



# Greenwich Giants Baseball Club Constitution

## 1. Green Giants Baseball Club

The club is called Greenwich Giants Baseball Club, is currently formed as a Community Club. The Club will seek to be a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) affiliated with the British Baseball Federation (BBF). The Club sponsors and supports amateur baseball in Southeast London.

The members of the Club wish to adopt a constitution (this "Constitution") to establish Officers of the Club and a Management Committee to provide for the governance of the Club.

### Aims & Objectives

The club's objective is to encourage children to take up baseball as a sport and build a legacy within the community that inspires a new generation of baseball players.

The aim of the club will be:

- To offer affordable coaching and competitive opportunities in baseball.
- To promote the club and baseball within the local community.
- To ensure a duty of care and to promote health and well-being to all members of the club.
- To provide all its services in a way that is fair to everyone.
- To be open to all, with youth/junior baseball playing a strong role in achieving its aims.

## 2. Membership

Membership should consist of officers and members of the club. To ensure all present and future members receive fair and equal treatment all members will be subject to the regulations of the constitution and by joining the club will be deemed to accept these regulations and codes of practice that the club has adopted.

Membership of the Club shall be open to any person (child and parent/guardian) who accepts the aims and objectives of the Club, without discrimination on grounds of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs.

Membership for the Greenwich Giants for the purposes of AGM attendance and voting shall be defined as those who are in good financial standing with the Club and have paid for and participated in a full season.

Currently, members will be enrolled as junior members but in the future, we may wish to expand to add adult members to the club. Junior members will be represented by parents on voting matters, with one vote per child.

Volunteer coaches have the opportunity to join as Associate Members and will have the right to vote at the AGM. We aspire to grow to a position where we can reimburse volunteer coaches for expenses incurred. Should the Club be in a position to pay coaches for their time, then they will become staff and will no longer have a right to vote at the AGM.

### 3. Membership Fees

Membership fees will be set annually and agreed by the Management Committee or determined at the Annual General Meeting. Fees will be set in a way that encourages participation and membership but enables the club to cover its costs.

Fees can be paid either in full at the start of each season, or spread over the course of the season, or monthly. To reduce the administrative burden on the club a discount will be offered to anyone who pays up front in full.

The Officers of the Club may waive fees or provide for reduced or concessionary fees, at its discretion. This will be on a case-by-case basis.

### 4. Officers of the Club

The executive officers of the club will be:

- Chairperson
- Secretary
- Treasurer

In order to have consistency in leadership the Chair will be elected every two years at the Annual General Meeting. The Secretary and Treasurer will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. All officers will retire at the end of their appointment but will be eligible for re-appointment.

### 5. Management Committee

The club will be managed through the Management Committee consisting of:

- Chairperson
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Safeguarding Officer
- Development Officer
- Website administrator
- Uniforms & merch Coordinator
- Schools Liaison Officer

All the above will have the right to vote at meetings of the Management Committee.

The Management Committee meetings will be convened by the Secretary of the club and held no less than four times per year.

The quorum required for business to be agreed at Management Committee meetings will be five.

The Management Committee will be responsible for adopting new policies, codes of practice and rules that affect the organisation of the club.

The Management Committee will have powers to appoint subcommittees as necessary and appoint advisers to the Management Committee as necessary to fulfil its business.

The Management Committee will be responsible for disciplinary hearings of members who infringe the club rules/regulations/constitution. The Management Committee will be responsible for taking any action of suspension or discipline following such hearings.

## 6. Membership Fees

All club monies will be banked in an account held in the name of the club. The Club Treasurer will be responsible for the finances of the club. The financial year of the club will end on 31 October.

An audited statement of annual accounts will be presented by the Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting.

Any cheques drawn against club funds should hold the signatures of the Treasurer plus up to two other officers.

All funds raised by, or on behalf of, the Club shall be applied and retained to further the objectives of the Club. No surpluses or assets shall be distributed to members of the Club or the Officers.

## 7. Annual General Meeting

Notice of Annual General Meetings (AGM) will be given by the Club Secretary. Not less than 21 clear days' notice is to be given to all members.

The AGM will receive a report from officers of the Management Committee and a statement of the audited accounts.

Nominations for officers of the Management Committee will be sent to the Secretary not less than 7 days prior to the AGM.

Elections of officers are to take place at the AGM.

All members have the right to vote at the AGM. Each member shall be entitled to one vote and shall have equal voting rights. Parents of members under the age of 16 shall have the right to vote on their behalf. For the avoidance of doubt, parents or guardians of more than one member under the age of 16 may vote on behalf of each such member.

The quorum for AGMs will be 20% of the membership.

The Management Committee has the right to call Extraordinary General Meetings (EGMs) outside the AGM. Procedures for EGMs will be the same as for the AGM.

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 of those present. In the event of a tie vote, the Chair shall have a casting vote

## 8. Discipline and Appeals

All concerns, allegations or reports of poor practice/abuse relating to the welfare/safeguarding of children and young people will be recorded and responded to swiftly and appropriately in accordance with the club's child protection policy and procedures. The club Safeguarding Officer is the lead contact for all members in the event of any child protection concerns.

All complaints regarding the behaviour of members should be presented and submitted in writing to the Secretary & the Chair.

The Management Committee will meet to hear complaints within 30 days of a complaint being lodged.

The committee has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action including the termination of membership.

The outcome of a disciplinary hearing should be notified in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made within 14 days of the hearing.

There will be the right of appeal to the Management Committee following disciplinary action being announced. The committee should consider the appeal within *14* days of the Secretary receiving the appeal.

## 9. Dissolution

A resolution to dissolve the club can only be passed at an AGM or EGM through a majority vote of the membership.

In the event of dissolution, and distribution of any such Club assets as may have been previously agreed by contract, any remaining assets of the club shall given or otherwise transferred to another registered Community Amateur Sports Club, a registered charity or the governing body of baseball (the British Baseball Federation) or the development agency (BaseballSoftballUK).

## 10. Amendments to the Constitution

The constitution will only be changed through agreement by a majority vote at an AGM or EGM.

## 11. Declaration

Greenwich Giants Baseball Club hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members.

**Signed:**

**Date:**

**Name: William Lintern**

**Position: Chairperson**

**Signed:**

**Date:**

**Name: Helen Roberts**

**Position: Secretary**

**Signed:**

**Date:**

**Name: Steve Marquez-Munoz**

**Position: Treasurer**

'Greenwich Giants Baseball Club Constitution version 1.0 - 5 March 2024