



## **Cornish Claycutters Constitution**

### **1. Club Name**

- The Name of the club will be the Cornish Claycutters Baseball Club and hereafter referred to as Claycutters.

### **2. Aims and Direction of the Club**

- The core purpose of the club is to provide an environment and facilities to promote, develop and grow the sport of amateur baseball in the South-West of the United Kingdom. Specific aims include, but are not limited to:
  - To offer opportunities to both players and coaches to represent their country at the national level
  - To promote the club within the local community and the wider baseball community
  - To manage and maintain playing facilities and equipment
  - To ensure a safe environment for all club members
  - To provide an equal opportunity to all those interested in the sport of baseball
  - To ensure that all present and future members receive fair and equal treatment, regardless of sex, gender identity, physical ability or race.

### **3. BBF Affiliation**

- As of the start of the 2021 season, the Claycutters and wider South West and Wales Baseball League (hereafter referred to as SWWBL) became an official affiliate of the British Baseball Federation (hereafter referred to as BBF), the national governing body for baseball in Great Britain

### **4. Club Membership**

- All club members will be subject to the regulations of the constitution and will be expected to abide by the club's code of conduct. By becoming a member, they will be deemed to have accepted these regulations and codes of conduct.
- Membership to the club will be open to anyone interested in the sport on application regardless of gender, age, impairment, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation religion or other beliefs.
- The club may have differing classes of membership or subscription on a non discriminatory and fair basis. The club will keep subscriptions at a level that will not pose a significant obstacle to participation.
- The club committee may refuse or remove membership, only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the club, league or wider sport into disrepute. Appeal against refusal or removal may be made, as detailed in Section 11.



## **5. Code of Conduct**

- Display and promote high standards of behaviour. Support a positive culture and climate both on the field and off and ensure all participants have a safe and secure environment in which they can participate.
- Play by the Rules of the Game.
- Train hard, have fun and play fair by keeping within the spirit of the game.
- Always practise awareness of all situations and follow all safety precautions.
- Arrive at practices or games on time and ready to start, tell your coaches if you cannot attend a practice or game.
- Be a good sport; recognise all good play, both by your team and your opponents.
- Never engage in or tolerate offensive, insulting or abusive behaviour or language towards anyone involved in the game. This includes players on your and opposition teams, Umpires, Coaches, Managers, Volunteers, Staff and Spectators.
- During games, stay involved with your team if you are on the substitutes bench.
- Teamwork when carrying equipment before and after practices and games is essential, everyone pitches in. This also applies to setting up/taking down the field when hosting games.
- Be supportive even in the face of adversity, everyone should be trying hard but everyone will make errors along the way.
- Respect the decisions of the Umpires. They're also human, if you disagree with a decision please tell your manager and let them handle it with the umpire.
- Control your temper, never throw equipment, and use your energies for playing better Baseball.
- Cooperate with your coach, teammates and opponents, for without these volunteers you will not have a game.
- Use respect and appropriate language at all times when communicating. This applies to all forms of communication, including but not limited to In Person, Social Media, via the Discord Server and E-mail.
- Should you experience an instance of bullying or actions from another member/player/coach that could be considered as potential bullying, please consult your team Player Representative – should this step not be appropriate, please email [claycuttersbaseball@gmail.com](mailto:claycuttersbaseball@gmail.com) where your comments will be investigated sympathetically.

Remember that the aims of the game are to have fun, improve your skills, and feel good about being a part of a Team.



## **6. Membership and Training Fees**

- Club membership fees are to be paid annually.
  - For the year 2024, this fee stands at £65 per person.
- Potential discounts for families, as well as payment plans are to be considered by the club committee on a case by case basis.
- Training fees can be paid either on a per session or per month basis.
  - For the year 2024, these fees stand at £6 per session or £20 per month respectively.
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## **7. Club Committee and Committee Roles**

