

The Watsonian Curling Club

The **Watsonian Curling Club** is an independent Section of The Watsonian Club, a Company Limited by Guarantee. In the pursuit of its objects, it shall abide by any rules established by The Watsonian Club affecting its sections generally. The Watsonian Curling Club shall retain membership of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club and Midlothian Province of The Royal Caledonian Curling Club.

The Constitution was approved by The Watsonian Council on 6 November 2019 and adopted by the Club at its Annual General Meeting (**AGM**) on 25 April 2023.

1. Naming and Title

The Section shall be called the ***Watsonian Curling Club***.

2. Purpose

The purpose of the Club shall be to encourage the playing of Curling by and among 'Watsonians'.

3. Office Bearers

The elected Office Bearers of the Club shall consist of:

- i. President
- ii. Vice-President (who may also serve as Match Secretary)
- iii. Honorary Secretary
- iv. Honorary Treasurer

The offices of President and Vice-President will normally be held by a member for a maximum term of two years each. The offices of Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer may be held by the same person.

4. Committee

The direction and control of the affairs of the Club, including the appointment of Skips, shall be delegated to a Committee, which shall consist of the Office Bearers, the immediate past President and up to two Ordinary Members. The Committee shall:

- i. be elected by the Members of the Club at each AGM;
- ii. retire annually and shall be eligible for re-election for a second year; and
- iii. have the power to fill any vacancies and any person so appointed shall serve until the next AGM and shall be eligible for re-election.

5. General Responsibilities of the Committee

The Committee shall meet not less than twice a year and its responsibilities shall include:

- i. overseeing the activities undertaken in the name of the Club;
- ii. make suggestions of ways in which the Club's aims and objectives can be furthered; and
- iii. ensure the funds of the Club are appropriately managed and deployed.

In furtherance of carrying out the foregoing delegated duties, the Committee (acting through the Office Bearers) shall be empowered to enter into such contracts or other agreements as may be desirable or necessary in the interests of the Club. If and when necessary, the Committee may also appoint Sub-Committees.

6. The President and Vice President

The responsibilities of the Club President shall be to:

- i. chair meetings of the Committee and Club;
- ii. exercise a casting vote, as required, in the event of a tie, and where a deliberative vote has already been cast;
- iii. provide a point of reference/advice to the School on matters relating to the Club;
- iv. promote the Club and its objectives; and
- v. represent the Club at School occasions.

The Vice President shall deputise for the President, as necessary, at the request of the President. In the absence of both, the committee shall appoint one of its members to act as Chairman. The Chairman of any meeting shall have a deliberative as well as casting vote.

7. The Honorary Secretary

The responsibilities of the Honorary Secretary shall be to:

- i. give notice of meetings of the Club or Committee;
- ii. keep an accurate record of all proceedings of the Club;
- iii. attend to correspondence;
- iv. maintain an up-to-date membership database containing contact details and relevant information pertaining to each Member. Such a database shall be kept in accordance with current General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR);
- v. keep charge of books, papers and records of the Club; and
- vi. ensure a copy of all minutes and papers, and the annual report and accounts are submitted annually to The Watsonian Council.

8. The Honorary Treasurer

The responsibilities of the Honorary Treasurer shall be to:

- i. keep a detailed account of all financial matters pertaining to the Club;
- ii. prepare and submit a financial statement to the Annual General Meeting and to arrange their review in accordance with paragraph 11 below.
- iii. ensure that no financial obligation outside the normal running expenses shall be undertaken without sanction of The Watsonian Club.

9. The Match Secretary

The responsibilities of the Match Secretary shall be to:

- i. select the teams to represent the Watsonian Curling Club
- ii. maintain a record of games played within and by the Watsonian Curling Club

10. Membership

The Club shall consist of two classes of Member, namely: Ordinary and Honorary.

Ordinary Membership

Ordinary Membership shall be open to all but particularly to any member of The Watsonian Club (current or former member of staff; former pupil of George Watson's College, George Watson's Ladies College and John Watson's School; or current parent).

Honorary Membership

The Committee may recommend for election to Honorary Membership of the Watsonian Curling Club any person who has rendered special service to the Watsonian Curling Club or the game of Curling, the School or the former schools, or who has particularly advanced the purposes of the Watsonian Curling Club. Election to Honorary Membership shall be subject to approval by two thirds of the membership attending and voting at the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose. Honorary Members shall be entitled to all the privileges of membership, except they may not vote at meetings, unless elected as an Office-bearer, for which they are eligible. Honorary Members shall be exempt from payment of the annual subscription fee.

11. General Meetings

Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the Watsonian Curling Club will be held no later than 15 May in each year and shall be called by notice served at least seven days prior to the date of the meeting.

At that meeting a report shall be given by:

- i. the President, covering the preceding year's events, notable occurrences, forthcoming events, and any future plans for the Club; and
- ii. the Treasurer, covering the accounts and financial affairs of the Club for the preceding year.
- iii. the Secretary
- iv. the Match Secretary

The accounts shall be reviewed by an independent, suitably knowledgeable volunteer and shall be available to Members from the Treasurer at, or shortly after, the Meeting. The Office Bearers, the Committee and the independent volunteer shall be elected, and any other competent business transacted.

