



MERSEYSIDE CRICKET UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

Rules of Association

1. NAME

The organisation shall be called Merseyside Cricket Umpires Association (hereafter referred to as the Association) and shall appoint Officers as in 4) below.

2. AIMS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The primary aims of the Association shall be: -

- a) To provide a panel of umpires to meet the needs of The Liverpool & District Cricket Competition (LDCC) or any other league or competition that the Committee of the Association shall deem appropriate.
- b) To encourage all Members to become qualified umpires, improve their abilities and aid their personal development.
- c) To liaise with any League/Competition Committees, as defined in 2(a), on all matters relating to the umpiring of matches under their jurisdiction.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to all and an application shall not be refused without due cause. Members who wish to be appointed to matches are required to be a Full Member of the ECB Association of Cricket Officials (ECB ACO). It is not necessary to stand as an Umpire in order to obtain or retain membership of the Association.

The Management Committee be empowered to nominate any individual member of MCUA whose service(s) thereto have been such that it considers he/she is worthy of Life Membership. Life Members shall be elected at an AGM and shall be free of financial obligations of MCUA

Subject to the Disciplinary and Appeals Procedure (Appendix A) the Committee shall be empowered to expel or suspend from membership or refuse membership to any individual it considers, at its absolute discretion, to have behaved in such a way as to bring MCUA or the game of cricket into disrepute.

4. OFFICERS

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The Officers shall consist of The President, Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Appointments Secretaries and Disciplinary Secretary.

- a. The President shall be appointed for 3 years with an option to extend for a further 2 years following a resolution duly passed at an AGM.

- I. At the conclusion of his term of office, the President shall have the preferential right to nominate his immediate successor. This nominee will be subject to the approval by the MCUA Management Committee which will not be unreasonably withheld.

- II. Any person, whether a Member or not, who is deemed to have given outstanding support and/or service to cricketing umpiring in general, may be nominated for the post of President of MCUA.

- b) The Appointments Secretaries shall be appointed for 3 years.

- c) All other Officers shall be elected on a 3-year cycle at an AGM. They may offer themselves for re-election after serving a 3-year period. (Officers are appointed on a 1, 2 or 3-year cycle).

5. COMMITTEE

A Committee shall manage the affairs of the Association and shall consist of: -

- a) The Officers
- b) The Assessment Secretary and two Members all elected at an AGM, who shall serve for a period of 2 years and who may offer themselves for re-election.
- c) One representative from the L & DCC

The Committee shall have the power to –

- a) Co-opt any number of additional members for specific purposes;
- b) Have the power to fill vacancies that occur during the year; and
- c) Form any sub-committees they may consider necessary to carry out specific functions.

A Grading Committee shall, at the conclusion of each season and not later than 30th November of that year, provide for the purposes of appointments for the following season, a list of Grade 1 and Grade 1A umpires. Grading considerations will include Captains' marks and comments; boundary, colleague and self assessment reports together with any other matter(s) considered appropriate.

The Grading Committee shall be the Chairman and Assessment Secretary who may seek, at its discretion, advice or guidance appropriate to the discharge of its duties.

- d) Determine any matter not provided for in these Rules

The day to day running of the Association shall be vested in the Committee. The quorum at any meeting of the Committee shall be 5 members.

Voting Rights shall apply equally to each member of the Committee.

6. VICE PRESIDENTS

- a) Any person, whether a Member or not, who is deemed to have given outstanding support and/or service to cricketing umpiring in general, may be designated a Vice President of the Association following a resolution duly passed at an AGM.
- b) Nominations for Vice Presidents must be received in writing by the Secretary on or before 31 December of each year.
- c) Vice Presidents may be elected to membership of the Management Committee but otherwise have no automatic rights to membership thereof.

7 FINANCES

- a) The expenses of the Association will be met by the annual subscriptions of Members.
- b) The Committee shall recommend the level of annual subscription to the AGM or SGM so called.
- c) Expenses paid by cricket competitions to Members will be at levels agreed with, or notified by, the respective League/Competition Management Committees.
- d) The Association's financial year shall commence on the 1 January.

8 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

The annual subscription shall become due on 1st January and must be paid no later than the 30 April of each year. Vice Presidents are not required to pay a subscription although they may make a donation.

9 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM will be held no later than the fourth Thursday in February each year. The Secretary shall forward details of the business to be discussed, copies of the minutes of the previous AGM, the written reports specified in the Agenda, together with duly audited accounts, to each Member, at least 21 days prior to the date of the meeting either electronically or by surface mail.

10 BUSINESS OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- a) The business of the AGM shall be: -
 - I. To confirm the Minutes of the previous AGM.
 - II. To confirm any matters arising from those Minutes.
 - III. To receive a written report from the Secretary.

