

# **Constitution of Meltham and Denby Dale Chess Club**

## **Name**

The name of the club shall be Meltham and Denby Dale Chess Club

## **Area of Benefit**

The Club has dual venues Meltham (Mondays), Denby Dale (Thursdays) and Slaithwaite (Fridays), but welcomes members from all local areas and the wider surrounding area

## **Aims**

The aims of the Club are:

- To provide a welcoming, calm and friendly space for anyone within travelling distance of our club nights
- To provide opportunities for members to participate in rated chess games and tournaments, both within the Club and in liaison with local chess clubs
- To provide opportunities for members to improve their chess skills, through coaching, game analysis, and a focus on tactics, opening repertoire, strategy and endgame technique
- To offer a designated junior/improvers section within the Club, open to members from the age of six upwards

## **Powers**

In order to achieve its aims, the Club may:

- Raise money
- Open bank accounts
- Take out insurance
- Organise events
- Work alongside similar local chess clubs and exchange information and advice with them

## **Membership**

Membership of the Club shall be open to any individual, without regard to neurodiversity, political or religious affiliation, race, sex or sexual orientation who is:

- Within travelling distance of our club nights
- Willing to abide by the code of conduct of the Club

Membership of the Club may be terminated by a meeting of the committee, if it can be shown that the member has been acting against the best interests of the Club. The member concerned shall have the right to appeal to the Chair, accompanied by another person, before a final decision is made.

## **Management**

The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. This committee will convene to act as an Appeals panel in the event of a Membership Committee decision being appealed

The Membership Committee shall consist of three club team captains. This committee will convene to address disputes and complaints raised by members of the club, or players in the wider area

The Safeguarding Committee shall consist of the club Safeguarding lead, plus two other adult members of the club

The Executive Committee has the power to create sub-committees as appropriate

## **Finance**

- All monies received by, or on behalf of, the Club shall be applied to further the aims of the Club
- Any bank account opened for the Club shall be in the name of the Club
- There will be at least three authorised signatures of the Club; of these, two must authorise payments, financial decisions or other legal documents and one of these must be either the Chair or treasurer. The signatories must not be related or live in the same household
- The Club shall ensure that its accounts are audited or independently examined every year

## **Annual General Meeting**

- The Club shall hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM)
- All members shall be given at least twenty-one days' notice of the AGM, and shall be entitled to attend and vote
- The business of the AGM shall include:
  - Receiving a report from the Chairperson on the Club's activities over the year
  - Receiving a report from the treasurer on the finances of the Club
  - Appointing an independent examiner of accounts
  - Electing officers for a period of one year
  - A discussion of the aims and visions of the year ahead
  - Considering any other matters as may be decided
- At least eight, or one third, of the membership (whichever is greater) must be present for the Annual General Meeting and any other general meetings

### **Extraordinary General Meeting**

The Chair may call an Extraordinary General Meeting to discuss an urgent matter at any time, provided that reason is given and that members are given at least twenty-one days' notice of the business to be discussed.

The Secretary will also call an Extraordinary General Meeting within twenty-one days of receiving a request to do so, signed by not less than 10% of the membership and giving reasons for the request.

### **Alterations to the Constitution**

Any changes to this Constitution must be agreed by at least two-thirds of those members present and voting at any General Meeting.

### **Dissolution**

The Club may be wound up at any time if agreed by two-thirds of those members present and voting at any General Meeting. In the event of winding up, any assets remaining after all debts have been paid shall be given to one or more not-for-profit organisations working in Kirklees with similar aims to the Club. This will be decided by a majority of those members present at the General Meeting.

The Constitution was adopted on \_\_\_\_\_ by:

The Constitution was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ by:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_