



# FIVEMILETOWN UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB CONSTITUTION

## 1 Name

The Club will be called Fivemiletown United Football Club and will be affiliated to the Irish Football Association.

## 2 Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the club will be:

- (a) To provide a safe environment for members to participate in soccer.
- (b) To develop soccer for both communities within the area by:
  - (i) encouraging participation in this activity
  - (ii) providing members with suitable competition
  - (iii) assisting members to improve their personal soccer standards
  - (iv) organising soccer competition locally
  - (v) providing equal opportunities for successful participation by all sectors of the community
- (c) To support or subscribe to such charities and other charitable purposes as shall be recommended by the Annual General Meeting.

## 3 Membership

All members are subject to the constitution of the Club and the regulations of the Irish Football Association. All applications for membership are to be forwarded on the appropriate membership form, accompanied by the appropriate subscription fee, to the Administrative Secretary, who will present it to the Management Committee for consideration.

The Management Committee may reject an application for membership without giving any reason to the applicant. Membership shall be open to all persons aged five or over. Members shall be enrolled in one of the following categories subject to approval of the application by the Management Committee.

- (i) Competing Member
- (ii) Associate Member (non-competing)
- (iii) Coach (qualified)
- (iv) Official (qualified)
- (v) Volunteer/Helper

All members will receive a copy of the relevant Code of Conduct, a copy of the Club Child Protection Policy and a copy of the Constitution. Each member/parent (if under 18) will be obliged to sign and return acknowledgement that they have read and agreed to abide by the Code of Conduct, the Constitution and Child Protection Policy.

Subscription fees for each category of membership shall be determined at The Annual General Meeting.

Life membership may be conferred by the Management Committee to any Club Member in recognition of outstanding soccer performances or contributions to other aspects of the Club. A life member shall have free membership for their life time but is subject to all the conditions of the Club Constitution and IFA Regulations. The life member status shall be revoked by the Management Committee if the Management Committee decides the individual has committed a serious breach of the Constitution of the Club. Within seven days of a decision being made by the Management Committee to revoke life membership status the life member shall be informed in writing by the Administrative Secretary. The member has the right to revoke the appeals procedure.

### 3:1 DATA PROTECTION

All members consent to the Club obtaining, recording, holding and retaining their personal data (including sensitive personal data) solely for Club purposes, either on its computer or manual filing system. Furthermore all members consent to the use of all such data, including its disclosure to third parties, for the proper and effective management of the Club.

## 4 Membership Fees

4:1 Membership fees will be set annually and agreed by the Executive/Management Committee or determined at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

4:2 Fees will be paid: Annually

## 5 Termination of Membership

5:1 The Management Committee shall have the power to terminate the membership of any individual member where it has been clearly demonstrated that a serious breach of the club constitution has taken place.

5:2 Individual member shall have the right to be heard by the Management Committee before the final decision is made.

5:3 The Management Committee shall inform the member in writing of any decision to terminate their membership.

## 6 Officers of the Club

The officers of the club will be:

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Secretary
- Vice Secretary
- Treasurer
- Vice Treasurer
- Any other relevant position

Officers will be elected annually at the AGM.

All officers will retire each year but will be eligible for re-appointment.

## **7 Committee**

The club will be managed through the Management Committee consisting of:

**7:1 Any of the 6 officers and elected members of the management committee.** Only these posts will have the right to vote at meetings of the Management Committee.

7:2 The Management Committee will be convened by the Secretary of the club.

7:3 The quorum required for business to be agreed at Management Committee meetings will be 5 and must include at least one office bearer

7:4 The Management Committee will be responsible for adopting new policy, codes of practice and rules that affect the organisation of the club.

7:5 The Management Committee will have powers to appoint sub-committees as necessary and appoint advisers to the Management Committee as necessary to fulfil its business.

7:6 The Management Committee will be responsible for disciplinary hearings of members who infringe the club rules/regulations/constitution. The Management Committee will be responsible for taking any action of suspension or discipline following such hearings.

