



THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CROQUET ASSOCIATION

(October 2009 Edition)

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THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CROQUET ASSOCIATION

GENERAL AND DEFINITIONS

In this Constitution use of the masculine gender shall be deemed to include the feminine gender. The words in the first column shall bear the meanings quoted opposite them:

<i>The Association</i>	The Croquet Association
<i>Croquet</i>	Association and/or Golf Croquet as defined in the current laws including all forms of play described therein and in the current regulations for tournaments.
<i>The Domain</i>	England, Wales, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man
<i>The Council</i>	The governing body of the Association elected in accordance with Clause 12 below
<i>Home Members</i>	Individual Associates and Member Clubs resident or situated in the Domain and Scotland
<i>Federations</i>	Groupings of Croquet clubs within the Domain run under the auspices of the Association but independent of it
<i>The Office</i>	The Association's office, c/o Cheltenham Croquet Club, Old Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7DF, telephone 01242 242318, e-mail caoffice@croquet.org.uk

1 COMPOSITION AND OBJECTS

The Association is called “The Croquet Association” and consists of a Patron, a President, Vice-Presidents, Individual Associates (including Life and Honorary Individual Associates), Member Clubs and Affiliate Members. Its objects are:

- (a) To encourage, promote, develop and control Croquet in the Domain.
- (b) To codify and publish the laws of Croquet and regulations for tournaments applicable in the domain.
- (c) To assist Croquet clubs and provide coaches in the Domain.
- (d) To assist the development of Croquet and its clubs in conjunction with the Regional Croquet Federations.
- (e) To represent the interests of its members in the Domain with Government departments and other bodies and organisations.
- (f) Within the Domain to promote, hold and manage tournaments, matches and other events, to sanction championships and provide official managers, referees and handicappers.
- (g) To represent the interests of its members and promote development of Croquet internationally.
- (h) To enter individuals and teams in international events to represent nations or groups of nations associated with the Domain and to host and support such events.

2 FULL AND AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Membership of the Association shall comprise Full Members and Affiliate Members.

(i) Full Members

Any individual shall be eligible for admission as an Individual Associate, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs.

Any club providing facilities for the playing of Croquet shall be eligible for admission as a Member Club.

(ii) Affiliate Members

Individuals, groups of persons, clubs, other Croquet associations and councils may be eligible for admission as Affiliate Members on such terms and conditions as Council may from time to time determine.

- (b) The Council may from time to time as it thinks fit, sub-divide Individual Associates, Member Clubs and Affiliate Members into various classes for the purpose of classifying their rights, privileges and the subscriptions payable by them.

3 INDIVIDUAL ASSOCIATES: ADMISSION

- (a) Applications for admission as an Individual Associate, including the name, address and other contact details of the applicant and payment of, or authorisation to collect, the appropriate subscription, may be made via the Association's web site or sent to the Office.
- (b) The Council, on the recommendation of its Executive Committee, may refuse an application only for good cause, including but not limited to conduct likely to bring the Association into disrepute or hinder its operation.
- (c) Applicants may exercise the privileges of membership immediately, though shall cease to do so if informed by the Hon. Secretary that the Council has been recommended to refuse their application under (b) above.
- (d) The Association, on the proposal of Council, may elect as Honorary Individual Associates persons who have rendered special services to the Association.

4 INDIVIDUAL ASSOCIATES: RESIGNATION

An Individual Associate who wishes to resign must inform the Office not later than 30 November in any year or remain liable for the subscription for the following year.

5 Deleted – replaced by new clause 8

6 MEMBER CLUBS: ADMISSION

Member Clubs shall be admitted on such terms and conditions as Council may from time to time determine.

7 MEMBER CLUBS: RESIGNATION

A Member Club wishing to resign must inform the Office not later than 30th November in any year or remain liable for the subscription for the following year.

