#### **Associate Members**

*Associate Members are the parent / guardians of the registered players, and any player registered with the Club over the age of 18 years.*

- (b) All members of the Club from time to time shall be those persons listed in the register of members (the “Membership Register”) which shall be maintained by the Club Secretary.



(c) Any person who wishes to be a member must apply on the Membership Application Form and deliver it to the Club. Election to membership shall be at the discretion of the Club Committee and granted in accordance with the anti-discrimination and equality policies which are in place from time to time. An appeal against refusal may be made to the Club Committee in accordance with the Complaints Procedure in place from time to time. Membership shall become effective upon an applicant's name being entered in the Membership Register.

(d) In the event of a member's resignation or expulsion, his or her name shall be removed from the Membership Register.

(e) The FA and Northamptonshire County Association shall be given access to the Membership Register on demand.

(f) On completion of Club signing on forms contained within the membership pack, all parents and/or guardians will become 'Associate Members' of the Club. Associate Members act on behalf of the 'Player Member' until the age of 18 years.

(g) The Associate Members do not have committee voting rights with the exception of issues at the AGM, or EGM. All members must be over aged 18 years to vote.

(h) The Player Members do not have committee voting rights.

## **6. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE**

(a) For each player registered with the Club an annual fee will be payable which shall be determined from time to time by the Club Committee and set at a level that will not pose a significant obstacle to community participation. Any fee shall be payable on a successful application for membership and annually by each member. Fees are not refundable.

(b) The Club Committee shall have the authority to levy further subscriptions from the members as are reasonably necessary to fulfil the objects of the Club.

(c) The Club Committee shall have the authority to reduce subscriptions for the following Club Officers: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary, Club Welfare Officer plus all Team Managers and any other member as agreed by the Club Committee.

## **7. RESIGNATION AND EXPULSION**

(a) A member shall cease to be a member of the Club if, and from the date on which, he/she gives notice to the Club Committee of his / her resignation. A member whose annual membership fee or further subscription is more than two (2) months in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned, unless exceptional circumstances exist.

(b) The Club Committee shall have the power to expel a member when, in its opinion, it would not be in the interests of the Club for them to remain a member. An appeal against such a decision may be made to the Club Committee in accordance with the Complaints Procedure in force from time to time.

(c) A member who resigns or is expelled shall not be entitled to claim any, or any share of, any, of the income and assets of the Club (the "Club Property").



## **8. CLUB COMMITTEE**

(a) The Club Committee shall consist of the following Club Officers: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary, Welfare Officer and Minutes Secretary and up to eight (8) other members, all elected at an Annual General Meeting (“AGM”) or Extraordinary General Meeting (“EGM”).

(b) Each Club Officer and Club Committee Member shall hold office from the date of appointment until the next AGM unless otherwise resolved at an Extraordinary General Meeting (“EGM”). One person may hold no more than two (2) positions of Club Officer at any time. The Club Committee shall be responsible for the management of all the affairs of the Club. Decisions of the Club Committee shall be made by a simple majority of those attending the Club Committee meeting who have voting rights. The Chairperson of the Club Committee meeting shall have a casting vote in the event of a tie. Meetings of the Club Committee shall be chaired by the Chairperson or in their absence the Vice-Chairperson. In the absence of both the Chairperson and Vice-person, any other Club Officer can chair a meeting as deemed appropriate by the remaining Club Committee.

(c) The quorum for the transaction of the business of the Club Committee shall be five (5).

(d) Decisions of the Club Committee shall be entered into the Minute Book of the Club to be maintained by the Club Secretary.

(e) Any member of the Club Committee may call a meeting of the Club Committee by giving not less than seven days’ notice to all members of the Club Committee. The Club Committee shall hold not less than four (4) meetings per year.

(f) An outgoing member of the Club Committee may be re-elected. Any vacancy on the Club Committee which arises between AGMs shall be filled by a member proposed by one (1) and seconded by another one (1) of the remaining Club Committee members and approved by simple majority of the remaining Club Committee members.

(g) Save as provided for in the Rules and Regulations of The FA, Northamptonshire County Football Association and any applicable Competition, the Club Committee shall have the power to decide all questions and disputes arising in respect of any issue concerning the Club Rules.

(h) The position of a Club Officer shall be vacated if such a person is subject to a decision of The FA that such person be suspended from holding office or taking part in any football activity relating to the administration or management of a football club.

## **9. ANNUAL AND EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS**

(a) An AGM shall be held in each year to:

- (i) receive a report of the activities of the Club over the previous year;
- (ii) receive a report of the Club’s finances over the previous year;
- (iii) elect members of the Club Committee; and
- (iv) consider any other business.

(b) Nominations for election of members as Club Officers or as members of the Club Committee shall be made in writing by the proposer and seconder, both of whom must be existing members of the Club, to the Club Secretary not less than 21 days before the AGM. (c) Notice of any resolution to be proposed at the AGM shall be given in writing to the Club Secretary not less than 21 days before the Meeting.

