

Prestwich Liberal Club Rules

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1. Name

The Club shall be called “The Prestwich Liberal Club”.

2. Objects

The object of the club shall be to promote a mutual, intellectual and social intercourse between its members, by such means as the Executive Committee hereinafter mentioned may be from time to time consider desirable.

3. Constitution of Club

The Constitution of the Club shall consist of the general body of members, out of whom shall be elected annually a President, Secretary, Treasurer and Executive Committee of nine. Five shall form a quorum at Committee meetings.

4. Furniture, Stock and General Effects

The furniture, stock and general effects of the Club shall be vested in the hands of the Executive Committee.

5. Investment of Capital

The existing capital of the Club invested in the funds of the Prestwich Liberal Club Building Company Limited, and any future surplus funds or any property of the Club shall be invested in the names of three Trustees, who shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting by the member, to whom they shall report from time to time, as required by them. The members shall have the power to revoke or refill, at any General or Special Meeting of the members.

6. Members Eligible

No persons shall be eligible for any office, or to be a members of any Committee, who has not been a member of the Club for at least twelve months.

7. Members of Executive failing to attend

Any member of the Executive Committee failing to attend a meeting of the Committee for a period of three months shall cease to be a member of such Committee and the Executive Committee shall thereupon proceed to fill the vacancy (if necessary after considering that absence).

8. Conditions of Membership

Any person above eighteen years of age, shall be eligible for admission to the Club, and shall be proposed by one member of the Club and seconded by another member, and afterwards submitted to the Executive Committee for approval.

9. Subscriptions

(a) Honorary Members

A candidate for Honorary Membership shall be exempted from the payment of any fee.

(b) Ordinary Members

The rate of Subscriptions for members shall be resolved at a General Meeting and will be due on January 1st each year.

(c) *All Members*

Full agreed rate.

(d) *O.A.P.s (after 3-year's membership)*

Special agreed rate.

10. Penalty for Arrears of Subscription

Any member 1 month in arrears shall cease to be a member.

11. Meeting of Members

The Annual Meeting of the members shall be held as soon as conveniently possible after the end of September.

(a) To receive a statement of the accounts of the previous year.

(b) To receive a statement of the assets and securities held by the Club.

(c) To elect Officers and Committee.

(d) To elect Professional Accountants.

(e) To transact any other business that has been duly placed on the Agenda as a Notice of Motion.

12. Privileges of Officers

The President, Treasurer and Secretary shall be ex-officio members of all Committees and shall be eligible to attend any meeting but not have power to vote.

13. Election of Committee and Officers

(a) The officers and members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by ballot at the Annual Meeting. The retiring officers and members of Committee shall be eligible for re-selection. The Chairman shall be elected by the Committee at its first meeting in each year. All vacancies occurring in the Executive Committee shall be filled by that body.

(b) The Committee may, at its discretion, appoint as members of any Sub-Committee any member of the Club who is suitably qualified.

14. Nominations of Officers and Members of Committee

Fourteen days prior to the holding of the Annual Meeting a nomination paper, on which may be recorded the names of any members proposed for election, either as officers or members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year, together with the names of the proposer and seconder in each case, shall be posted in the Club. At the head of such nomination paper the following shall be annexed:- A member in arrears shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the members, nor be eligible for election to any office, or to nominate or second any candidate for office or membership of the Club, nor to sign a requisition calling a meeting of members. The nomination paper shall be closed seven days previous to the day of the meeting; but if sufficient names be not so nominated to fill the vacancies, additional names shall be proposed, seconded and balloted for at the Annual Meeting.

15. Attendance of Members of Committee

The attendance of members of Committee at their respective meetings shall be duly recorded, and posted in the club, together with the nomination paper.

16. General Committee

The whole body of the members, when necessary, shall form a Committee, to whom all important questions shall be submitted and decisions obtained.

17. Prohibited Appropriation of Funds

None of the funds of the Club shall be devoted to any objects others than those for which the Club was expressly organised, except when specially sanctioned by a majority consisting of two-thirds of the members present at a meeting specially convened for that purpose, by notice placed in the Club at least seven days before meeting.

18. Secretary to Summon Special General Meeting

The Secretary shall be required to summon a Special Meeting, of the whole of the members, to be held at such date and hour as the Executive Committee shall determine, by posting in the Club, or by such other means as the Executive Committee may decide, within seven days of the receipt by the Secretary of a requisition to that effect, signed by not less than thirty members (subject to rule 10) or by order of the Executive Committee. Such requisitions shall be set forth the objects for which the meeting is required to be convened.

19. Decision of Meetings to be obtained by Ballot

All decisions of Special and Annual Meetings of members held under the provisions of these rules shall be ascertained by ballot, unless otherwise demanded by a majority of the members then present.

20. Prohibition of Gambling etc.

Gambling, betting, swearing, or any offensive language or conduct, shall be strictly prohibited on the premises of the Club.

