

## **PGRFC**

### **Notes on proposed changes to the Rules July 2016**

#### **Purpose**

The reasons for the proposed changes in the Rules are:

1. To consolidate changes approved in past years which have never been properly incorporated into one document.
2. To update communication with members from newspaper and post to website and email.
3. To update archaic references such as Auditor to Reporting Accountant, IRFB to World Rugby and remove reference to Amateur Regulations.
4. To reflect the way the club has been managed for some years with a Management Committee and a Chairman and to make the Chairman an ongoing Officer of the Club elected by the members rather than the Management Committee.
5. To clarify membership categories and voting rights.
6. To give more flexibility should Rule Changes be necessary in the future.
7. To protect the Club's interest in its name.

Apart from the move to electronic communication nothing in these changes is intended to change the *status quo* of the past few years.

#### **Detailed Changes**

Throughout the Rules the references to the Committee have been changed to Management Committee.

The Numbers quoted refer to pages and the Rule Numbers.

Page 2 9 Companies only have General Meetings now ,no such thing as a Special Meeting

18 Reporting Accountants instead of Auditors. Companies our size no longer need to have Audited accounts

Page 3 21 Seal changed to Execution of Documents. Seal no longer required.

Page 4 3.3 No Amateur Regulations now. Reference is to Regulations and Rules of the Union.

Page 5 4.2.2 Original Borrowing limit was £500K Increased to £750K in 2007.

Page 7 5.1 Members now include corporate bodies and partnerships

5.2 line 5 has words "Subject to 5.7" inserted. 5.7 enables the Management Committee to create categories of members who may or may not have votes.

5.8 The Companies Act 2006 specified means of notices being given by or to a Company to include email and website. It is highly desirable that we should have the email addresses of all members so that we can communicate notices of General Meetings by email. That avoids the need to send hard copy mail to members.

Page 8 5.10 Chairman substituted for President.

5.11 Reference to Amateur Regulations removed.

5.12 5.12.2 inserted to provide that membership shall terminate on non payment of Subs.

Page 10 7.1 Reference to Special General Meeting removed. See note to 9 on Page 2.

7.3 "subject to 5.7" inserted. See note to 5.2.

8.1.3 Reporting Accountants substituted for Auditors. See note to 18 on Page 2.

8.2 Addition of notice on the website.

Pages 12 and 13

8.5 Deletion of Annual means that Rule changes can be effected at any General Meeting.

8.5.1 Removal of need to propose Rule changes by 30<sup>th</sup> April and insertion of a requirement for members to give ten days notice of proposed changes prior to General Meeting.

8.5.3 and 8.5.4 Removal of references to Annual General Meeting

9 References to "Special" meetings removed from Heading, 9.1 9.1.2 9.2 and 9.2.3.

9.1 Addition of notice on the website.

10.3 Charge for copy of the Rules changed from 5p to sum to be determined by the Management Committee.

Page 14 12.1 Addition of Chairman as an Officer of the Club.

Page 15 12.2 and 12.3 Requirement that President serve for only three years changed to provide for President to be elected for three years with possibility of re election at the end of three years.

13.1.2 In view of addition of Chairman as an Officer the number of additional Management Committee members reduced from 6 to 5.

13.2 and 13.3 deletion of reference to Chairman being elected by the Management Committee.

Page 17 18 Reporting Accountants substituted for Auditors.

Page 18 20.3 Prevention of use of Club's name without permission extended to "any part thereof or any derivative thereof" so as to include "Hoppers" "Hopfest" etc

21 Procedure for Execution of documents replaces references to Seal which is no longer used to execute documents.

Page 19 23 Inspection of Books. Regulations for inspection to be made by the Management Committee rather than by the club in General Meeting.

25 Reporting Accountants instead of Auditors and removal of requirement to hang up a copy of the accounts in the clubhouse.

27 On dissolution assets no longer are distributed amongst members but are to go to another Rugby club, to the Lancashire RFU to a Community Amateur Sports Club or to a Charity as the Management Committee consider to be fair and reasonable. Approved in 2010.

Page 21 31 Replacement of reference to first class post by a clause which incorporates the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. That Act requires notice in writing to members to be By Mail, email, website or a combination of those three. Accordingly notice can most readily be given by email and website. Hard copies only being required for those without email.

34 Definition of the Act extended to any Act subsequently amending or replacing the same.

G W E 23.5.2016