

Lesmahagow Community Football Club

Constitution

1. Name

The club shall be called Lesmahagow Community Football Club (hereinafter called the club).

2. Affiliation

The club shall be affiliated to the Scottish Football Association, Scottish Youth Football Association, Lanarkshire Football Development Association, Lesmahagow Juniors Football Club & Lesmahagow Community Football Trust.

3. Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the club will be:

To provide a framework for young people regardless of gender aged 5 to 17 years old to play organised competitive games of association football and to help its members develop football skills, sporting attitude along with personal and physical wellbeing.

To promote the sport of associated football in the community and beyond.

To ensure a duty of care to all the members of the club and to enrich the lives of the participants and develop the social skills required in life.

To promote sportsmanship and fair play among officials, players and their parents.

To encourage further links and partnership projects with local schools, voluntary groups and other organisations as appropriate.

4. Equality Statement

The club is fully committed to the principles of the equality of opportunity.

No participant, volunteer, job applicant or employee of the club will receive less favourable treatment on the grounds of gender, age, colour, disability, ethnic origin, parental or marital status, religious belief, social class or sexual preference than any other.

The club will ensure that there is open access for all those who wish to participate in the activities of the club, in whatever capacity and that they are treated fairly.

The club recognises its legal obligations not to discriminate and will regard discrimination by any employee, participant or volunteer as grounds for disciplinary action under the relevant club rules.

5. Conflict of Interest

A member of the club, if required by such club, shall retire from any discussion of the club if the matter to be dealt with involves the member and it is possible that a penalty or some other material decision may require to be taken.

It is the member's responsibility to disclose the conflicting interest to the executive committee, disciplinary committee or any sub-committee and refrain from participating in any deliberation or decision of the other executive committee, disciplinary committee or any sub-committee with respect to the matter in question.

6. Membership

The club shall consist of the Management Committee, the Coaches and the members.

In accepting membership, a person agrees to abide by the Constitution of the Club and the decisions of the Club Management Committee.

All members are also required to abide by the appropriate SFA Football Code of conduct.

The Management committee shall be responsible for considering whether applications for membership should be accepted. This decision shall be made in accordance with the Equality statement in paragraph 4.

Members between the ages of 5 - 17 years of age shall be considered as junior members.

7. Membership Fees

Membership fees shall be set at the Annual General Meeting.

Membership fees shall be collected monthly and are payable to the club Treasurer. No member will be eligible to represent the Club if he/she has not paid the agreed membership by the start of the playing season.

8. Management Committee

The Management Committee will act for the members of the club and shall be comprised of the following nominated Officers: Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, and 13 elected committee members of which three members can be appointed to the roles of Vice Chairperson, Assistant Secretary & Assistant Treasurer. The Vice Chairperson, Assistant Secretary & Assistant Treasurer are not nominated Officers of the club.

These Officers shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting and hold their posts for a calendar year, but may seek re-election at the following year's AGM.

Any liabilities incurred shall fall upon the membership of the club providing the Management Committee acts in accordance with the Constitution, in honesty and good faith. The Management Committee shall meet as determined by the Chairperson and convened by the Secretary.

The quorum necessary for Management meetings shall be 60% of the committee.

The Management Committee shall be responsible for interpreting the Club Constitution in relation to the operation of the club's affairs. Proposed amendments to the Constitution can only be agreed at the AGM.

Responsibility for all property owned or leased by the club rests with the Management Committee.

The Management Committee is responsible for the recruitment and management of all professional staff employed by the Club.

9. Finance

The club shall be a non-profit organisation. All monies raised by, or on behalf of the club shall be applied to further the aims and objectives of the club and for no other purpose.

The club Treasurer is responsible for collecting membership fees and maintaining the financial accounts of the club detailing all income received and expenditure made.

An independent examination of clubs accounts will be presented by the Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting.

The Treasurer will provide a financial report at each committee meeting.

The financial year of the club will start on 1st April and end on the 31st March.

The funds of the club shall be lodged at a bank or building society in an account in the name of the club. All cheques, drafts, etc. up to the value of £250. drawn on this account shall be signed by two of the following officers, Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and one named committee member. Cheques over £250 will require 3 signatories.

10. Player Protection

The club will appoint a protection officer in accordance with The Scottish Youth Football Association procedures. All club officials, players and player's parents must be advised of the protection officer's full contact details.