Extraordinary General Meeting

The Secretary shall call an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Watsonian Curling Club at the request of the Committee or at the request of four members. The purpose for which the Meeting is called shall be specified in the requisition and in the notice calling the Meeting. Notice shall be sent to each Member of the Club not less than seven days prior to the date of the Meeting. No business, other than that specified in that notice shall be transacted at such a Meeting.

12. Quorum

Ten members of the Watsonian Curling Club or one quarter of the Watsonian Curling Club membership, whichever is the lesser, shall form a quorum at any General Meeting and four members of the Committee shall form the quorum at Committee meetings.

13. Subscriptions

Any subscriptions payable by Members shall be fixed at the AGM, following a proposal made by the Committee. Subscriptions shall be due and payable by 1 October each year. No person shall be admitted the privileges of the Club until their subscription has been paid.

14. Expulsion

Any Member whose conduct is materially prejudicial to the interests of the Club, The Watsonian Council, or George Watson's College, may be expelled or suspended from Membership by the Committee. Any Member aggrieved by such a decision may appeal at the next AGM, so long as the Member has given twenty-one days' notice of the intention to do so to the Secretary. Suspension involves the loss of all rights and privileges of membership.

15. Funds and Investments

The fund(s) of the Watsonian Curling Club shall be kept in such a manner as the Committee may determine and be used for the benefit of the Watsonian Curling Club as deemed appropriate by the Committee. All investments of the Watsonian Curling Club shall be in the name of the President, Vice President, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer for the time being as trustees of the Watsonian Curling Club. Any transactions relating to the investments of the Watsonian Curling Club shall require the signature of two trustees. Proper books and accounts shall be kept by the Treasurer showing the Club's financial affairs. Those books and accounts shall be reviewed annually by an independent, suitably knowledgeable volunteer, duly appointed at the AGM. Such volunteer may receive remuneration as the Committee may determine from time to time.

16. Property and Insurances

Any property or assets purchased by the Watsonian Curling Club or gifted to the Watsonian Curling Club by members or others can only be sold or disposed of where prior agreement has been given by The Watsonian Council. The Committee shall arrange appropriate insurances for Watsonian Curling Club trophies and other such property. The Committee shall arrange appropriate insurance for Watsonian Curling Club property and meetings and other events run by the Watsonian Curling Club at its discretion. Such insurances may be inspected by any Member of the Watsonian Curling Club upon request to the Secretary.

17. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Watsonian Curling Club shall comply with all applicable data protection and privacy legislation in force from time to time in the UK including (without limitation) the Data Protection Act 2018 in all matters relating to the collection, retention and processing of personal data of Members and other persons associated with Watsonian Curling Club activities. Such data shall only be used for lawful purposes and shall only be available to the Committee in relation to their duties and responsibilities. The Secretary shall maintain

an up-to-date, secure database containing such information and shall regularly check the accuracy of data it holds.

18. Health and Safety

The Watsonian Curling Club shall remain aware of its responsibilities pertaining to the health and safety of its Members in connection with events run by the Watsonian Curling Club. The Watsonian Curling Club shall appoint a 'Person in Charge' for each event whose role shall be, amongst others, to ensure that all matters relating to the Health and Safety of Members, guests and members of the public have been properly assessed and any risks mitigated appropriately.

19. Child Protection

The Club shall remain aware of its responsibilities pertaining to child protection and safeguarding in connection with events run by the Club. It shall act in accordance with the policies and practice of George Watson's College at any event where pupils of the School may be present.

20. Alterations to the Constitution

This Constitution shall not be altered except with the consent of not less than two-thirds of the Members of the Club present and voting at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose with seven days' clear notice. Notice of any proposed alterations, together with the names of the proposer and seconder, shall be intimated by the Secretary to the Members of the Club not less than fourteen days prior to the Meeting. Any Member of the Club wishing to propose an amendment to any proposed alterations of the Constitution shall give a notice thereof, in writing, together with the name of a seconder, to the Secretary at least seven days prior to the date of the Meeting. There shall be no obligation on the Secretary to circulate such amendments so intimated. Amendments of a minor nature may be intimated from the floor at the Meeting without notice, so long as two-thirds of those present agree that the matter can be discussed and voted upon.

A copy of any amended Constitution shall be communicated to The Watsonian Club and only after approval can any changes be formally adopted by the Club.

21. By-laws

The committee shall have the power to make By-laws which shall be binding on members until the next Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting of the Watsonian Curling Club when the same shall be confirmed or otherwise, as may be determined by the Watsonian Curling Club.

22. Dissolution

No motion for dissolution of the Club shall be considered except at an Extraordinary General Meeting called for the purpose of dissolution. Such motion shall require the support of not less than three quarters of the Members of the Club present and voting.

In the event of such a motion being carried, all funds and assets of the Club including all paper records, minute books and other items or artefacts that may be relevant for

acquisition by the George Watson's College Historical Archives and Collections will be ingathered, .the Club's debts will be settled in full, final accounts will be prepared and any surplus of funds will be donated to George Watson's College for the development or furtherance of sports activities in a manner to be agreed upon between the Committee and the School Principal.

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