

Ash Rugby Football Club Constitution

1. The club shall be called Ash Rugby Football Club.
2. The Club shall be managed by a Committee consisting of President, Secretary, Treasurer, Fixture Secretary, Membership Secretary, Press Officer, Social Secretaries, Captain, Vice-Captain and up to six other members who shall retire annually at the Annual General Meeting but be eligible for re-election. Five shall form a quorum. Committee will meet a minimum of six times per annum.
3. The objectives of the Club shall be to promote the playing of Rugby Union at Ash and for the social intercourse of members.
4. Intention of the club is to be affiliated to Rugby Football Union (RFU) and its intention is to follow RFU guidelines, rules and regulations.
5. Full membership shall be open to anyone over the age of seventeen years. Junior membership shall be open to anyone under the age of seventeen years.
6. Every candidate for admission as a member shall be proposed by one member and seconded by another. The proposal for membership shall be posted prominently at the Club premises at least two days preceding the day when the candidate comes up for election by the Committee.
7. The Committee shall have sole power to elect persons to membership of the Club and to expel or suspend any Member of the Club if it shall be of the opinion that the interest of the Club so requires.
8. The purchase of intoxicating liquor for and to supply to the Club shall be at the absolute discretion of the licensee of the Ash Sports Pavilion. No member shall be permitted to purchase or consume intoxicating liquor upon the premises of the Club whilst under the age of eighteen years.
9. The hours permitted for purchase of intoxicating liquors shall be
Weekdays and Saturdays: 11:00am to 11:00pm
Sundays: 12 noon to 10:30pm
10. Members of any Rugby Club visiting the Club on the occasion of a match against the Club shall on the day of such match be allowed the facilities of the Club as Temporary Members. All Temporary Members must sign the Temporary Member's Book.

11. A Member may introduce friends as guest's subject to the Member and the guests signing their names in the Visitors Book.
12. The Annual General Meeting shall be held each year in June – seven days' notice must be given. Ten shall form a quorum. The Chairman of the Committee shall be elected from the Committee at the first meeting following the Annual General Meeting.

Following AGM annual income and expenditure will be independently approved.
Financial year runs from June to June.
13. The property of the Club shall be the responsibility of the elected Committee.
14. Honorary Life Members and Vice-Presidents may be elected at the AGM. Vice-Presidents shall retire annually but be eligible for re-election.
15. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called by the Committee on their own resolution or at the signed request of any ten Members. Seven days' notice must be given, and the subjects for discussion may be specified in the notice, and only those subjects be discussed.
16. The Committee may expel any Member whose conduct, in their opinion, endangers the character and interest of the Club.
17. Any Member wilfully damaging Club property shall be responsible for its replacement or repair, to the satisfaction of the Committee.
18. The captain of the team or the day, or in his absence a member of the Committee, shall be empowered to close and rest pitches at his discretion and no play shall take place on any day when in his opinion the ground is unfit.
19. Subscriptions are due by the end of September each year, or on election as follows:
Only fully paid-up Members of the Club will be eligible for selection to play Ash Rugby Football Club, as Members only will be covered by insurance.

Subscriptions:

Membership Fees - Seniors = £125 per year (£100 early bird option)
Membership Fees – Adult Students = £90 per year (£75 early bird option)
Membership Fees - Juniors = £90 per year (£75 early bird option) (£45 per additional sibling)
Match Fees - Seniors = £10 per game, paid at the game.
Match Fees - Juniors = N/A

- 20.** These rules may not be altered except at a General Meeting.
- 21.** To carry out the objects of the Club, the Committee has the power to: -
1. raise funds, receive grants and donations.
 2. buy or sell property and take on leases.
 3. employ staff
 4. co-operate with and support groups with similar purposes.
 5. do anything else within the law which is necessary to achieve the objects.
- 22.** Winding up (dissolution) – the Club may be wound up by a 2/3 majority of Members present and voting at an Extraordinary General Meeting. Any money or property remaining after payments of debts must be given to a group with similar purposes/objects.
- 23.** No individual shall be expelled from membership or de-barred from any official capacity on the Committee on the grounds of sex, race, colour, age, religion, sexual orientation, disability or political affiliation. Membership eligibility is non-discriminatory.

Signed on behalf of the Committee – 24th July 2024.

M Evans – President, Ash RFC

N Parfitt & S Gunter – Co-Chairman, Ash RFC

Life Members

- *Ian Castle (President 1995-2006)*
- *Julian Guggenheim (Hon. Sec. 1995 – 2006)*
- *Michael Smalley (Chairman 1995 – 2014)*
- *Dave Stephens (President 2009 – 2012)*
- *Russ Timpson (President 2006 – 2009)*
- *Alan Warner (President 2013 – 2015)*
- *Geoffrey Gunter (Vice Chairman 2013 – 2020, Chairman 2020 - 2021)*
- *Caroline Gunter (Safeguarding Officer 2010 – 2018)*
- *Mark Johnson (Ex-Senior Player)*
- *Roger Dengate (President 2015 – 2022)*
- *Steve Hopkins (Senior Player 1996 – Present)*