The club and its officials agree and acknowledge that the SYFA protection policy plus all associated policies and any amendments thereto shall be binding on the club.

All club members including players, officials, spectators or parents must abide by the club's code of conduct.

The club must make sure all of its officials are fully conversant with the club's protection policies and all SYFA protection policies.

The club must make sure all of its officials are fully conversant with the club's Constitution and Rules and the SYFA Constitution and Rules.

The club must protect all players and officials from all forms of abuse;

The club must accept that all officials must report concerns in respect of any suspected abuse;
The club is committed to eradicating bad practice;
The club will implement all proposals or amendments in respect of player protection policies;
The club will in cases of reported abuse, maintain total confidentiality. Information must only be shared on a need to know basis i.e. with people who need to know to ensure the child's health, welfare and development.

Note: All persons involved in grassroots football have responsibilities to report any suspected or alleged cases of abuse to the relevant protection officer. It is not the official's responsibility to decide whether or not a player has been abused.

11. Annual General Meeting and other meetings

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the club shall be held no later than the 30th April. At this meeting the annual report of the Management Committee and the independent examination of accounts up to the end of the financial year shall be presented.

The Secretary shall give no less than 21 days notice of the date of the AGM to all members. All elections of Officers shall be confirmed at the AGM. Nominations for Office Bearers will be taken on the night of the AGM from the floor of the meeting.

In the event of a proposal for amending the Constitution being submitted, the Secretary shall inform the membership of the proposed motion not less than 14 days prior to the AGM.

Any amendments to the proposed motion duly proposed and seconded shall be submitted not later than seven days before the meeting.

The dates of the AGM and the Management Committee meetings shall be determined at the previous meeting. In addition, the Chairperson may call a meeting when he or she considers it necessary or desirable, or upon the written request of at least three members of the Management Committee.

The quorum for general meetings shall be 6 members present who are eligible to vote.

An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) shall be called by an application in writing to the Secretary signed by not less than 8 members. The Management Committee shall have the discretion to call an EGM by decision of a simple majority of its members.

12. Voting Procedures for all meetings

All members entitled to vote at meetings shall have equal voting rights.

A motion shall be carried by a simple majority of those present and voting, except when the motion is a Constitutional amendment, which shall require a two-thirds majority.

In the event of equal votes being cast, the Chair shall have a casting vote in addition to a deliberate vote.

13. Discipline and Appeals

The Management Committee shall have the authority to take appropriate disciplinary action against any member or employee of the club and the discretion to terminate membership or employment if any person is found guilty of conduct deemed detrimental to the club.

Should a disciplinary issue involve the Welfare of a child or vulnerable adult then the Player Protection Officer will be informed.

All individuals have the right of Appeal to any disciplinary decision made by the Management Committee.

Any request made for an Appeal Hearing should be made to either the Secretary or Chairperson within 14 days of the Disciplinary decision.

An Appeal Hearing should be convened within 14 days of the request for an Appeal being submitted.

An Appeal Hearing should be convened by a member of the Management Committee and no more than four additional Club members who are independent of the original Disciplinary Hearing and subsequent decision.

14. Dissolution procedures

In the event of the club ceasing to exist and following the discharge of all debts and liabilities, any assets at the time of dissolution shall become the property of Lesmahagow Juniors Football Club. No member shall obtain any asset from the club.

The club may be wound up upon a motion proposed and seconded by club members and passed by a two-thirds majority at a special meeting convened for that purpose following a written request signed by 10 members of the club.

14. Review of the Constitution

This Constitution should be reviewed a minimum of once every two years.
All suggested amendments should be signed and seconded. No motion involving an amendment to the Constitution may be proposed from the floor of a meeting.
Any amendments to the proposed motion duly proposed and seconded shall be submitted not later than seven days before the meeting.
Any alteration to the Constitution shall require a two-thirds majority of members voting and present.
Amendments to the Constitution shall be agreed at the Club's AGM or at an EGM.
All matters arising that are not provided for by the Constitution will be dealt with by the Management Committee, whose decision shall be final.

This constitution was adopted at the committee meeting of Lesmahagow Community Football Club

Signed..... *[Signature]*.....
Date..... 1/9/21.....
Print Name..... JONW GROSS.....
Position within Club:..... TREASURER.....

Signed..... *[Signature]*.....
Date..... 1/9/21.....
Print Name..... GILLIAN QUIGLEY.....
Position within Club:..... MEMBER.....