8 DISCIPLINARY AND APPEALS PROCEDURES

- (a) If an Individual Associate or Member Club believes that they have been adversely affected by the conduct of another Individual Associate or Member Club which is in breach of the Association's Constitution or Tournament Regulations, or which is injurious to the character or interests of the Association, they should first attempt to resolve the matter informally, failing which they may lay a complaint before a disciplinary panel by following the procedure set out in Appendix 1 of the Constitution. A disciplinary panel shall not consider any matter that it decides should be the sole concern of a Member Club.
- (b) If an Individual Associate or Member Club believes that they have been adversely affected by maladministration by the Council, its Committees or Officers, they should first attempt to resolve the matter informally, failing which they may appeal against it by following the procedure set out in Appendix 1 of the Constitution. It is a condition of membership of the Association, for both individuals and clubs, that this procedure, which includes provision for arbitration, is their sole remedy against the Association.
- (c) If the Council, its Committees or Officers, believes the conduct of an Individual Associate or Member Club to be in breach of the Association's Constitution or Tournament Regulations, or which is injurious to the character or interests of the Association, it should first attempt to resolve the matter informally, failing which it may refer the matter to a disciplinary panel under the procedure set out in Appendix 1 of the Constitution.

9 AFFILIATED MEMBER CLUBS

Clubs may be affiliated to the Association without acquiring the full status of Member Clubs on such terms and conditions as Council may from time to time determine.

10 AFFILIATED COUNCILS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Other Croquet Councils and Associations may be affiliated to the Association on payment of such annual or other fee as Council may from time to time determine. The obligations and privileges of Affiliated Councils and Associations shall be as follows:

- (a) The mutual interchange of all official publications.
- (b) The right of any duly accredited member of the affiliated body, when visiting the Domain for a limited period, to enjoy, on payment of half of the appropriate annual subscription payable by a Home Member, all the privileges of an Individual Associate except that of voting at General Meetings.
- (c) The extension of reciprocal rights for any duly accredited Individual Associate when visiting the country of the affiliated body.

11 SUBSCRIPTIONS

- (a) The categories of membership and the annual subscriptions payable by Full Members shall be determined by the Council from time to time, provided
- (i) the subscription of an Individual Associate shall not be raised by more than 50% above the rate payable for the previous year without the approval of a General Meeting; and
 - (ii) the subscription of a Member Club is based on a per capita rate which shall not, without the approval of a General Meeting, be raised by an amount greater than that needed to match inflation in the period since the current rate first applied except that it may be rounded up to the nearest 5p. The value of the Retail Price Index (all items) for the April immediately preceding the coming subscription year compared to the value of that Index for the April immediately preceding the subscription year to which the current subscription rate first applied, is to be used as the measure of inflation.
 - (iii) notice of any alteration of subscriptions for the following year shall be given by 1 August either in the Association's official journal or by post to all Home Members.
- (b) All subscriptions shall become due and payable to the Office on election or 1st January for Individual Associates and 1st May for Member Clubs in each year as applicable. The Office will issue membership cards to Individual Associates and receipts to Member Clubs.
- (c) Members whose subscriptions are in arrears shall not be entitled to any of the privileges of membership including, in the case of Individual Associates, the right to play in Calendar Fixtures. Individual Associates in arrears on 1 May and Member Clubs in arrears on 1 June shall forthwith cease to be members of the Association but shall remain liable for their subscriptions.

12 MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL

- (a) The management and control of the property, funds and affairs of the Association and the fulfilment of its objects except as otherwise provided by the Constitution shall be vested in a Council consisting of:
- (i) the President, Vice-Presidents, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer; and
 - (ii) fifteen Council members elected solely by the votes of all Individual Associates; and
 - (iii) a maximum of nine Council members ("Federation Representatives") elected via the Federations to represent Member Clubs situated within the Domain; Federation Representatives shall be elected on the basis of one Council member for each Federation.
- (b) A decision of the Council must be rescinded if a motion to that effect is proposed at a General Meeting and passed both by a majority of 6 to 4 of Individual Associates voting and by a majority of 6 to 4 of Member Clubs voting.

- (c) The Officers of the Association shall be the President, Vice-Presidents, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Council, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer. The President and Vice-Presidents shall be non-executive.
- (d) No member of Council shall be paid by the Association except as follows:
 - (i) Reasonable expenses properly incurred when acting on behalf of the Association may be reimbursed.
 - (ii) The Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and, if a member of Council, the Independent Examiner, may be given honoraria determined by other members of Council.
 - (iii) Payments may be made for specific tasks undertaken on behalf of the Association over and above that generally expected of Council members, as determined by Council.

