



# Constitution of the Blackmore Sports and Social Club (BSSC)

(As amended April 2026)

1. Name:

The Club shall be called the Blackmore Sports and Social Club (hereinafter referred to as “the club”) and the Club premises shall be situated at Blackmore Village Hall, Nine Ashes Road, Ingatestone, Essex, CM4 0QW.

2. Objectives:

The objective of The Club shall be as follows:

- a) The furtherment of non-political, sporting, social and recreational activities
- b) To provide and maintain the Club suitable for the use and entertainment of members and non-members
- c) To provide for the convenience of members and non-members, refreshments including wines, beers, and spirits

3. Officers:

The officers of the Club shall consist of the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson, the Secretary, and the Treasurer, who shall be elected to these specific positions at the Annual General Meeting. If no one individual wishes to be considered for the position of Chairperson and / or Vice Chairperson; joint Chairpersons and /or joint Vice Chairpersons may be elected. Such election will be ratified at the Annual General Meeting. At the discretion of the Management Committee a President and / or Vice President may be appointed to the Club for a set term in recognition of a particular person’s support and involvement with the Club.

4. Management:

The management of the Club shall be vested in a Committee called the Management Committee composed of the Officers as defined above, and a number of other members to be elected at the Annual General Meeting and two members nominated in accordance with 5 below. The President and the Vice President shall be non-voting positions. The quorum for the Management Committee shall be five members. The Management Committee shall have the power to appoint a number of other members it deems appropriate to oversee the Club. The Management Committee shall meet at least four times in each calendar year. Any specific section of the Club formed under 2 above may nominate a member to attend any meetings of the Management Committee. Such nominated members may speak at such meetings but shall not be entitled to vote or in any way participate in the management of the Club.



#### 5. Nomination:

In addition to the members elected to the Management Committee in accordance with the provisions of 4 above, the Blackmore Village Hall Committee shall have the power at the first meeting of the Village Hall Committee after the Annual General Meeting of the Blackmore Village Hall in each and every year to nominate not more than two of its members to sever upon the Management Committee of the Club and those members so nominated shall serve upon the Management Committee until the next Annual General Meeting of the Blackmore Village Hall. Nominated members shall be entitled to be re-nominated. If a nominated member shall cease to be a member of the Village Hall Committee during their term of office on the Club Management Committee they shall thereafter cease to be a member of the Club Management Committee. In this event, the Village Hall Committee have the power to nominate a member of the Village Hall Committee to fill the vacancy and such nominated member shall serve upon the Club Management Committee until the next Annual General Meeting of the Blackmore Village Hall.

#### 6. Annual General Meeting:

The Annual General Meeting shall normally be held in the month of March each year, and the quorum for such meetings shall be ten members. Fourteen days notice in writing and/or details published on the Club's website shall be given for this meeting at which all full and life members shall be entitled to vote. An Annual General Meeting must be held within fourteen months of the last previous Annual General Meeting.

#### 7. Membership:

The classes of Membership are as follows:

- Life Membership (although they still need to register their membership)
- Single adult (over 18)
- Joint membership (two over 18's living at the same address)
- OAP Subsidised charge (Over 65s)

The Management Committee reserve the right to introduce new categories of membership for subsequent approval of the Annual General Meeting.

Membership shall be limited to such persons over the age of 18 years, as the Management Committee in its own absolute discretion shall admit to membership of the Club. Any member of an affiliated club who is over the age of 18 should also be a member of the Club.

Any members over the age of 18 shall be entitled to attend and vote at all General Meetings provided that they have paid the Annual subscription. Every application for membership shall be considered by the Management Committee *who may accept or reject the application at its discretion. The Management Committee shall not be required to give any reason for rejecting any application.*

The Management Committee shall be empowered to elect temporary members of the Club on such terms and at such subscriptions as it may be Resolution decide. No temporary member may be



elected or re-elected for a period that shall exceed one month. Temporary members shall have no right to attend Annual General Meetings of the Club. The total number of such temporary members so admitted shall be limited so that the number of temporary members at any time shall not be significant in proportion to total membership.

Membership benefits, including any discounted bar prices, are personal to the member and may not be transferred, shared, or used by non-members. Non-members may not use another person's membership QR code, email confirmation, card, or membership status to obtain discounted prices.

#### 8. Cessation of membership:

Members shall forfeit the rights and privileges of membership and cease to be members:

- By resignation
- By expulsion
- By non payment of their subscriptions within a reasonable period of the expiry of their previous subscription payment.

#### 9. Expulsion of members:

The Management Committee shall have the power at its absolute discretion to suspend any member. The Secretary shall confirm in writing the expulsion of the member, which notice shall contain details of the expulsion. Any member so notified shall be entitled to appear before the Management Committee to make representations to them.

#### 10. Misconduct:

No unauthorised gambling, drunkenness, bad language, abusive behaviour, or other misconduct shall be permitted on Club premises. A Management Committee member of the club or any committee member of an affiliated club may exclude from the premises such an offending member at the time of the transgression.