7:7 Committee members must provide the Club Secretary with an apology for non-attendance by means of a telephone call, email or text before the monthly meeting commences normally at 7.30 pm

7:8 All persons must be 18 or over before being eligible for consideration for election onto the Committee.

## **8 Finance**

All club monies will be banked in an account held in the name of the club.

The Club Treasurer will be responsible for the finances of the club.

The financial year of the club will end on May.

An audited statement of annual accounts will be presented by the Treasurer at the AGM.

Any cheques drawn against club funds should hold the signatures of the Treasurer plus up to two other officers.

## **9 Annual General Meetings**

Notice of AGMs will be given by the Club Secretary. Not less than 7 clear days' notice to be given to all members.

The AGM will receive a report from officers of the Management Committee and a statement of the audited accounts.

Nominations for officers of the Management Committee will be sent to the Secretary prior to the AGM.

Elections of officers are to take place at the AGM. All members have the right to vote at the AGM.

The Management Committee has the right to call Extraordinary General Meetings (EGMs) outside the AGM. Procedures for EGMs will be the same as for the AGM.

## **10 Safeguarding children**

This sports club/organisation is fully committed to safeguarding the well being of its members. Every individual in the club/organisation should, at all times, show respect and understanding for their rights, safety and welfare, and conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of the organisation and the guidelines provided by our governing body and contained in the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport.

## 11 Equity Policy

This club is committed to ensuring that equity is incorporated across all aspects of its development. In doing so it acknowledges and adopts the following Sport Northern Ireland definition of sports equity:

**“Sports equity is about fairness in sport, equality of access, recognising inequalities and taking steps to address them. It is about changing the culture and structure of sport to ensure it becomes equally accessible to everyone in society.”**

The club respects the rights, dignity and worth of every person and will treat everyone equally within the context of their sport, regardless of age, ability, gender, race, ethnicity, religious belief, sexuality or social/economic status.

The club is committed to everyone having the right to enjoy their sport in an environment free from threat of intimidation, harassment and abuse.

All club members have a responsibility to oppose discriminatory behaviour and promote equality of opportunity.

The club will deal with any incidence of discriminatory behaviour seriously, according to club disciplinary procedures.

Please refer to the club's Equity Policy for more information.

## 12 Discipline and Appeals

All concerns, allegations or reports of poor practice/abuse relating to the welfare of children and young people will be recorded and responded to swiftly and appropriately in accordance with the club's safeguarding children and young people policy and procedures. The club welfare/designated officer is the lead contact for all members in the event of any safeguarding concerns.

All complaints regarding the behaviour of members should be presented and submitted in writing to the Secretary.

The Management Committee will meet to hear complaints within 7 days of a complaint being lodged. The committee has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action including the termination of membership.

The outcome of a disciplinary hearing should be notified in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made within 7 days of the hearing.

There will be the right of appeal to the Management Committee following disciplinary action being announced. The committee should consider the appeal within 7 days of the Secretary receiving the appeal.

## **13 Club Trophies**

Winners of Club Trophies must hold same for one year unless resigned and must undertake to return them when requested.

## **14 Resignation**

Any member wishing to resign must notify the Secretary in writing to that effect and must be clear of all liabilities before resignation can be accepted.

## **15 Dissolution**

15:1 A resolution to dissolve the club can only be passed at an AGM or EGM and shall only be carried by a majority of at least three-quarters of the members present.

15:2 On the majority decision to dissolve the club it will take effect from that date, A sub-committee will be formed to oversee all aspects of the Dissolution. Only this sub-committee can make any and all decisions regarding the Dissolution.

15:3 Any assets remaining after settlement of all outstanding debts and liabilities shall not be distributed amongst members, but shall be given to some other charitable body or institution having similar objectives to those of the club.

## **16 Amendments to the Constitution**

The constitution will only be changed through agreement by majority vote at an AGM or EGM.

## **17 Special Powers**

The Management Committee shall have the power to deal with any matter not specifically provided for in the Constitution or of such urgency as would preclude the calling of an Extra-ordinary General Meeting provided that their action is reported to such a meeting at an early stage.