13 GENERAL MEETINGS: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A General Meeting of the Association shall be held annually in October at such time and place as the Council shall determine. The Honorary Secretary shall give at least 24 days notice of the meeting, accompanied by an agenda, either in the official journal of the Association or electronically to each Member who has registered an address with the Office for such communication, failing which by post to Home Members.

14 GENERAL MEETINGS: REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

The Council shall submit to the Annual General Meeting a Report and Statement of Accounts for the preceding year signed by the Chairman of Council and accompanied by a Report from the Reporting Accountants. Copies shall be available before the meeting and on request shall be sent by post or may be transmitted electronically to Home Members. The Report and Statement of Accounts shall also be published in the official journal of the Association as soon as possible after the Council has approved them.

15 GENERAL MEETINGS: SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

- (a) The Council may call a Special General Meeting at any time.
- (b) The Honorary Secretary shall call a Special General Meeting within one month of receiving a requisition in writing from at least 35 Full Members to consider such matters as shall be stated in the requisition.
- (c) The Honorary Secretary shall give at least 24 days notice of the meeting, accompanied by an agenda, either in the official journal of the Association or electronically to each Member who has registered an address with Office for such communications, failing which by post to Home Members.

16 GENERAL MEETINGS: PROCEDURE

- (a) The quorum for Annual General Meetings shall be 12 Individual Associates and the authorized representatives of three Member Clubs. The quorum for Special General Meetings shall be 25 Individual Associates and the authorized representatives of

seven Member Clubs. The authorized representative of a Member Club, if he is also an Individual Associate, shall be counted as a member of both categories.

(b) The President or, in his absence one of the Vice-Presidents in order of seniority, or, in their absence, the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Council shall take the chair. In their absence the members present shall elect a member of the Council to take the chair.

(c) If Council, an Individual Associate or Member Club wishes

(i) to propose a candidate for the office of President, Honorary Secretary or Honorary Treasurer, or

(ii) to propose a motion at an Annual General Meeting, except on a question arising out of the Report and Statement of Accounts, the election of the Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer or members of Council, or the appointment of the Independent Examiner,

they must give written notice thereof to the Honorary Secretary by 1st June preceding the Annual General Meeting.

(d) The election of members of Council shall be determined in accordance with Clause 18. Motions that required notice under the above Clause 16(c) and motions proposed at Special General Meetings shall be the subject of a postal vote in accordance with Clause 19. All other questions put to the vote at a meeting shall be decided by a show of hands and to succeed each resolution must be carried both by a majority of Individual Associates voting and by a majority of Member Clubs voting through their authorized representatives, both categories voting separately on each issue. The authorized representative of every Member Club present in person and every Individual Associate present in person shall have one vote. The authorized representative of a Member Club, if he is also an Individual Associate, shall be entitled to vote in both capacities.

(e) Proxy voting by Individual Associates and the authorized representatives of Member Clubs is not permitted.

(f) If a vacancy exists in the office of President, Honorary Secretary or Honorary Treasurer and there are no nominations, or the nominees refuse to stand or withdraw, the Council shall nominate a person at any time before the Annual General Meeting without prior notice. If no nominee is elected, the Council shall fill the vacancy as soon as possible thereafter.

17 GENERAL MEETINGS: ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENTS

At an Annual General Meeting the Association shall on due notice given under Clause 16(c) elect its President and may elect Vice-Presidents nominated by the Council from among Individual Associates or Benefactors to the Association or persons of distinction who are interested in Croquet. They shall be ex-officio members of the Council, but shall not be eligible for membership of Council Committees unless so appointed by the Council.

18 GENERAL MEETINGS: ELECTION OF COUNCIL

(a) Election of Council Members by Individual Associates

The procedure for the election of the 15 members of Council who are elected by the votes of the Individual Associates resident in the Domain or Scotland shall be:

(i) At the Annual General Meeting in each year elected members of the Council who shall have been elected at the Annual General Meeting in the third calendar year preceding, and any member of the Council who is filling a vacancy on Council in accordance with Clause 24(a), shall retire. These persons shall be eligible for immediate re-election provided that they have notified the Honorary Secretary by 1st March that they are willing to stand.

