

Tamar & Tavy Gig Club

CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

The name of the club shall be Tamar & Tavy Gig Club (hereinafter known as “the Club”).

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Club are to promote participation, to compete in and to facilitate the development of the sport of Cornish Pilot Gig rowing for the communities of the Tamar and Tavy valleys and the wider communities of West Devon.

In furtherance of these objectives, the Club aims:

- i) To encourage participation in the sport of gig rowing through a membership policy based on inclusion and accessibility for all ages and abilities.
- ii) To facilitate the sport of gig rowing in a safe manner by the provision of appropriate equipment and approved levels of coaching and supervision.
- iii) To encourage an active, friendly social life within the Club for the benefit of the members.

3. MEMBERSHIP

A. Membership Categories:

- i Full Members - over the age of 16, who shall have one vote
- ii Young Adult Members - over the age of 16 and 23 years or younger, who shall have one vote
- iii Junior Members - 16 years and under
- iv Single Parent Family Membership - a single parent and children 16 years and under of one family, the parent having one vote.
- vi Non-rowing Member - being a non-rowing individual keen to support the objectives of the Club, who shall have one vote

B. Membership Rules:

- i Members shall pay annual subscriptions at a rate recommended by the Club Committee and approved by the Annual General Meeting, or at an Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose.

- ii Subscriptions shall be paid by 1 October each year and only paid up members are entitled to vote at meetings or to use Club equipment or boats.
- iii Membership is non-discriminatory and is open to all persons interested in supporting the objectives of the Club. The Club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to participation.

Every member upon admission and thereafter is deemed to have notice of and, by implication, undertakes to comply with the Club Constitution, Club Rules (if any), and any Rules and regulations set out by any Association to which the Club is affiliated.
- iv The Club Committee may refuse the granting or renewal of membership to, or may expel from membership, any person whose conduct or character is likely to bring the Club or the sport of rowing into disrepute, or is not in the best interests of the Club. In doing so the Committee shall provide full reasons for their decision and this decision may be appealed in accordance with the Club Grievance Policy.
- v Any member of the Club who enters into any transaction involving the use of the Club's funds without approval from the Club Committee may be personally liable for any debts that arise.

C. Cessation of Membership:

- i Any member may resign by giving clear notice.
- ii A member shall be deemed to have resigned from the Club if, after due notice in writing, they have not paid by 30th October the annual subscription which became due on 1 October.

4. COMMITTEE

- i The Committee shall conduct the affairs of the Club as a whole and shall consist of the Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary, Club Captain, Ladies' Squad Captain, Men's Squad Captain, Junior Squad Captain, Boatswain, Safety Officer, & Welfare Officer; and others as deemed necessary. All Committee members shall be elected by the members of the Club each year at the Annual General Meeting.
- ii All members of the Committee must be 16 years or over.
- iii In the event of a casual vacancy mid-term, the Committee may co-opt a replacement as required.
- iv A quorum for a meeting of the Club Committee shall consist of five Committee members.

5 DUTIES OF COMMITTEE

- i The Committee is responsible for the general administration of the Club.
- ii The Committee is responsible for managing the assets of the Club, including the running and maintenance of any boats owned by the Club.
- iii The Committee is responsible for managing Club funds, ensuring that funds and assets are applied solely in accordance with the objectives of the Club and are not in any way distributed to members.
- iv The Committee shall formulate such Club Rules and Regulations as they may from time to time see fit.
- v The Committee shall meet at regular intervals during the year as required by the business to be transacted, and shall promptly circulate meeting minutes to all members as appropriate.

6 GENERAL MEETINGS

- i An Annual General Meeting shall be held each year on a date to be set by the Club Committee, giving no less than 14 days' notice in writing to members. The interval between Annual General Meetings should be no less than 11 months and no more than 15 months.
- ii An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called on the instructions of a simple majority of the Committee giving no less than 21 days' notice to members, including details of the purpose of the meeting; or on a requisition signed by not less than ten of the members of the Club entitled to vote.
- iii At any General Meeting a resolution put to the vote of the Meeting shall be decided by a show of hands of those entitled to vote, except when more than one seconded nomination has been received for a position on the Committee, in which case voting will be by secret ballot.
- iv At all General Meetings the Chairperson will preside or, in his/her absence, a Chairperson will be elected by the voting members present for this meeting only.
- v A quorum for all General Meetings shall consist of five Committee Members and not less than 20% of Club members eligible to vote.
- vi The Constitution may only be altered at a General Meeting through a resolution passed by simple majority vote.

7. LIABILITY

- A. The Committee shall manage the affairs of the Club. Financial or legal liability incurred in the rightful exercise of their office shall not, however, be the personal liability of the Committee but shall be the responsibility of the Club as a whole.

- B.** Members of the Club and their guests use the facilities provided by the Club entirely at their own risk, and by implication accept that:
- i The Club will not accept any liability for any damage to or loss of property belonging to members or their guests.
 - ii The Club will not accept any liability for personal injury arising out of use of the facilities of the Club, sustained or caused by members or their guests, whether or not such injury could have been attributed or was occasioned by the neglect, fault or negligence of any of them, or the Committee.
 - iii Guests or non-members may row in the Club boats on four occasions in any one year, but must be accompanied by a Club member. Thereafter they would be expected to become a full Club member before rowing again.

8. TRUSTEES

There shall be at least three and not more than five Trustees of the Club, who will have the following duties:

- i In the event of no Committee being formed or the Committee being disbanded, the Trustees will assume temporary responsibility for the running of the Club until a Committee can be formed. If a Committee is not formed within six months, the Club will be disbanded.
- ii In the event of the Club disbanding, the Trustees will become responsible for the Club's assets and, having met any liabilities from these assets, will apply any remaining balance for the purpose of a registered CASC.
- iii In the event of a major split within the Club which cannot be resolved by the Committee, then the Trustees will become responsible for the assets of the Club as above.
- iv The Trustees will have no responsibility for the running of the Club in normal circumstances, unless they hold another role within the Club.
- v The appointment or removal of Trustees will be the responsibility of the existing Trustees, and the Club Chairman will be informed in writing of any change.
- vi Trustees must be fully paid up members of the Club.
- vii The Trustees shall have no personal liability for any debts of the Club and shall be indemnified by the Club against any liability, costs, expenses or payments properly incurred or made by them.

9. CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES

The Club accepts the procedures relating to Child Protection as set out by the Cornish Pilot Gig Association in their Policy for Safeguarding and Protecting Children, and adopts this document as Club policy. The Club requires all members to accept this policy as a condition of membership.

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 above policy. The club Welfare Officer is the lead contact for all members in the event of any child protection concerns.

10. POWER OF DECISION

Any matter not provided for in this Constitution or any question over the interpretation of it shall be dealt with by the Committee whose decision shall be final.