- The Claycutters Committee is to be comprised of the following roles:
  - Chairman
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
  - Player Representative & Safeguarding Officer
  - Social Media Manager
  - Equipment Manager
- The Committee is responsible for the governance, administration and maintenance of the Club.
  - The Committee is responsible for the creation, editing or removal of club policies
  - The Committee is also responsible for any disciplinary hearing regarding the infringement of club policies by club members. The Committee will also be responsible for any actions following said hearings.
  - Any policy, action, or resolution proposed within the Committee must reach a majority vote in order to pass. In the event of a tie, the Club Chairman will act as the tie-breaker.
- Committee members are to be elected at the Annual General meeting.
- Committee members will retire at the end of one year of service, but are immediately eligible to run for re-election
- In the event a nominee runs unopposed, they are automatically elected to the post.
- In the event multiple individuals are nominated for the same position, an anonymous vote (Either via paper ballot or electronically) will be held to determine who will be appointed
- The core responsibilities of Committee Roles are as follows:
  - Chairman
    - The club chairman is responsible for overseeing the general running of the club. They ensure that all club members are in line with the club's mission and goals.
    - The club chairman is also responsible for maintaining the club's reputation by upholding the values of the club.



- Secretary
  - Primary point of contact between the club and external bodies (sponsors, facilities, BBF, etc)
- Treasurer
  - Maintaining club finances
  - Purchasing any new equipment.
- Player Representative
  - Resolving informal disputes between players. Point of contact for club members wishing to bring issues to the committee. Point of contact for anything related to Safeguarding
- Social Media Officer
  - Managing the club's presence on a variety of social media platforms.
- Equipment Manager
  - Ensuring the whereabouts of all Claycutters kit. Also ensuring that any damaged kit is replaced or repaired as quickly as possible

## **8. Finance and Funds**

- All club monies will be held in an account under the club names
- The club Treasurer will be responsible for the managing of club finances.
- An annual audit of club finances is to be presented by the club Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting.
- Any cheques drawn against club funds should bear the signature of the club Treasurer and be approved by the Chairman

## **9. Club Property**

It is vital for all members to maintain and take care of all club equipment. Any equipment that is borrowed or used must be returned in the condition it was originally handed out. Members might be asked to store any club equipment and with this it is vital that it is accessible when needed.

## **10. Annual General Meeting**

- Notice of the club's Annual General Meeting shall be sent by the club committee to all members no less than 21 days before the proposed date of convening.
- All members of the committee must present an annual review of the club from their respective roles at the AGM.
- Elections for the subsequent year's club committee are to be held at the AGM, as detailed in section 7.
  - Nominations for positions on the committee must be submitted no less than 7 days before the convening of the AGM.
- All club members have the right to vote during the AGM.
- The quorum for the AGM will be 50%.
- The club committee maintains the right to hold Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM) outside of the AGM. Procedures for an EGM are the same as for the AGM.



## **11. Discipline and Appeals**

- Minor and informal complaints regarding the conduct of members should first be brought to the attention of the club's Player Representative.
- Should a complaint require it, a written statement should be sent to the Secretary no more than 28 days after the incident in question.
- The Committee will review the complaint within 28 days of the complaint being received by the Secretary. The Committee has the power to take appropriate disciplinary actions, but will attempt to adhere to a "Three Strikes" system where appropriate.
  - First Strike - A written, formal warning to the club member in question
  - Second Strike - A suspension from any and all club related activities, the length of which is to be determined on a case by case basis
  - Third Strike - Expulsion from the Club
- The Committee's decision should be sent to the club member who made the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made within 7 days of the decision being made.
- Should the member against whom the complaint was made choose to appeal, that appeal should be sent to the Secretary no more than 28 days after being informed of the Committee's decision. The Committee will then review the initial complaint and the appeal, and make new considerations within 28 days of receiving the appeal

## **12. Closure of Club**

In the event of closure of the club, all members will be notified immediately.

## **13. Declaration of Commitment**

- The Cornish Claycutters Baseball Club accepts and adopts the guidelines set out within this document regulating the actions of its members.

## **14. Address**

The correspondence address for the Cornish Claycutters Baseball Club is the Chairman's Address:

25 Wilson Close  
Newquay  
Cornwall  
TR7 3FE