(ii) Other candidates for election shall be Individual Associates duly proposed and seconded for membership of the Council by two other Individual Associates, and of whose candidature written notice has been received by the Honorary Secretary by 1 June preceding the Annual General Meeting.

(iii) If the number of candidates does not exceed the number of vacancies then the candidates shall all be deemed to be elected to fill the vacancies and this result shall be announced at the Annual General Meeting.

(iv) If there shall be more candidates for election than there are vacancies a ballot shall be held in the manner set out in the next following paragraphs numbered (v) to (viii) inclusive.

(v) If a ballot shall be required for the election of members of Council the Honorary Secretary shall issue a voting paper with the Agenda for the Annual General Meeting as required by Clause 13. The voting paper shall give the names of retiring members of the Council offering themselves for re-election under sub-clause 18(a)(i) above, the names of the Individual Associates offering themselves for election under sub-clause 18(a)(ii) above and in the latter case the names of the proposer and seconder of each. It shall also include such other relevant information about the candidates as the Council may reasonably require and the candidates are willing to supply.

(vi) In voting an Individual Associate may not give more than one vote for any candidate and may not record more votes than there are vacancies. Any such error will invalidate the voting paper.

(vii) The voting paper must be signed and returned to the Office so as to arrive not later than the first post 10 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting. Alternatively, if so advertised, votes may be submitted by e-mail to the Office from a registered address, or by other attributable electronic means, by the same time.

(viii) Two scrutineers who are not members of the Council shall be appointed by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Council to count the votes. In the event of a tie they shall decide by lot. They shall report the names of those elected in alphabetic order at the Annual General Meeting.

(b) Election to Council of Federation Representatives by clubs

The procedure for the election of Federation Representatives shall be:

(i) Federation representatives shall be elected for a period of three years, normally through the Federation structure by such method being either a ballot or a show of hands at a General Meeting of the relevant Federation or by a postal vote as the rules of the Federation may prescribe.

(ii) Candidates for election as Federation Representatives must be Individual Associates resident in the Domain or Scotland. A retiring Federation Representative shall be eligible for re-election.

(iii) Every member club of a Federation including (if the Federation so wishes) any club that is a member of the Federation but not a Member Club, and every other Member Club situated within the Federation boundaries, shall be eligible to vote in the election but shall have only one vote. A club may vote in only one Federation region.

(iv) Any Member Club situated within the Domain but not within the boundaries of any Federation may, with the agreement of that Member Club and for the purposes of Clause 18(b) only, be allocated by the Council to a Federation and shall be deemed to be a Member Club situated within the boundaries of that Federation.

(v) Prior to an election being held all clubs that are members of the relevant Federation, and all clubs that are not members of the Federation but are Member Clubs situated or deemed to be situated within the boundaries of the Federation, shall be notified by the Honorary Secretary of their right to elect a Federation Representative in accordance with the above provisions as applicable to the Federation. The onus will be on those clubs that are not also members of the Federation to make appropriate arrangements with the Federation to enable them to exercise this right.

(vi) Notice of the meeting at which a Federation Representative is to be elected and of the method of voting to be adopted shall be lodged with the Secretary of the Croquet Association no later than two weeks before such meeting takes place. Within two weeks after the election the Secretary of the Federation should notify the Honorary Secretary of the Croquet Association in writing of the name of the Federation Representative.

(vii) The period for which Federation Representatives are elected shall begin on the date of the Annual General Meeting of the Association immediately following their election by a Federation.

(viii) If a Federation is unwilling or unable to conduct an election, either in accordance with the above provisions or according to those provisions modified in a manner that is acceptable to the Council, the Honorary Secretary shall organize the election and conduct it in the region concerned according to conditions to be laid down by the Council.

(c) Attendance

Any member of the Council who does not attend at least half the meetings to which he has been summoned during the year without leave of absence or an explanation satisfactory to the Chairman of the Council shall be deemed to have resigned his

membership of the Council and shall not be eligible for re-election for a period of 12 months.

