

CONSTITUTION OF THE TYNE TEES TIGERS AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL CLUB

1. Name

The name of the organisation shall be TYNE TEES TIGERS AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL CLUB hereinafter referred to as the 'Club'.

2. Objectives

The Club is established to pursue the following objectives:

- a) Participation in the sport of Australian Rules Football hereinafter referred to as the 'sport'.
- b) The organisation, management and development of Australian Rules Football for all members of the Club.
- c) Membership of appropriate leagues for the purpose of establishing regular competitive play for the Club's representative teams
- d) The provision of training and playing facilities for its members.
- e) Promoting and maintaining the highest standards of technical competence and safety in the sport.
- f) Upholding the rules of the sport.
- g) Providing equal opportunities for successful participation by all section of the community.
- h) The promotion of the sport at a senior and adult level in the North of England, as defined as the counties of Northumberland, Tyne and Wear, County Durham, Teesside and Cumbria. Hereinafter referred to as the 'North'
- i) The promotion of the sport at a junior level in the North.

3. Club Structure

The club shall exist as a single entity with integrated sub-sections. These sub-sections of the club shall herein be referred to as 'constituent teams'.

The constituent teams shall train in distinct geographical locations throughout the North.

The duties of the constituent teams shall consist of:

- a) Provide players for the fulfilment of club fixtures
- b) Compete in intra-club fixtures for the promotion of the sport
- c) To pursue the objectives as outlined in Section 2 of the constitution
- d) Shall provide representatives for the executive committee as designated in section 11, subject to the rules stipulated in section 10 of the constitution

The club shall have a single management committee, the executive committee. The constituent teams shall their own committees for the 'day to day' running of the constituent teams. These shall be considered sub-committees of the club.

The Club shall have the power to raise money by means of yearly membership fees and match fees as determined by the Executive Committee at the Annual General Meeting.

At the formation of the club the constituent teams shall comprise of the following:

- i) The Newcastle Miners
- ii) The Hartlepool Dockers

Additional teams may apply to become constituent teams of the club subject to approval at the Annual General Meeting. Following approval they will be subject to the terms of the club's constitution.

4. Suspension, Refusal or Termination of Constituent teams

- a) The Executive committee shall be entitled to:
 - i) Refuse any application to become a constituent team on the grounds that such membership would be prejudicial to the objectives of the Club as set out in Rule 2 of this constitution.
 - ii) For good and sufficient reason to terminate or suspend any constituent team provided that the representatives of the team concerned shall have the right to be heard by the full Executive committee before a final decision is made.
- b) The constituent team may apply for reinstatement at the next general meeting.
- c) Any constituent team that fails to pay their fees by the date required shall forfeit their right to representation on the Executive committee and at general meetings, and may be suspended from taking part in any event under the control of the Club until such fees are paid.
- d) Any constituent team under suspension shall be barred from taking part in any match or event under the control of the Club.
- e) The Executive committee shall inform the representatives of any constituent team in writing of any decision to terminate their membership.
- f) Notification of the termination of a constituent team will be forwarded to the Governing Body.

5. Affiliation

The Club shall be affiliated to AFL ENGLAND, which is in turn an affiliate of AFL EUROPE (each a "Governing Body").

6. Membership

All members are subject to the Constitution of the Club and the regulations of the National Governing Body.

- a) Membership of the Club is open to all individuals paying the designated annual membership fee (except in the case of 4(g)(v) below in which case membership is free) provided they comply with this Constitution.
- b) No person shall be refused membership on the grounds of race, colour, creed, religion, sex, sexual preference, impairment or disability.
- c) All applications for membership shall be accompanied by the appropriate annual membership fee, which shall thereafter be payable on demand.
- d) Each fully paid up member shall be entitled to attend and vote at General or Annual General Meetings.
- e) Fully paid up members may be elected and serve on the Executive Committee.
- f) All members will receive a copy of the Constitution.
- g) Members shall be enrolled on one of the following categories:
 - i) Adult Full Member
 - ii) Adult Non-playing Member (supporters membership)
 - iii) Junior Member
 - v) Life Member

7. Suspension, Refusal or Termination of Membership

- a) The Executive committee shall be entitled to:
 - iii) Refuse any application for membership on the grounds that such membership would be prejudicial to the objectives of the Club as set out in Rule 2 of this constitution.
 - iv) For good and sufficient reason to refuse renewal of any existing membership or terminate or suspend any membership provided that the member concerned shall have the right to be heard by the full Executive committee before a final decision is made.
- b) The member may apply for reinstatement at the next general meeting.
- c) Any member who fails to pay their fees by the date required shall forfeit their right to representation on the Executive committee and at general meetings, and may be suspended from taking part in any event under the control of the Club until such fees are paid.

- d) Any member under suspension shall be barred from taking part in any match or event under the control of the Club.
- e) The Executive committee shall inform the member in writing of any decision to terminate their membership.

