

PFFC Club Constitution

Pitfour Fly Fishing Club, Club Constitution (Revised March 2025)

The name of the Club is the 'Pitfour Fly Fishing Club'. The object of the Club is to promote and retain the interests of its members in Fly Fishing as a sport and recreation.

The Club may lease, buy, rent or otherwise obtain fishing rights or waters, buildings, rights of way or access, stock and equipment and may negotiate with any persons in the interests of providing fishing for its members.

The Club shall take necessary action to protect its rights and property and shall obtain legal or other representation as may be appropriate. It shall insure against risks as necessary.

The maximum number of members shall be 120. Additionally, until these numbers are increased or reduced in the Annual General Meeting.

Application for membership must be in writing. The first year's membership is probationary. The Applicant must be proposed and seconded by a member before full membership is considered by the Committee. Members cannot apply to join the committee until they have completed their probationary period. Membership is made up of the following seven categories

- *Junior members* - aged 5 - 11 years
- *Youth members* - aged 12 - 17 years
- *Standard members* - aged 18 - 64 years
- *Concession members* - aged 65 and over
- *Membership + Carer* - this form of membership is intended for members who suffer from a disability and feel safer when accompanied by a companion. When applying for this type of membership the applicant should be prepared to supply evidence of disability, if requested by the committee.
- *Adult and child membership* - this type of membership is intended to allow adult members to introduce a child of 5 and up to 11 years of age to the sport of fly fishing.
- *Guest Membership* - each member shall be entitled to five guest tickets per season. The guest tickets shall be issued by a committee member, once payment has been received.

The Club may raise funds by charging for entrance fees, subscriptions and day tickets or by any other legal means as may be decided by the Committee and approved in the Annual General Meeting.

The Club shall have the power to borrow or loan money and to invest money to the best advantage.

Guest Ticket holders will be invested with temporary membership for the date

stipulated on the ticket and shall abide by the Rules and Regulations currently approved at an AGM.

Subscriptions, due on the 1st January, must be paid by the date of the next AGM, which falls on the last Saturday in February each year. Failure to do so shall result in membership being cancelled at the discretion of the Committee. The entrance fee and annual subscription shall be fixed annually by the Committee and ratified at the next Annual General Meeting. Juniors are permitted to fish only when accompanied by an adult member and must abide by the prevailing Rules and Regulations.

Youth members' who are 17 years of age on 1st April shall pay the full subscription when they reach the age of 17 they shall have priority over other applicants for full membership and will not be required to pay an entrance fee.

Any member intending to resign from the club shall give notice of his/her intention in writing to the Secretary on or before 1st January, returning all Club property. Any member who fails to pay their subscription by the AGM risks forfeiting their membership. If such action is not taken the subscription for the year following shall be due and payable by the 28th February.

Any member found guilty of breaking the Rules and Regulations may have his/her membership cancelled or suspended for a stated period by the Committee without any refund of subscription, entrance fee etc, and on notification of cancellation or suspension must cease immediately to use the facilities of the Club.

The Committee reserves the right to terminate the membership of any Member who, in the Committee's view, has behaved in a manner that may bring the Club into disrepute.

The Annual General Meeting shall be on the last Saturday in February each year, when any alterations to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations shall be decided and Officers and Committee Members shall be elected. Fourteen days' notice of such meeting shall be given to all members.

The Officers shall be the Chairman, the Secretary and a Treasurer. The Committee shall consist of the four Officers and up to six other elected members. They shall have power to co-opt up to six members for the current year that may be required because they have special knowledge or skills to help the Committee in their work.

The Committee and Officers shall be elected for a period two years; half the Officers and half the Committee being reelected at each Annual General Meeting.

The Secretary shall keep accurate records of all meetings and produce such records at the next meeting for approval. He/she shall attend to all correspondence and shall send out all notices of forthcoming meetings, events, new by-laws and important news to all members as instructed by the Committee.

The Treasurer shall keep appropriate books of account, collect subscriptions and any monies owing to the Club, see that all monies are banked, pay accounts as instructed by the Committee and give a statement of financial account to members present at the Annual General Meeting. He/she shall keep the Committee informed of the financial position of the Club.

Two auditors shall examine all accounts, payments and receipts, see that they are recorded and vouch for their correctness at or before the Annual General Meeting.

The auditors shall be appointed by the Committee one month before the Annual General Meeting.

The Committee may elect one of its members as Vice-Chairman; he/she will take the chair in the absence of the Chairman.

Committee meetings shall take place only when there is a quorum of five members.

Each member shall have one vote. The Chairman shall have a casting vote.

Committee members are expected to attend all meetings, unless they have an unforeseen prior arrangement. Any committee members who fails to attend 3 consecutive meetings without a valid reason, will be considered to no longer be part of PFFC Committee and at the discretion of the Chairman may have his/her membership of the Committee terminated.

The Committee shall have power to call an Extraordinary General Meeting of members at seven days notice for any special or emergency decision. Minutes of such meetings must be produced at the next Annual General Meeting for confirmation.

Notices of motion may be proposed at any General Meeting by not less than 10 members. Such proposals must be notified in writing to the Honorary Secretary as least 21 days before the date of the meeting and must be circulated to all members.

Any 10 members shall have the right to call a Special General Meeting by notifying the Secretary.

The Committee may make such special regulations as may be necessary to meet the requirements of the fishery or of the Lessors.

The Committee shall have power to appoint a special sub-committee for a period of up to three years to deal with or enquire into any activity of the Club which may be delegated to it. Such sub-committee shall be responsible to the Committee.

The Committee may authorise payments to cover expenses incurred on behalf of the Club.

Cheques and purchase orders must be signed by any two of the three following Officers Treasurer, Secretary and Chairman.

The Committee can appoint Trustees to hold or administer assets on trust for its members. There shall be not less than two Trustees and if any Trustee resigns from the Club, or wishes to be released from his/her Trusteeship, he/she will execute all necessary documents to pass his/her interest in the lease or other assets to the new or remaining Trustees.

In the event of dissolution of the Club, the Committee, after paying all liabilities, shall distribute the balance of cash in equal proportions to all fully paid-up Members with at least 5 full years of continuous membership.

The Club may, at General or Extraordinary General Meetings appoint Honorary or Life Members.

Should the terms of the Lease or any other condition laid down by the Landlord conflict with this Constitution or with the, Rules and Regulations, then the former shall prevail.