19 GENERAL MEETINGS: POSTAL OR ELECTRONIC VOTING

- (a) If notice of motion has been given under Clause 16 (c) or a Special General Meeting has been called or requisitioned, a voting paper shall be issued with the Agenda for meetings as required by Clauses 13 or 15(c), giving the terms of each motion to be proposed thereat.
- (b) Each Individual Associate member and each Member Club shall have one vote and the two categories of membership shall vote separately on each issue.
- (c) The voting paper must be signed and returned to the Office so as to arrive not later than the first post 10 days before the date of the meeting. Alternatively, if so advertised, votes may be submitted by e-mail to the Office from a registered address, or by other attributable electronic means, by the same time. Such votes shall be treated as postal votes in clauses 19(e) and 19(g) below.
- (d) Two scrutineers who are not members of Council shall be appointed by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of Council to count the votes. They shall record the number of votes cast for and against each motion within each of the two categories of membership.
- (e) At the conclusion of the debate on each motion, the Chairman of the meeting shall call upon the Individual Associates present who have not cast a postal vote to vote upon the motion by a show of hands; and he shall next call upon the authorized representatives present of Member Clubs that have not cast a postal vote to vote upon the motion by a show of hands. The authorized representative of a Member Club, if he is also an Individual Associate, shall be entitled to vote in both capacities subject to the above conditions. The Chairman shall then call upon the scrutineers to announce the result of the postal vote and shall then declare the total number of votes cast for and against the motion within each of the two categories of membership.
- (f) For a motion to be carried it must be carried both by a majority of Individual Associates and by a majority of Member Clubs, both categories being considered separately.
- (g) An Individual Associate who has cast a postal vote but attends the meeting in person may cancel his postal vote and vote at the meeting provided he so informs the scrutineers before the result of the postal vote is announced. A Member Club that has cast a postal vote may cancel its postal vote and vote through its authorized representative subject to the same proviso.
- (h) The Chairman of the meeting may require those who have voted at the meeting to identify themselves to the scrutineers.

20 GENERAL MEETINGS: ELECTION OF HONORARY SECRETARY AND HONORARY TREASURER AND APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The Association shall elect Individual Associates to the posts of Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer and appoint an Independent Examiner of the Accounts at each Annual General Meeting. If a vacancy in any of these positions arises during the year between Annual General Meetings, Council shall appoint a substitute to hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.

21 APPOINTMENT OF STAFF

The Council may appoint a Manager and such other staff on such terms and conditions as it may from time to time determine.

22 COUNCIL: ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

At the first Council Meeting after the Annual General Meeting the Council shall elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman to hold office until the first Council meeting after the next Annual General Meeting.

23 COUNCIL: QUORUM

The quorum for ordinary Council meetings shall be eight.

24 COUNCIL: VACANCIES

- (a) Members of Council elected by Individual Associates

The Council may appoint any Individual Associate to be a member of the Council, either to fill a casual vacancy arising by resignation or otherwise, or to add to the existing members of Council, but only so far as the total number of elected members and of members appointed under this sub-rule shall not exceed 15. Any person so appointed shall be a member of the Council only until the next Annual General Meeting but thereafter shall be eligible for election as a member of Council.

- (b) Federation Representatives

If a Federation Representative resigns or otherwise ceases to be a Federation Representative before the expiry of his elected period the Council, after consulting the relevant Federation, shall fill the vacancy so created and the person appointed shall serve as the Federation Representative for the remainder of the original elected Representative's term.

25 COUNCIL: COMMITTEES AND PANELS

The Council may appoint committees and sub-committees consisting of members of the Council and other Individual Associates and may delegate some of its powers and duties to such committees. The Chairman of such a committee shall always be a currently elected member of the Council and the Council shall have the power to elect and remove him and to withdraw the powers delegated to a committee.

The Council may appoint disciplinary panels consisting of members of the Council and other Individual Associates, and appeals panels consisting of current and past Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Chairmen of the Association and if necessary other Individual Associates.

26 INDEMNITY

A Council member who acts within the scope of his express or implied authority in the performance of his duties, and a member of the Croquet Association who so acts on behalf of the Council and/or pursuant to its instructions, shall be entitled to be indemnified fully out of Association funds in respect of any claim arising therefrom, and in respect of any legal costs that are reasonably incurred in connection therewith, provided that such person:

- (a) as soon as possible, but in any event within one month of being made aware of such claim, notifies the Honorary Secretary of the Association both of the existence of the claim and of the circumstances in which it has been brought;
- (b) thereafter keeps the Honorary Secretary fully informed as to any developments relating to the same, and provides him with all relevant documentation; and
- (c) complies with any directions of the Council as to how the claim should be dealt with, including any directions as to whether the claim should be contested or compromised, or as to the terms of such compromise.

