

# **Southmead Community Sports Bristol Baseball Club Constitution**

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## **1. Name**

1.1. The Organisation shall be called Southmead Community Sports **Bristol Baseball Club (SCS Bristol Baseball Club)**

1.2. SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** shall exist to promote the sport of baseball in the city of Bristol and surrounding areas. The club shall provide games, training, and coaching for all ages and levels of participants. The club shall consist of local players as well as those wishing to compete on a national level in the British Baseball Federation (BBF) or equivalent organization.

## **2. Affiliation**

**SCS Bristol Baseball Club** shall be affiliated to the British Baseball Federation (BBF) or anybody acting on behalf of the BBF or any equivalent organization.

## **3. Aims and Objectives**

3.1. The objectives of SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** shall be to promote and further the interests of baseball in Bristol and the surrounding area.

3.2. The SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** shall, whenever possible, field a team to compete in the BBF or equivalent national league.

3.3. The SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** shall seek to establish a youth league to promote youth baseball and sustain its adult team(s).

3.4 The SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** shall seek to establish and maintain baseball playing fields within and around Bristol.

3.5. The aims and objectives of SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** should be consistent with the furthering of equal opportunities for all groups in baseball.

## **4. Membership**

4.1. SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** shall consist of the officers and members.

4.2. Membership of SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** shall be open, and (in accordance with the SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** Equal Opportunities Statement 3.5) not unreasonably restricted on the grounds of sex, race or of political, religious or other opinions, to any person in the area who is prepared to accept and support the objectives of SCS **Bristol Baseball Club**.

4.3. In accepting membership a person agrees to abide by the constitution of SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** and the rulings of the SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** Executive Committee

4.4. Members under the age of 16 years shall be considered as junior members.

4.5. Junior members shall not have the right to vote at meetings, but their parents or guardians are entitled to vote on their behalf as full members on the committee of SCS **Bristol Baseball Club**.

## **5. Membership Fees**

5.1. Membership fees shall be stipulated by the SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** Executive Committee distinguishing between each group of players that it deems fit.

5.2. Annual membership fees fall due on 1 February (Seniors) and 1 May (Juniors) of each year and are payable to SCS **Bristol Baseball Club**.

5.3. The Executive Committee may decide upon other charges or subscription at its discretion.

## **6. Officers**

6.1. The officers of SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** may include (but are not limited to) Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Webmaster, Facilities Coordinator, Youth Programs Coordinator, Social Chairman, team coaches, umpires, scorers and helpers.

6.2. These officers shall hold office for a calendar year, being elected annually at the Annual General Meeting (see paragraph 9). All officers shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-appointment.

6.3. The Executive Committee may fill any casual vacancy occurring.

## 7. Executive Committee

7.1. The management of **SCS Bristol Baseball Club** shall be vested in the Executive Committee hereinafter called the Executive Committee.

7.2. The Executive Committee shall act for the members. Liabilities incurred shall fall upon the membership provided they act in accordance with the constitution, in honesty and good faith.

7.3. The Executive Committee shall comprise of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Facilities Coordinator, and any other positions the Executive Committee deems necessary.

7.4. The Chairman shall convene meetings of the Executive Committee and the committee shall meet no less than three times a year.

7.5. The quorum for the transaction of business at Executive Committee meetings shall be 4 (four). Note this quorum will differ for general meetings.

7.6. Every question at a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be determined by a majority of the vote of the members present and every voting member having one vote. In the event of an equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

7.7. The interpretation of the constitution of **SCS Bristol Baseball Club** shall be vested in the Executive Committee, who shall decide all questions relating to **SCS Bristol Baseball Club**, save those specified in or involving an amendment to the constitution (see paragraph 14).

7.8. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for considering any application for membership and shall decide if this application should be accepted. This decision shall be in accordance with the Equal Opportunities Statement and the non-discriminatory policy specified in 4.2.

## 8. Finance

8.1. All monies raised by or on behalf of **SCS Bristol Baseball Club** shall be applied to further the objects of **Bristol Baseball Club** and for no other purpose.