8. General Meetings

a) Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM shall be held each year at such time and place as determined by the Executive committee, at approximately twelve monthly intervals, but no more than fourteen months after the date of the previous AGM. At each AGM the following business shall be conducted:

- i) Receive and confirm the minutes of the previous AGM.
- ii) Presentation of the Clubs financial accounts for the year.
- iii) Presentation of Clubs projected financial situation for the forthcoming year, and the setting of all fees
- iv) Presentation of Presidents report.
- v) Election of officers to the Executive committee.
- vi) Any other business brought before the meeting which has been submitted in writing to the secretary not less than seven days prior to the AGM, and any other business deemed relevant by the chairperson

Notice for an AGM shall be a minimum of 21 days.

A quorum for an AGM shall be 3 members.

b) Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)

An EGM may be called upon the written demand of:

- i) 33% of the membership at a particular point;
- ii) The President; or
- iii) 2/3 majority of the Executive committee.

Notice for an EGM shall be of a minimum of fourteen days notice, and stating the business to be discussed.

9. Rules for General Meetings

- a) A minimum of twenty one days notice in writing shall be given to all members, except in the event of an EGM where the notice shall be a minimum of fourteen days.
- b) The President, or in his/her absence a member selected by the meeting, will take the Chair.
- c) All members shall register with the Secretary prior to the start of the meeting.
- d) Each member shall have one vote.

- e) All votes to be determined by a simple majority. In the event of a tied vote, the Chair may exercise a casting vote.
- f) The quorum shall be one quarter of those eligible to vote, or 3 such members, whichever is the smaller.
- g) The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings and record all proceedings and resolutions.

10. Election Of Officers To The Executive Committee

- a) The members of the Executive committee shall be drawn from the membership, as defined in clause 4 of this constitution.
- b) Candidates for the Executive committee shall be elected by paper ballot at the AGM, and shall be members of the Executive committee from the conclusion of that AGM until the conclusion of the following AGM.
- c) All nominations of candidates for election shall: have the consent of the nominee; be in writing; be seconded; be received by the secretary not less than fourteen days before the AGM.
- d) Uncontested posts may be filled by nomination(s) and election at the AGM.
- f) The Secretary shall send all members a list of all nominations not less than seven days prior to the AGM.

11. Members of the Executive Committee

- a) The Executive Committee shall consist of the following Officers:
 - i) President
 - ii) Secretary
 - iii) Treasurer
 - iv) Team Managers/ Coaches representative
 - v) Social Secretary
 - vi) IT Secretary
 - vii) Representative(s) of the individual Constituent teams
- b) All the above shall be entitled to one vote each at General Meetings, except the member who acts as Chair at an AGM or EGM.
- c) The committee may co-opt any member to any unfilled post until the conclusion of the following AGM, providing that the number of co-optees shall not exceed one third of the total number of persons serving on the committee at that time.
- d) The Executive committee may appoint any sub-committees it may deem necessary to deal with the matters of the Club, until the conclusion of the following AGM. The proceedings of all such committees shall report to the Executive committee by a representative elected by that sub-committee.

12. Rules For The Executive Committee

- a) The President shall chair the meeting, or in his/her absence one of either the Treasurer or Secretary or a nominee from the committee in the event of all those mentioned being absent.
- b) Seven days notice of any meeting of the Executive committee shall be given by the Secretary, except when:
 - i) The date of the meeting had been agreed at the previous Executive meeting, in which case seven days notice shall be given.
 - ii) In an emergency the President may call a meeting at four days notice.
- c) The quorum shall be three of those Officers entitled to vote, as listed at Rule 9. a)
- d) All members of the Executive committee as listed at Rule 8. a) shall be entitled to vote.
- e) All votes shall be determined by a simple majority. In the event of a tied vote, the Chair may exercise a casting vote.
- f) Meetings shall be open to all members of the Club.

13. Finance

- a) The income and property of the Club, however derived, shall be applied solely towards the objectives of the Club as set out in Rule 2, of this constitution.
- b) The Club shall have the power to raise money by means of yearly membership fees and match fees as determined by the Executive Committee at the Annual General Meeting.
- c) All monies shall be lodged in a bank account in the name of the Club.
- d) The Treasurer and Secretary shall be authorised signatories to sign cheques on behalf of the Club, of which two signatories shall be needed.
- e) The financial year of the Club shall run from 1 March to 28 February.

14. Amendments to the Constitution

This Constitution may only be amended by a proposal passed by a majority of members present and entitled to vote at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting.

15. The Dissolution Of The Club.

a) Any resolution to dissolve the Club may be passed at any General Meeting provided that:

- i) the terms of the proposed resolution are received by the Secretary at least 30 days before the meeting at which the resolution is to be brought forward, and that
- ii) at least 14 days notice of the proposed resolution shall be given in writing by the secretary to all members, and that
- iii) such a resolution shall receive the assent of two thirds of those present and entitled to vote.

b) Upon dissolution of the Club, after all Club and Trustee liabilities have been cleared, all remaining financial and material assets shall be given or transferred to AFL England as determined by the meeting, to be employed for the development of the sport.

16. Declaration

It is hereby certified that this document represents a true and most up to date version of the Constitution of the Tyne Tees Tigers Australian Rules Football Club.

SIGNATURES

President

Date

Treasurer

Date

Secretary

Date

Team
Coach
Date

IT
Secretary
Date

Miners
Representative
Date

Dockers
Representative
Date