27 LAWS AND REGULATIONS

- (a) Amendments to, or new editions of, the Laws of both Association and Golf Croquet may be submitted to the Council for approval by the International Laws Committee on which the Council is entitled to be represented or by a Council committee. If the Council is satisfied that adequate opportunity has been given for Individual Associates and Member Clubs to comment on the proposal, the Council may approve it by passing, with a majority of at least 6 to 4, a resolution specifying the date on which it is to take effect, which fact shall be published in the Association's official journal. Such approval by the Council of alterations to the Laws shall apply within the Domain under the provision of Clause 1(b).
- (b) The Council shall have power to authorise the adoption of temporary variations in the laws and regulations.
- (c) The Council shall, for both Association and Golf Croquet, appoint one of its members to decide questions arising on the interpretation of the laws and regulations. The Council may additionally delegate power to issue rulings and commentary on the laws to an international body on which it is entitled to be represented.

28 INVESTMENTS

The Council may invest any part of the property and funds of the Association, whether real or personal, that is not needed immediately for the ordinary purposes of the Association in such securities including real property as it may determine with power to sell or vary such securities at any time. Such investments shall be held for the benefit of the Association in the name of a trust company or in the names of at least two and not more than four Individual Associates appointed by the Council to be Trustees or held in any other legally acceptable manner on such terms and conditions as the Council shall think fit provided always that the Council shall retain the power to remove and to appoint such trust company or Trustees at any time.

29 BANK ACCOUNTS

The Council shall maintain in the name of the Association such bank accounts as it deems necessary. The person or persons authorized to operate these accounts, to sign cheques and make other payments in respect of them shall be as determined by the Council from time to time. These provisions shall be reviewed by the Council at least once a year including immediately following the Annual General Meeting. The persons so authorized shall keep account of all receipts and disbursements for which they are responsible.

30 ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION

Alterations in and additions to the Constitution shall not be made except by means of a motion proposed and seconded at an Annual or Special General Meeting. The voting shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions for voting set out in Clause 19. For the motion to succeed it must be carried by a majority of 6 to 4 of the Individual Associates voting and by a majority of 6 to 4 of the Member Clubs voting. Such alterations and additions shall come into force forthwith unless otherwise decided.

Appendix One

PROCEDURES CONCERNING COMPLAINTS, DISCIPLINARY AND APPEALS PANELS

The procedures that any of the parties named in Clause 8 may invoke, and the consequences that follow, are as given below and as provided for in any procedural guidelines the Council may authorise:

- (a) **Complainants**
Complainants should inform the Honorary Secretary in writing about the complaint or matter in dispute giving details of the specific instance(s) of an alleged breach of the Association's Constitution, Laws or Regulations or conduct that is alleged to be injurious to the character or interests of the Association.
- (b) **Disciplinary Panels**
Disciplinary Panels shall have the power to make declarations, issue warnings, exclude players, teams or clubs from selection or participation in certain events, suspend or terminate membership of the Association. If membership of the Association is terminated all subscriptions paid by the member shall be forfeited.
- (c) **Appeals Panels**
Any of the parties concerned, or the Council itself, may refer the decision of a Disciplinary Panel to an Appeals Panel by informing the Honorary Secretary in writing of the matter that is the subject of the appeal. Appeals Panels may also consider written complaints alleging one or more specific instances of maladministration detrimental to the complainant, or complaints about the decisions of the Association's Officers or Committees. Any reference to an Appeals Panel must be made within three months of the original decision of the Disciplinary Panel.

Appeals Panels shall have the power to uphold or vary the findings and decisions in the case of a disciplinary appeal, and to make recommendations to Council in the case of an administrative appeal.
- (d) **Arbitration**
If complainants are dissatisfied with the way in which the decision of the Appeals Panel has been reached they undertake to agree to binding arbitration by the Sports Disputes Resolution Panel, 107-111 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2AB