

ABINGDON DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

THE CONSTITUTION AND RULES

1. Title and Venue

The name of the Club shall be the Abingdon Duplicate Bridge Club and regular meetings will be held at the Abingdon Guild Hall or any place deemed suitable by the General Committee.

2. Purpose

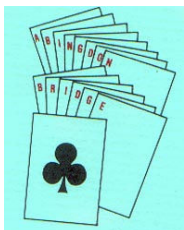
To provide facilities to play all forms of Duplicate Contract Bridge and to promote the mutual acquaintance of and social intercourse between its members.

3. Members

Anyone wishing to become a member of the Club shall make an application to either the Honorary Secretary or a member of the Committee nominated by them for that purpose (e.g. a Membership Secretary). All applications must be considered by a Committee quorum of at least four members and the applicant notified of the outcome. All persons accepted as members shall be bound by the Constitution and Rules of the Club. The Committee reserves the right to request the resignation of a member; in such a case his/her annual subscription would be returned. Each year, at the AGM, the outgoing Committee may nominate one member of the Club to become an Honorary Life Member.

4. Management

The affairs of the Club shall be under the management of a General Committee which shall consist of (a) Chairperson (b) Vice-Chairperson (c) Treasurer (d) Secretary and (e) a maximum of five ordinary members, all duly elected at the Annual General Meeting and all to hold office for one year only unless re-elected. The four officers will not be eligible for re-election to hold the same office for more than three consecutive years. If standing down under this Rule, the officers will be eligible for election either for a different office or as an ordinary Committee member. If necessary the Committee may co-opt additional members. In addition, the General Committee shall appoint a 'Laws and Ethics' Committee, consisting of not less than three members. These members may, or may not be members of the General Committee. The purpose of this Laws and Ethics committee is to rule upon bridge matters arising from disputed Club Director rulings and ethical situations that might arise during a bridge event regulated under rule 9 of this Constitution. The General Committee will also be responsible for forming and documenting any policies that are not dealt with in this Constitution.



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5. Annual General Meeting

An Annual General Meeting will be held during either January, February or March, during which the officers and members of the Committee will be elected under the previous Rule. Nominations may be submitted in writing before the meeting. Proposals for other items to be included on the Agenda may also be submitted to the Committee. The new Committee will take office on the 1st April following the Annual General Meeting.

6. Extraordinary General Meeting

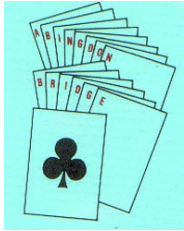
An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called by the Committee or by a requisition signed by at least 25% of the paid-up members and presented to the Honorary Secretary. The members will be informed, and the meeting convened within one month after receipt of such a requisition.

7. Finances

- (a) An annual subscription will be charged and will be due on the 1st April. The subscription must be paid by the end of April. If not paid by that time, membership will lapse and re-application for membership made, unless waived by a majority decision of the General Committee Members and upon payment of the overdue amount. New Members joining late in the year may pay a reduced subscription, if agreed by a majority of the General Committee.
- (b) A table fee will be charged on each Club evening.
- (c) Non-members will pay an additional fee.
- (d) All charges will be at the discretion of the General Committee.
- (e) The accounts for the previous calendar year will be presented at each AGM and shall be audited prior thereto by a person nominated by the General Committee. This shall take place after the end of the calendar year and prior to the AGM being held.

8. Committee Meetings

The General Committee shall meet at least four times a year and a quorum will be four members.



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9. Conduct of Play

- (a) During Club evenings, play will be regulated by a Tournament Director. Any rulings he/she makes will be in accordance with the EBU Regulations. Any dispute about the Director's ruling will be resolved by either the Club Laws and Ethics Committee or by any other competent person or persons nominated by them. Any other complaints, comments and suggestions should be referred to the General Committee.
- (b) **No smoking** is allowed in the playing area.

10. Amendment to the Constitution and Rules

This Club Constitution and Rules may only be amended by a majority decision at a General Meeting. Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least fourteen days before a General Meeting.

11. Records

The Honorary Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining appropriate records of committee meetings, general meetings and pertinent correspondence for not less than five years. The only exceptions to this will be that a copy of each version of the Club Constitution and Rules and a copy of minutes produced from all General Meetings will be maintained indefinitely. The Honorary Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining appropriate records of all types of income, expenditure and pertinent correspondence for not less than five years.

December 1978
Revised December 1981
Revised January 1983
Revised October 1985
Revised February 1987
Revised January 1989
Revised November 1989
Revised January 2000
Revised March 2007

Ratified at the Abingdon Duplicate Bridge Club AGM dated 13th March 2007

Gordon Carroll, Honorary Chairman.....