8.2. The Treasurer is responsible for the finances of **SCS Bristol Baseball Club**.

8.3. The financial year of **SCS Bristol Baseball Club** ends on 31 October.

8.4. Proper accounts shall be kept of all sums of money received and paid out by **SCS Bristol Baseball Club**.

8.5. An audited statement of accounts up to and including this date shall be presented at the Annual General Meeting of **SCS Bristol Baseball Club**.

8.6. The funds of **SCS Bristol Baseball Club** shall be lodged at a bank or building society in an account in the name of **SCS Bristol Baseball Club**, and all cheques, drafts, etc drawn on these accounts shall be signed by two of either the Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Treasurer.

## 9. Annual General Meeting and Other Meetings

9.1. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of **SCS Bristol Baseball Club** shall be held in every year during the month of November, when the annual report for the previous season of the Executive Committee and the statement of accounts up to the end of the financial year shall be presented.

9.2. Not less than 14 (fourteen) days notice of the AGM shall be given to all members by the Webmaster. The internet shall be a suitable medium for such notice.

9.3. The AGM shall elect such officers of **SCS Bristol Baseball Club** as it may from time to time determine.

9.4. The Chairman may receive nominations for officers at any time, including during the AGM. Nominations shall require two votes (nominated and seconded). Nominations can only be accepted from persons eligible to vote at the AGM.

9.5. The Executive Committee shall determine the dates of the general meetings of the Executive Committee meetings. In

addition, the Chairman may call a meeting when s/he considers it necessary or desirable, or upon the written request of two members of the Executive Committee.

9.6. All members shall be entitled to vote at general meetings of SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** and shall have equal voting rights.

9.7. The quorum for general meetings shall be 20% (twenty percent) of the voting membership present and eligible to vote.

9.8. An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) shall be called by an application in writing to the Chairman signed by not less than 15 (fifteen) members. The Executive Committee shall have the power to call an EGM by decision of a simple majority of its members.

9.9. An ordinary general meeting shall be called after each season.

## 10. Voting Procedures

10.1. Each member shall be entitled to one vote.

10.2. 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 (see paragraph 11).

10.3. The Chairman shall have a casting vote in addition to a deliberative vote.

## 11. Property and Staff

11.1 Responsibility for all property owned or leased by SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** and for the employment of paid staff and volunteers rests with the Executive Committee.

11.2. Members of the Executive Committee may receive stipends from funds, thus making them staff, should the Executive Committee deem it necessary. Such staff may continue to hold voting positions on the Executive Committee, but shall not be eligible to vote on matters relating to their own employment.

11.3. Members of staff who do not sit on the Executive Committee shall report to the Executive Committee.

11.4. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to dismiss and discipline staff as it deems fit, within the bounds of the contract with such employee.

## 12. Discipline and Appeals

12.1. The Executive Committee shall have the power to take appropriate disciplinary action against any member and shall have authority to terminate the membership of any member guilty of conduct deemed to be to the detriment of SCS **Bristol Baseball Club**.

12.2. There shall be the right of appeal to a disciplinary committee which shall be convened when such an appeal arises. Such committee shall include a majority of non-Executive Board Members. An appeal should be made within 28 (twenty-eight) days of the disciplinary action.

12.3. The appeal should normally be considered within 14 (fourteen) days of it being received by the Secretary.

## 13. Dissolution Procedures

13.1. In the event of SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** ceasing to exist, and following the discharge of all debts and liabilities, any assets at the time of the dissolution shall be distributed in accordance with 13.3. No member shall obtain any asset from SCS **Bristol Baseball Club**.

13.2. SCS **Bristol Baseball Club** may be wound up on a resolution of the members, passed by a two-thirds majority at a special meeting convened for that purpose upon the request of 20% (twenty percent) of its active members. At least 28 (twenty-eight) days notice of the meeting shall have been sent to all members of SCS **Bristol Baseball Club**. Should there not be quorum at such a meeting, it shall be in the power of those present to wind up **Bristol Baseball Club**, requiring a two-thirds majority.

13.3. In the event of the passing of the resolution to wind up SCS **Bristol Baseball Club**, the members shall appoint a representative committee, which shall be empowered to distribute assets, including cash and investment in hand, to Clubs having similar objectives as their own.

