

## **Arsenal North Wilts Supporters Club Rules – May 2025**

As a member, you have the freedom to suggest changes to the Club's rules. You can do so informally by discussing your ideas with committee members or formally by requesting a proposed rule change to be included in the agenda for debate at the next Annual General Meeting (AGM). Most rule changes are typically addressed and voted on during the AGM.

### **MEMBERSHIP RULES**

- 1) The official name of the club shall be the Arsenal North Wilts Supporters Club (A.N.W.S.C.).
- 2) Membership is open to all Arsenal supporters who are registered members of Arsenal Football Club, residing within a thirty-mile radius of Swindon. Membership requires the completion of an application form and approval by the club, along with proof of official Arsenal Membership (Silver, Red, Junior, or Cannon).
- 3) The total number of members shall be limited to 160. Once this number is reached, a waiting list will be established.
- 4) The club's committee reserves the right to accept or reject any membership application or renewal.
- 5) Each member shall pay an annual subscription fee, which will be determined at the club's Annual General Meeting (AGM). A quorum at the AGM will consist of 20% of the paid-up members.
- 6) Membership is renewable annually between 1st May and 29th May. To renew, members must complete the Membership Application form on the 'Membership Renewal' page on the website. Please ensure that you complete all required fields and provide any necessary information as outlined on the Membership Renewal page. Renewals submitted through any other means will not be processed. At this time the subscription rate in effect at that time should be paid. The 2025 AGM will take place on Friday, 30th May (Swindon Rugby Club, SN3 3LA @ 19:30), where membership cards will be available for collection. If a member is unable to attend the AGM and requires their membership card to be posted, a £2 postage fee will be added to their subscription.
- 7) All members are required to carry both their Arsenal North Wilts Membership card and their official Arsenal Membership card (physical or digital) when attending matches. Random spot checks will be conducted throughout the season. Failure to present both cards may result in a review of the member's status and potential action regarding their continued membership.

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS (AGM)**

- 1) We will aim to hold the AGM in May every year.

#### **Mandatory Attendance**

All members are strongly encouraged to attend the Club's Annual General Meeting (AGM) to ensure their voice is heard and they are kept informed of the Club's activities, financial status, and future plans. Active participation in the AGM is essential for the overall development and governance of the Club.

#### **Apologies for Absence**

If a member is unable to attend the AGM, they must submit their apology in writing to the Club Secretary at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Failure to provide an apology will be considered as non-compliance with Club expectations.

#### **Disadvantage for Non-attendance without Apology**

Members who do not attend the AGM and fail to submit a formal apology may be at a disadvantage. They may miss key decisions, voting opportunities, and important discussions, which could impact their membership rights and ability to influence the Club's future direction. Additionally, non-compliance may result in the member being excluded from certain decisions or benefits associated with the AGM.

#### **Voting Rights**

In accordance with the Club's Constitution, only members who are present (or have submitted a valid apology) will be eligible to vote on matters presented at the AGM. Members who fail to attend or submit an apology will forfeit their right to vote.

We encourage all members to attend and engage in the AGM to help shape the Club's future and ensure the best outcomes for the club.

## **COMMITTEE RULES**

1. **Election of Committee Members** - At the AGM, the club will hold elections for the committee positions. If no one nominates themselves or others for a position, the current committee will stay in place for another term. However, if new nominations are made, the existing committee members may stand for re-election or be replaced.

The committee shall consist of the following positions:

- Chairperson
- Vice Chairperson
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Ticket Allocation Officer
- Membership Secretary
- Webmaster

A) **Re-election:** Half of the committee members will stand for re-election each year. The committee may co-opt additional members with voting rights, as needed, to ensure the effective operation of the club.

B) **Eligibility:** All adult members are eligible to stand for elected positions, provided they are nominated and seconded. Nominations must also meet any additional criteria required by Arsenal Football Club.

C) **Nominations:** Nominations for elected positions must be submitted to the secretary at least seven days before the AGM.

2. **Financial Oversight**  
Club officials have the right to inspect the club's financial accounts and records, held by the treasurer, at any reasonable time upon request.
3. **Policy and Rule Proposals**  
Any proposals for policy changes or amendments to the rules must be submitted to the secretary at least fourteen days before a club meeting to be included on the agenda.
4. **Voting on Proposals**  
Proposals submitted will be debated and voted on by members present at the meeting. Each adult member has one vote, and a simple majority is required for approval.
5. **Tie-breaking Vote**  
In the event of a tie during voting, the chairperson will cast the deciding vote. The chairperson does not have a vote in any other circumstances.

## **TICKETS**

- 1) **Fixture Application Procedure** - All members who wish to apply for fixtures must submit their applications through the 'Ticket Application' page on the Arsenal North Wilts website. When you have completed the order of your ticket(s) through the Ticket Application page, a deposit payment is required for each ticket. This is £50 for each adult, £20 for Adult Concession and £15 for Juniors. Tickets will not be ordered until the total deposit amount has been received. Payment of the deposit is to be made to the North Wilts bank account in the normal way.
- 2) **Ticket Resale Prohibition** - Members are strictly prohibited from selling or transferring match tickets to third parties or ticket touts under any circumstances. Unwanted tickets must be returned to the Ticket Officer(s). Failure to comply with this rule may result in suspension or termination of membership.
- 3) **Eligibility for Ticket Allocation** - Tickets obtained through Arsenal North Wilts Supporters Club can only be allocated to individuals who hold a valid Membership Card with Arsenal Football Club (Silver, Red, Junior, or Cannon Members).
- 4) **Arsenal Registration Fees** - Members are responsible for ensuring their registration fees with Arsenal FC are up to date.
- 5) **Use of Silver Registrations** - The club will use each Silver Membership to obtain a ticket, subject to the agreement of the Silver Ticket Holder.
- 6) **Priority for Silver Members** - Silver Members who have applied for a fixture will receive priority in ticket allocation for that fixture.
- 7) **Ticket Allocation for other Members** - Any remaining tickets after Silver Member allocation will be offered to other A.N.W.S.C. Members who have applied for the fixture.

- 8) **Ticket Allocation Process** - Tickets will be allocated based on membership level (e.g., Silver Members have priority). If fixtures are oversubscribed, members who support the club regularly will be prioritised. Updates and instructions for 'Ballot Applications' will be communicated through the club's newsletters.
- 9) **Payment and Ticket Distribution** - Once the Arsenal Box Office releases the tickets, successful applicants will receive their tickets via email. You will be charged the difference between the ticket price and your deposit, e.g. deposit paid £50, ticket price £60, you will be charged £10. Payment for the ticket must be made before the fixture. Should the ticket price be less than the deposit, you will be refunded the difference into your bank account. Should you not receive any tickets, the deposit will be refunded to your bank account. If payment is not received prior to the fixture, the ticket(s) will be reallocated to another applicant.
- 10) **Responsibility for Ticket Payment** - Members who order tickets are responsible for ensuring payment is made for the allocated ticket(s). If a member is unable to attend a fixture they have ordered tickets for, they are still liable for payment. Non-payment for tickets may result in expulsion from the club.
- 11) **No Transfer of Tickets to Non-Members** - Tickets are exclusively available to A.N.W.S.C. members and should not be sold or transferred to non-members under any circumstances.
- 12) **Outstanding Debts** - Any member who owes money to the club at the end of the season must settle the debt in full before the AGM. No membership renewal or ticket applications will be processed until the outstanding balance is paid.

### **ENFORCEMENT OF RULES**

Any breach of these rules may result in suspension or expulsion from the club, with the final decision to be made by members at the next Annual General Meeting.