



Graces Cricket Club

CONSTITUTION – Updated 2021

1. **Name** The name of the club is Graces Cricket Club (hereafter referred to as *The Club*).
2. **Address** **c/o** Central Station, 37 Wharfdale Road, London N1 9SE, United Kingdom.

Home Ground : Broxbourne Cricket Club, Mill Lane Close, Broxbourne, EN10 7BA
3. **Aims** Graces Cricket Club is committed to fostering and promoting the sport of amateur cricket within the LGBTQ+ and wider community. The club aims to be a community hub: a central focus for sport in the summer and a place which is inclusive to all. Members can therefore participate in cricket, enjoy a relaxed social environment and further increase the awareness of the spirit of cricket.

Our goals and aspirations are to:
 - play and enjoy cricket
 - be fully inclusive, so that everyone can play cricket
 - develop community spirit as a result of The Club's activities
4. **Affiliation** Official bodies to which the club is affiliated and codes of conduct to which we adhere are set out below.
 - (a) The England and Wales Cricket Board through the Middlesex Cricket Board
 - (b) The ECB Code of Conduct, which incorporates the Spirit of Cricket, and the Laws of Cricket: The Club shall ensure that members, playing and non-playing, abide by these guidelines
 - (c) The ECB Safe Hands, Cricket's Policy for Safeguarding Children and any future versions of the policy shall be adopted and implemented by the Club
 - (d) The ECB Cricket Equity Policy and any future versions of this policy shall be adopted and implemented by the Club
5. **Constitution** This constitution supersedes any previous document bearing that name.
6. **Committee and Meetings**
 - 6.1 A committee is formed to run the interests of The Club. The following are suggested committee posts, but the committee may elect additional, or remove existing, positions or position-holders as it sees fit:

Honorary President
Honorary Vice President(s)

Graces Cricket Club: Constitution

Chairperson
Vice (or Deputy) Chairperson
Club Captain
Club Vice Captain
Secretary
Membership Secretary
Treasurer
Publicity Officer
Fixtures Secretary
Tours Secretary
Social secretary
Website/Newsletter Editor
Safeguarding Officer
Equality and Diversity Officer

6.2 The Committee will have due regard to the law on disability discrimination and the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

6.3 Committee meetings will be held on an ad hoc basis at the discretion of the Chairperson.

6.3 An Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held towards the end of each year. All committee members must apply for re-election except those holding honorary posts.

6.4 All members may attend all meetings of The Club in person. All paid-up members have one vote. Supporters or players who have not paid a subscription, and are therefore not a member, cannot vote.

6.5 An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be requested to the Secretary *either* by the committee *or* by a fully paid-up member with a written request signed by no fewer than five other club members and containing the reason for the request. An EGM must be convened within 28 days of the Secretary receiving a valid request.

6.6 The Chairperson will be responsible for the conduct of any votes taken at meetings. The Chairperson is not allowed to vote, but in the event of a tie will have the casting vote.

6.7 All club members will be given reasonable notice of each meeting and will be invited to submit agenda items to the Secretary. The final agenda will be circulated at least three days in advance of the meeting.

6.8 All meetings will require a quorum. In the case of a committee meeting, a quorum will be one third of its members, rounded down to the nearest whole number. For AGMs and EGMs, a quorum will consist of one quarter of the fully paid-up membership, rounded down as above.

7 Accounts

7.1 The Club's funds shall be held in a bank or building society account in The Club's name.

7.2 Expenditure is normally authorised at a committee meeting of the club. If expenditure needs to be authorised between such meetings, the authority to do so rests with any two of the following responsible officers: Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, or Vice Chairperson. The two *must* include either the Treasurer or the Chairperson, or both of these officers. No individual member of the committee or the club has the authority to commit the club to any expenditure.

7.3 Funds shall only be withdrawn on the signature of authorised members of the Committee. Cheques must be signed in accordance with the rules on responsible officers in sub-section 7.2 above. With electronic payments, two people will be required to effect a payment as per the rules in sub-section 7.2.

7.4 Receipts must be obtained for all members' expenditure refunds, with the exception of authorised telephone calls made by members of the club. A list of such calls should be given to the Treasurer before a refund can be given.

7.5 The Treasurer will present accounts for inspection to the committee on a quarterly basis. Transactions and supporting documentation will be reviewed by another member of the committee. The final accounts will be presented to the committee for approval

7.5 In the the event of disbandment of the club, after settling all liabilities of The Club, the Committee can decide to dispose of the net assets remaining to another cricket club or cricket charity or LGBTQ+ focussed organisation.

8. Subscriptions and Membership

8.1 Membership of The Club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport of cricket on application regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation

8.2 The Club may have different classes of membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to potential participation.

8.3 Application for membership of The Club shall be by payment of the relevant subscription/joining fee(s) as determined by the AGM of The Club.

8.4 No person shall be eligible to take part in the business of The Club or eligible for selection for any club team unless the appropriate subscription has been paid or membership has been agreed by the Committee. However, on a specific match day, at the Captain's discretion, a player may be allowed to participate in a match before paying his/her subscription. The player's name should then be made known to the Committee.

8.5 The Club Committee may refuse membership, or remove it, only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring The Club or cricket into disrepute. An appeal against refusal or removal may be made to the Committee who shall appoint an Appeals Sub-Committee to hear the case. In the case of the latter, the considered decision of the Committee, advised by the Appeal Sub-Committee, shall be final. A member may resign by written notice to The Club, but the return of any subscription paid is at the discretion of The Club Committee.

8.6 All members will be subject to the regulations of the Constitution and by joining The Club will be deemed to accept these regulations and any codes of conduct that the club has adopted. The Constitution shall identify those members eligible to vote at any meetings, be they General, AGM or EGM.

8.7 The Club will have the following classes of membership:

- full member- player
- full member – distant (living outside of London)
- full member – non-playing/social

Graces Cricket Club: Constitution

- concessionary member (includes unwaged, students, universal credit) – player
- concessionary member (includes unwaged, students, universal credit) – social

The categories of membership may be varied, normally at an AGM. The rates of membership are also normally set at an AGM.

8.8 Application for membership of The Club shall be by completion of a membership application form, either by post or online.

8.9 The Membership Secretary will keep a register of members.

9. Amendments to the Constitution

This constitution can be amended by the Committee, but any changes must be approved by a two-thirds majority, rounded down to the nearest whole number, of the votes cast by fully paid-up members at an AGM or EGM. The Constitution will be reviewed every 2 years (next review end of 2024).

This Constitution of Graces Cricket Club was adopted at a meeting held:

at Central Station on 29th January 2022 (2021 AGM)

Signed by: Leo Skyner

Chairperson

29 01 2022