(d) An EGM may be called at any time by the Club Committee and shall be called within 21 days of the receipt by the Club Secretary of a requisition in writing, signed by not less than five members, stating the purposes for which the Meeting is required and the resolutions proposed. Business at an EGM may be any business that may be transacted at an AGM.



(d) The Secretary shall send to each member at their last known address, or their registered email address, written notice of the date of a General Meeting (whether an AGM or an EGM) together with the resolutions to be proposed at least 14 days before the meeting.

(e) The quorum for a General Meeting shall be five (5).

(f) The Chairperson, or in their absence a member selected by the Club Committee, shall take the chair. Each member present shall have one vote and resolutions shall be passed by a simple majority. In the event of an equality of votes, the Chairperson of the Meeting shall have a casting vote.

(g) The Club Secretary, or in their absence a member of the Club Committee, shall enter the Minutes of General Meetings into the Minute Book of the Club.

## **10. CLUB TEAMS**

(a) At its first meeting following each AGM, the Club Committee shall appoint a Club member to be responsible for each of the Club's football teams. The appointed members ("Team Managers") shall be responsible for managing the affairs of the team. Each Team Manager shall present to the Club Committee at its last meeting prior to an AGM a written report of the activities of the team.

(b) Each Team Manager is responsible for ensuring that there is at least one FA Level 1 qualified coach for their team with an in date first aid (IFAiF) and Safeguarding Children certificate.

(c) Any person assisting the team coach ("Coaching assistants") must have a valid CRC held by the Club and complete the FA Safeguarding Children Workshop and the FA Level 1 Introduction to First Aid in Football (IFAiF) in a reasonable time period as decided by the Club Committee.

## **11. CLUB FINANCES**

(a) A bank account shall be opened and maintained in the name of the Club (the "Club Account"). Designated account signatories shall be the Club Chairperson, the Club Secretary, the Club Treasurer and the Club Operations Officer. No sum shall be drawn from the Club Account except by authorisation by two of the four designated signatories. All monies payable to the Club shall be received by the Treasurer and deposited in the Club Account.

(b) The Club Property shall be applied only in furtherance of the objects of the Club. The distribution of profits or proceedings arising from the sale of Club Property to members is prohibited.

(c) The Club Committee shall have the power to authorise the payment of remuneration and expenses to any member of the Club (although a Club shall not remunerate a member for playing) and to any other person or persons for services rendered to the Club.

(d) The Club may provide sporting and related social facilities, sporting equipment, coaching, courses, insurance cover, medical treatment, away match expenses, post-match refreshments and other ordinary benefits of Community Amateur Sports Clubs as provided for in the Finance Act 2002.

(e) The Club may also in connection with the sports purposes of the Club:

(i) sell and supply food, drink and related sports clothing and equipment;

(ii) employ members (although not for playing) and remunerate them for providing goods and services, on fair terms set by the Club Committee without the person concerned being present;

(iii) pay for reasonable hospitality for visiting teams and guests; and

(iv) indemnify the Club Committee and members acting properly in the course of the running of the Club against any liability incurred in the proper running of the Club (but



only to the extent of its assets).

(f) The Club shall keep accounting records for recording the fact and nature of all payments and receipts so as to disclose, with reasonable accuracy, at any time, the financial position, including the assets and liabilities of the Club. The Club must retain its accounting records for a minimum of six (6) years.

(g) The Club shall prepare an annual "Financial Statement" in such format as shall be available from The FA from time to time. The Financial Statement shall be verified by an independent, appropriately qualified accountant and shall be approved by members at a General Meeting. A copy of any Financial Statement shall, on demand, be forwarded to The FA.

(h) The Club Property, other than the Club Account, shall be vested in not less than two (2) and not more than four (4) custodians, one of whom shall be the Treasurer (the "Custodians"), who shall deal with the Club Property as directed by decisions of the Club Committee, and entry in the Minute Book shall be conclusive evidence of such a decision.

(i) The Custodians shall be appointed by the Club in a General Meeting and shall hold office until death or resignation unless removed by a resolution passed at a General Meeting.

(j) On their removal or resignation, a Custodian shall execute a Conveyance in such form as is published by The FA from time to time to a newly elected Custodian or the existing Custodians as directed by the Club Committee. The Club shall, on request, make a copy of any Conveyance available to The FA. On the death of a Custodian, any Club Property vested in them shall vest automatically in the surviving Custodians. If there is only one surviving Custodian, an EGM shall be convened as soon as possible to appoint another Custodian.

(k) The Custodians shall be entitled to an indemnity out of the Club Property for all expenses and other liabilities reasonably incurred by them in carrying out their duties.

## **12. DISSOLUTION**

(a) A resolution to dissolve the Club shall only be proposed at a General Meeting and shall be carried by the majority of at least three-quarters of the members present.

(b) The dissolution shall take effect from the date of the resolution and the members of the Club Committee shall be responsible for the winding up of the assets and liabilities of the Club.

(c) Any surplus assets remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the Club shall be transferred to another Club, a Competition, Northamptonshire County Association or The FA for use by them related to community sports.