- IV. To receive written reports from the Appointments Secretaries.
 - V. To receive a written report and audited accounts from the Treasurer.
 - VI. To agree the subscription for the following year.
 - VII. To elect the President and Officers who are due to be elected.
 - VIII. To elect the Assessment Secretary and two Committee members.
 - IX. To appoint an auditor or auditors.
 - X. To discuss any other business of which due notice has been given.
- b) Only business notified on the Agenda shall be discussed at an AGM.
 - c) All nominations, proposed and seconded by Members should be made, in writing, to the Secretary, to arrive no later than 31 December. Nominations may be made at the meeting for any positions for which no written nominations have been received.
 - d) A Member wishing to submit an item for consideration at an AGM should notify the Secretary in writing to arrive no later than 31 December. An agenda for the meeting will then be prepared and distributed to members.
 - e) Each Member attending the meeting is entitled to one vote on each proposal. No proxy or postal vote shall be allowed. Decisions shall be made by a simple majority of those voting. If there is a tied vote the Chairman of the meeting shall be allowed a second casting vote.

11 SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

- a) Where determined by the Committee or requested by a minimum of 10 Members in writing, a Special General Meeting (SGM) will be called. The business of the SGM will be limited to that contained in due notice
- b) The Secretary shall forward details of the business to be discussed to each Member at least 21 days prior to the date of the meeting either electronically or by surface mail.
- c) Each Member attending the meeting is entitled to one vote on each proposal. No proxy or postal vote shall be allowed. Decisions shall be made by a simple majority of those voting. If there is a tied vote the Chairman of the meeting shall be allowed a second casting vote.

12 OTHER MEETINGS

Members will normally be invited to meet at the beginning, in the middle and at the end of every season and at any other time as determined by the Committee. They will receive written notification of these meeting at least 28 days in advance. Changes to these Rules may only be made by resolutions passed at an AGM or Special Meeting so called.

13 DISSOLUTION

If in the event of the dissolution of the Association, any assets remaining shall be passed to a similar body involved in the provision of training and encouragement to all who may wish to become qualified cricket umpires and/or a cricket charity involved in the promotion of cricket and in particularly with youth or junior cricket.

The responsibility for the equitable distribution of assets lies with the Officers of the Association.

14 COMMUNICATION

The term 'in writing' is deemed to include, but not be limited to, e-mail, publication on the Association website, newsletter or by post.

These Rules were agreed at an EGM on the 24 October 2005, being amended by duly passed resolutions at subsequent AGM/SGM including that of the 23rd February 2017.

5th April 2017

Appendix A

MCUA Disciplinary & Appeals Procedures

- 1 The Management Committee has jurisdiction only over Members and those who wish to become Members.
- 2 All Members are expected to uphold the Aims and Objectives of the MCUA at all times.
- 3 If any Member is deemed, at the absolute discretion of Management Committee, to have brought the MCUA or the game of cricket into disrepute he/she will be subject to disciplinary procedures within this Appendix.
- 4 All complaints regarding the behaviour of any Member shall be lodged in writing with the MCUA Secretary.
- 5 The Management Committee shall appoint a disciplinary Sub-Committee which shall meet to hear complaints within 30 days of a complaint being lodged.
- 6 Any Member requested to attend a Disciplinary Sub Committee hearing shall be entitled to be accompanied by a friend or other representative and to call witnesses. The Disciplinary Sub Committee has absolute discretion as to the form and content of such a hearing, including but not limited to whether to hear such witnesses, and to limit the number of witnesses attending and speaking.
- 7 The Management Committee (or its Sub-Committee) has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action Including the termination or suspension of membership.
- 8 The outcome of the disciplinary hearing shall be put in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the Member against whom the complaint was made within 3 days following the hearing.
- 9 There shall be a right of appeal to The Management Committee against either the finding or the sanction imposed or both following disciplinary action being taken.
- 10 All appeals shall be lodged in writing with the MCUA Secretary within 7 days of the outcome of the disciplinary hearing being conveyed.
- 11 The Management Committee shall appoint an Appeals Committee (minimum 3/maximum 5) with an independent chairman which shall not include any member involved with the initial disciplinary hearing but may include non-Members of MCUA.
- 12 The Appeals Committee shall consider the appeal within 30 days of the appeal being lodged.
- 13 At an appeal hearing the individual submitting the appeal shall be entitled to be accompanied by a friend or other representative and to call witnesses.
- 14 The Appeals Committee shall have the power, at its absolute discretion, to uphold, reverse or otherwise alter the decision of The Disciplinary Sub-Committee, such power to include the power to increase any imposed sanction.
- 15 The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be binding and final on all parties with no further right of appeal.