21. Expulsion of Members

The Executive Committee shall have the power to expel any member whose conduct (in their opinion) renders him/her unworthy of their confidence or if the member has been guilty of gambling, betting or swearing, or any other offensive conduct, shall bring into contempt the authority of the Executive Committee. Any member proposed to be expelled shall receive notice from the Secretary of the intention of the Committee, in order that the member may have the opportunity of offering any explanation considered necessary. Any member expelled by the Executive Committee, not being satisfied with their decision may appeal against such decision, to a Special Meeting of members, whose decision shall be final providing such appeal is supported and signed by 30 members (subject to rule 10) and is made within seven days after receiving notice of the Committee's decision. A member being in arrears with his subscription shall not have the right to appeal against any decisions of the Executive Committee.

22. Prohibition of Noise

Excessive noise shall be prohibited in the Club.

23. Suggestion Book

A book or box shall be provided, in which members may record suggestions which are designed to benefit the Club.

24. Change of Residence

Any member changing his residence shall notify the same to the secretary.

25. Hours of Opening and Closing the Club

(a) The Club shall be open daily, between the hours which may be determined by the Committee and approved by the Local Magistrates Court.

(b) The permitted hours for the supply of intoxicating liquor, shall be as determined by the Committee under the terms of the Licensing Act 2003 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification thereof) and as notified to Bury Licensing Authority.

26. Book or List containing Names and Addresses

A book or list containing the names and addresses of every member of the Club, arranged in alphabetical order, shall be kept in a conspicuous place in the Club for reference and shall be revised annually by the Secretary.

27. Visitors

(a) A book shall be kept in some conspicuous place in the Club, for the purpose of recording the names of visitors to the Club, in which each member introducing a visitor shall enter the name and address of such visitor and shall sign his/her own name. A visitor is limited to six visits per annum. A member may introduce six visitors per annum.

(b) Visitors must not be introduced into the Club after 10.30pm Monday to Thursday, 11.00pm Friday and Saturday and 10.00pm Sundays and Good Friday.

28. Amendment or Repeal of Rules

No rule shall be amended or repealed except at a Special or Annual Meeting of the members, after notice duly given according to the following rule and then only by a vote of the majority of the members present.

29. Notice of Motion respecting Amendment of Rules

All notices of motion to repeal or amend any of the rules of the Club shall be lodged with the secretary not less than fourteen days prior to the Annual or Special Meeting at which the proposed amendment is intended to be moved. Such notice, which must state the substance or nature of the amendment or amendments to be moved, shall be signed (subject to rule 10) by the intended mover and seconder and posted in the Club at least seven days before such meeting. The secretary shall notify the same in the notice convening the meeting.

30. Executive Committee to settle matters not provided for

(a) Should any matter arise which is not provided for in the foregoing rules, the Executive Committee shall have the power to determine the same.

(b) The Trustees of the Club subject to the direction and approval of the Executive Committee shall have power to negotiate mortgages on the Club property or loans not to exceed fifty thousand pounds. The Trustees shall be authorised to sign relevant documents on behalf of the Club and the Executive Committee.

31. Admission of Temporary Members and of Guests

(a) Membership of National Union

The Club having paid the prescribed Annual Subscription to the National Union of Liberal Clubs each member is entitled to all the Privileges of the National Union to the rules relating to the same. A person on becoming a member of the Club shall be supplied with a National Card.

(b) Affiliated Members

Whilst the Club shall remain a member of the Federation of Lancs Liberal Clubs (which is included in the National Union of Liberal Clubs) Affiliated Members of the National Union shall be members of the Club, subject to such Regulations as are herein provided, or may from time to time be made. An affiliated member before being admitted to the Club must produce his Federation Card (showing that his subscription to his Club has been paid for the current term), which may be demanded of him by the Steward, Secretary, or any other officer of the Club. Affiliated members, shall have the same rights and privileges, and be subject to the same Rules and Bye-Laws as ordinary members, except that they must not vote at any meeting of the Club, or be supplied with excisable articles for consumption off the premises, or introduce visitors. The Executive Committee shall have power to refuse the admission of such members and to limit their admission to such times and parts of the premises as they may deem necessary in the interest of the Club.

(c) Temporary Members

A Sub-Committee of the Executive Committee shall have the power to elect temporary members for any special function, provided that the names of such temporary members are submitted to and adopted by the Sub-Committee at least 48 hours before their admission.

(d) Visiting Teams and Non-Member Functions

There may be admitted to the Club premises persons other than members and their guests, and intoxicating liquor may be sold or supplied to them by or on behalf of the Club for consumption on the premises and not elsewhere. Such persons shall be as follows:

- (i) Persons who visit the Club either as a member or an official of a visiting team to play in or partake in any recognised league or cup match or competition in which the Club officially partakes and
- (ii) Persons attending pre-arranged functions which have the approval of the Executive Committee of the Club, provided that such approval is recorded in the minutes of a meeting of the Executive Committee and at least seven days notice in writing is given to the Chief Officer of Police for the District where the Club is situated. The number of such functions shall be limited to twelve in any Calendar Year.

32. Suspension of a Committee Member

If a Member of Committee is suspended from membership, he/she will automatically vacate their seat on the Committee.