



The Constitution

April 2024 Version 7 (superseding version 6 of April 2022)

1. Name of organisation

The Society shall be called "THE CRANLEIGH ANGLING SOCIETY".

2. The aims of the Society

The aims of the Society are the provision of angling facilities to its members and the environmental custodianship of the Society's waters.

3. Membership

A) Joining

- (i) Full membership will be open to all persons over the age of 16 years.
- (ii) Junior membership is available to persons under 16 on the 1st of June of that year but over 12 years of age.
- (iii) Children under 12 may fish when accompanied by a parent or guardian where the under 12 is included within a family membership.
- (iv) Membership will begin as soon as the membership form and first annual payment has been received.
- (v) A list of all current members will be kept by the membership secretary and only disseminated to other Officers of the Society if such details are required to enable such Officers to perform their roles on behalf of the Society in accordance with U.K. General Data Protection Regulations.
- (vi) Annual subscription rates payable by members shall be recommended by the Committee to the members of the Society at the Annual General Meeting and shall be voted on by the members attending at the Annual General Meeting.

B) Ceasing to be a member

- (i) The committee shall have the power to reprimand or expel member/s for any breach of the Rules and Regulations of the Society or for any other good and sufficient reason. The member/s have 14 days from receipt of the decision of the Committee to lodge an appeal for any mitigating circumstances to be taken into consideration by the Committee. The Committee shall review such circumstances at the earliest opportunity and inform the member/s of their decision. The decision of the Committee shall be final.

4. Governance, Committee and Officers

A) General Governance

- (i) The affairs of the Society shall be under the control of the Committee which shall have the power to do such things as may be desirable or necessary for carrying out the aims of the Society and regulating its affairs and in particular have the following powers:
- a) To make, revoke and vary from time to time the Rules and Regulations of the Society for the benefit of the members.
 - b) To impose penalties on members who commit any breach of the Society's rules and regulations.
 - c) If any of the Officers of the Society should become incapable of acting or should resign or die, the Committee shall have power to appoint substitutes to act in that position until the next Annual General Meeting.
 - d) To accept new members and even exclude persons from membership.

B) The Committee

- (i) The Committee shall consist of the following elected Officers:
- The Chairman of the Society who shall chair both general and Committee meetings and act as the main contact point between the Society and other third parties.
 - The Treasurer of the Society who shall be responsible for the financial affairs of the Society,
 - The Secretary of the Society who shall be responsible for the taking of minutes and the distribution of all papers.
 - The Vice-Chairman of the Society who shall stand in for the Chairman in the absence of the latter.
 - The Membership Secretary of the Society who shall be responsible for keeping a record of all membership details and the sending of renewal notices.
 - The Head Bailiff of the Society who shall be responsible for upholding the Rules and Regulations of the Society.
 - and not less than 2 other Committee members, but no more than 6 others so that there are no more than 12 Committee members in total.
- (ii) At each Annual General Meeting the whole of the membership of the Committee shall be deemed to have resigned but will be eligible for re-election at the AGM as per the procedures outlined in section 5A of this Constitution.
- (iii) Any member who has served for three consecutive years on the Committee shall be eligible for a 'Complimentary Membership', for the duration of their term as an active Committee member. Should a person who is a recipient of such a Complimentary Membership resign from the Committee or be voted off the Committee, that Complimentary Membership will cease from the date of resignation./ removal from Committee The person would still be eligible to apply for normal membership.

C) Other Elected Officers of the Club

- (i) The following Officers shall be elected each year at the AGM:
 - Members of the Fishery Management Team – from 2 to a maximum of 4 persons.
 - Assistant Bailiffs - from 1 to a maximum of 4 persons

D) Honorary Officers

- (i) The Committee will appoint from time to time the following Honorary Officers who will serve for life or until retiring or removal by the Committee:
 - President of the Society
 - Vice Presidents of the Society

E) Trustees

- (i) The Committee shall from time to time nominate Trustees of the Society's property who shall be confirmed in office at the Annual General Meeting.
- (ii) Such Trustees shall act until they retire or are replaced by the Committee
- (iii) All land and other permanent property of the Society shall be held by the Trustees on behalf of the Society and cannot be sold, rented out or utilised in any manner other than those stated as the aims of the Society without the membership of the Society having voted for such at the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting.
- (iv) The power to appoint new Trustees shall be vested in the Committee.