#### 11. List of members:

The Management Committee shall keep a list of the members' names and contact details; such list is available for inspection when required providing this is in accordance with GDPR / member permissions. Any change of names and addresses must be communicated to the Management Committee within a reasonable period.

Membership QR codes, and email confirmation

Membership QR codes / email confirmation will be issued by the Club to all members, the QR code / email confirmation should be available for inspection if requested by any person authorised by the Management Committee.

#### 12. Subscriptions:



Members and non-members rights to free entry into the Club premises are suspended for closed nights (ticketed) events.

The annual subscription shall be set by the Management Committee having regard to the limit set periodically at the Annual General Meeting. All members will be advised of alterations to membership subscriptions either by prominent notices being displayed in the Club house or details will be posted on the Club's website. It is the member's responsibility to ensure the correct amounts are paid.

Life membership will be available at 20 times the annual membership for one individual, for a family unit the charge will be 20 times 75% of the joint annual subscription. It will be the responsibility of any affiliated club to ensure that its members have also paid their annual subscriptions to the Club.

Subscriptions shall be automatically renewed annually on the date of registration, with the option for members to cancel this renewal at any time.

#### 13. Rules:

A copy of the Club's constitution and rules shall be available to each member upon them joining and they shall be bound thereby. Requests for copies of said documents should be made to the Secretary of the club.

#### 14. Visitors:

Club members shall be allowed to introduce non-member guests, or prospective members to The Club, provided that no person whose application for membership has been declined or has been expelled from The Club shall be introduced as a non-member guest.

Persons visiting the Club for the purpose of taking part in matches, competitions, games etc. may be permitted to enter the Club premises and the Club may sell intoxicating liquor for consumption on the premise to such visitors, provided they are over the age of 18.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the two preceding paragraphs, intoxicating liquor may also be sold by or on behalf of the Club to persons attending the Club premises for pre-arranged programme, organised social or other function or even, provided that such functions or events shall not exceed 40 in any one calendar year.

#### 15. Alteration of the constitution:

The Constitution of the Club may only be changed at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting convened for that purpose. Alteration or addition to the constitution may only be made upon a motion which must be approved by at least two thirds of the members present at the meeting and entitled to vote.

#### 16. Special General Meeting:

A Special General Meeting may be convened by the Management Committee.



- d) At its absolute discretion, or
- e) On a requisition in writing signed by not less than twelve members, or by one fifth of the total numbers of members, whichever shall be less. The requisition shall specify the object of the meeting, which may be for any of the following purposes:

To consider and, if approved, sanction alteration to the Constitution

To remove any member of members from the Management Committee or from any office of the Club

To consider any special matter which could not otherwise be dealt with by the Management Committee in ordinary meeting

At least ten days before any Special General Meeting the Secretary shall post notices in the Club and/or post details on the Clubs website stating the time, venue and business to be conducted.

#### 17. Sale of intoxicating liquor:

No person under the age of 18 years (whether a member of the Club or a visitor) may be served with or allowed to consume intoxicating liquor on the Club premises.

#### 18. Hours of opening and closing:

The Club shall be open to members between such hours as the Management Committee shall decide.

#### 19. Permitted hours for the sale of intoxicating liquor:

The Management Committee will decide the hours for the sale of intoxicating liquor in accordance with the current licensing laws.

#### 20. Finances:

The Club shall pay an agreed monthly rental to Blackmore Village Hall, the sum of which is agreed between respective parties. This is to be reviewed each August and adjusted with the pertaining government inflation indicator (either the Consumers Prices Index CPI or the Retail Prices Index RPI). At their discretion the joint committees can agree to adjust the monies involved to reflect the affluence of either party, separate donations or refunds can be arranged by mutual consent at any time.

#### 21. Audit

The Annual Financial Statements of the Club are not required to be audited or reviewed by an external party provided they have been prepared by a qualified accountant.

The books and records of the Club are available for inspection by any member of the Club by arrangement with the Treasurer.



If the Annual Financial Statements of the Club are not prepared by a qualified accountant then they must be reviewed by a suitably qualified external party.

## 22. Club Lottery:

If the Club starts to offer the Club Lottery the correct license will be applied for.

The rules of the Club Lottery are as follows:

- The name of the Lottery is Blackmore Sports and Social Club Lottery. The purpose of the Lottery is to raise funds for the benefit of the Club and its constituents.
- The sponsor / promoter of the Lottery is the Club Secretary. The Club Secretary can delegate operation of the Lottery to any club member.
- The Lottery can be operated up to four times a year at the discretion of the Management Committee.
- The winner(s) will be notified by a member of the Management Committee within 48 hours or at the earliest possible occasion.
- Details of the winning ticket(s) will be displayed prominently in the Club.
- The winner(s) will have the option to remain anonymous, however, any Club member can ask for details of the winner. A request for details should be submitted to the Club Secretary.
- The Club Lottery rules can be amended at any Management Committee meeting.

## 23. General:

The Management Committee shall have the power to make the rules for regulating the conduct and affairs of the Club provided that the same are not inconsistent with this constitution. A copy of the rules is available for inspection at the Club and/or on the Club website and shall be binding on all members.

Nicola Barclay-Prout

Club Secretary

March 2026