5. A.G.M. and other Meetings

A) Annual General Meeting

- (i) An Annual General Meeting will be held each year unless prevented by Government restrictions, with a maximum of 15 months between each meeting. A convenient date will be fixed by the Committee and at least 28 days notice shall be given to all members.
- (ii) All proposals that are to be put to the AGM. must be given to the Secretary of the Society in writing at least 21 days before the AGM. Amendments to original proposals may be made at an AGM,
- (iii) Admission to the AGM and voting will be open to all current members of the Society on production of valid current membership credentials to the officials at the door.
- (iv) The AGM will be chaired by the Chairman of the Society, or in his /her absence the Deputy Chairman of the Society. Should both be unavailable, the Committee will nominate a replacement from those present at the AGM.
- (v) One quarter of the total membership will form a quorum.
- (vi) Voting shall be by show of hands but a poll may be demanded by any four persons present.

- (vii)** At the Annual General Meeting the members of the Committee and other elected Officers of the Society shall be elected in accordance with the following procedures:
- a) A request for nominations for election to the Officer and Committee posts will be sent out to all members with the notification of the AGM.
 - b) Prospective candidates can e-mail (or if they choose post by letter) their nominations to both the Secretary of the Society and the President of the Society, with the deadline for receipt of such nominations being 7 days before the AGM.
 - c) The President of the Society and the Secretary of the Society shall meet to agree the full list of candidates, and will forward this finalised list to the Chairman for inclusion in the election processes of the AGM.
 - d) In the case where the number of candidates is equal to or less than the positions available, a Proposer and Secunder will be required but no vote will be necessary.
 - e) If the number of candidates for a given post exceeds the number of positions available, in addition to a Proposer and Secunder, there will be a vote with the position(s) being filled by those candidates who received the most votes. If two or more candidates have an equal share of the vote, the person acting as the AGM Chairman will have the final decision on who is elected to that position.

B) Committee Meetings

- (i)** Committee meetings shall be arranged by the Chairman of the Society or in his/ her absence the Deputy Chairman of the Society and notification of the date and time will be sent to the other members of the Committee with at least 10 days notice.
- (ii)** Six members present at any meeting of the Committee shall form a quorum.'
- (iii)** Committee meetings will be chaired by the Chairman of the Society, or in his/her absence the Vice Chairman of the Society. Should neither be available, the Committee will appoint a person from within its ranks to perform this role.
- (iv)** Any member of the Committee who does not regularly attend meetings of the Committee may be asked by the Committee to resign and the Committee shall have power to fill vacant seats on the Committee and appoint additional members to act until the next Annual General Meeting.
- (v)** If a member(s) of the Committee is deemed to be offensive to other members over and above the normal tone of discussions, the Chairman may ask that member(s) to retire from the room where the meeting is held so that Committee may discuss the steps to be taken. Members may then be suspended from one or more meetings up until the next AGM, at which point the member may wish to stand again although the newly elected Committee (excluding the person(s) who have been suspended in this way) may veto the suspended person(s) re-election. For suspension to be valid not less than 80% of the

Committee still present in the room must vote in favour of such suspension.

- (vii) Minutes of Committee meetings should be taken by the Secretary of the Society, or in his/ her absence, a member of the Committee appointed from within its own ranks. Such minutes should be made available to all the Committee members in a timely manner after the meeting and at least one week preceding the next Committee meeting.

C) Extraordinary General Meetings

- (i) The Committee may at any time summon an Extraordinary General Meeting of members to consider any matter arising about the affairs of the Society of which the Committee may consider necessary to be dealt with by a special meeting of the members of the Society.
- (ii) The maximum possible notice period (according to the circumstance) will be given for such meetings.

6. Rules of Procedure for Meetings

A) General

- (i) All questions that arise at any meeting (with the exception of special circumstances already documented in this Constitution) will be discussed openly and the meeting will seek to find general agreement that everyone present can agree to. If a consensus cannot be reached a vote will be taken and a decision will be made by a simple majority of members present at the meeting. If the number of votes cast on each side is equal, the Chair of the meeting shall have an additional casting vote.

B) Proxy Voting

- (i) Voting by proxy will be allowed in AGMs and EGMs. The correct Proxy Voting Form must be used and the votes thus cast must be confirmed by two members of the Committee who are not the subject of the matter being voted upon.

7. Finances

The Treasurer shall prepare and keep the accounts of the Society and shall make a summary report to the Committee at Committee meetings and a full report at the Annual General Meeting. The members present at the A.G.M. shall vote by a show of hands to confirm that the accounts of the society are approved

8. Changes to the Constitution

The Constitution shall be capable of alteration or additions by resolution passed by not less than two-thirds of the members present at any Annual General Meeting. Alterations or additions to the Constitution shall only be put before an Annual General Meeting after consideration and approval by the Committee.

9. Dissolution

The club may at any time be dissolved by the consent of three quarters of the members (excluding Junior members) testifying by their signature to an Instrument of Dissolution of a duly passed resolution of three quarters of the members at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting, of which no less than two months notice in writing shall be given to all members. The dissolution shall only take effect if and when the resolution is ratified at a second meeting of the members of the Society, such meeting being held not less than 14 days after the previous meeting.