

THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

**ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION - of -
THE BRITISH BIATHLON UNION (“BBU”)**

Revised and adopted 18 September 2023

E Winfield Director & Company Secretary

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PART 1

INTERPRETATION, OBJECTS AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

1. Defined Terms

1.1 In these Articles, unless the context requires otherwise:

2006 Act means the Companies Act 2006 as modified by statute or re-enacted from time to time.

Articles means these Articles of association, as may be amended from time to time.

Appointed Director means a Director appointed by the majority of the Board.

Appointments Committee means the appointments committee for the Company that may be established by the Board.

Athletes' Representative means such person who is the representative of the BBU athletes and who shall be entitled to attend meetings of the Board in person via telephone or any other electronic means.

Bankruptcy includes individual insolvency proceedings in a jurisdiction other than England and Wales or Northern Ireland which have an effect similar to that of bankruptcy.

Board means the board of Directors of the Company established from time to time in accordance with Article 18, the members of which are the Directors of the Company for the purposes of the 2006 Act.

Chair means the chair of the Board as appointed by the Board in accordance with Article 22.

Chair of the meeting has the meaning given in Article 13 (in respect of a board meeting) or Article 35 (in respect of a general meeting).

Clear days means a period of days excluding the day on which the notice is served, and the day of the meeting.

Club means those clubs admitted from time to time to membership of the Company in accordance with Article 28 and any applicable Regulations and who are entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote at general meetings.

Communication means any e-mail, letter, telephone, website or any other appropriate electronic means of communicating a message or notice as agreed by the Board.

Company means the above-named company.

Company Secretary means the person appointed from time to time under Article 24 as the Secretary and who shall also be the company secretary of the Company for the purposes of the 2006 Act.

Director means a Director of the Company, and includes any person occupying the position of Director, by whatever name called.

Document includes, unless otherwise specified, any document sent or supplied in electronic form.

Elected Director means a Director elected in accordance with Articles 18.2.6 and 19.

Electronic form has the meaning given in Section 1168 of the 2006 Act.

General meeting means an annual general meeting or other general meeting of the Company.

Hard copy form has the meaning given in Section 1168 of the 2006 Act.

Finance Director appointed from time to time as the finance Director under Article 23.

Members means the Voting Members and Non-Voting Members together.

Non-Voting Members means all members of the Company other than the Voting Members and who shall not be members for the purposes of the 2006 Act.

Office means the registered office of the Company.

Ordinary resolution has the meaning given in Section 282 of the 2006 Act.

Participate in relation to a Directors' meeting, has the meaning given in Article 11.

Proxy notice has the meaning given in Article 41.1.

Rules and Regulations means the rules, regulations, policies, terms of reference, standing orders and policies of the Company made by the Board in accordance with Article 17 and amended from time to time.

Secretary General (who may also be termed **Chief Executive**) means the person appointed as Secretary General (or Chief Executive) in accordance with Article 23.

Special resolution has the meaning given in Section 283 of the 2006 Act.

Sport means the sport of biathlon as defined by rules of the International Biathlon Union from time to time.

Sports Director appointed from time to time as the sports Director under Article 23.

Subsidiary has the meaning given in Section 1159 of the 2006 Act.

Territory means the United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland (hereafter referred to as the "UK").

Voting Members the members of the Company who, under these Articles are entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote at general meetings and who are members of the Company for the purposes of the 2006 Act.

Writing means the representation or reproduction of words, symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether sent or supplied in electronic form or otherwise.

1.2 Unless the context otherwise requires, other words or expressions contained in these Articles bear the same meaning as in the 2006 Act.

1.3 Words importing the singular number shall include the plural number and vice versa. Words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine gender. Words importing persons shall include corporations and unincorporated associations.

1.4 For the purposes of Section 20 of the 2006 Act, the relevant model Articles shall be deemed to have been excluded fully and replaced with the provisions of these Articles.

2. Name and Registered Office

2.1 The name of the Company is The British Biathlon Union (BBU).

2.2 The registered office of the Company is to be in England and Wales.

3. Objects

3.1 The objects for which the Company is established (**Objects**) are:

3.1.1 to act as the national governing body ("**NGB**") for the Sport of Biathlon in the UK;

3.1.2 to act as the representative member for the UK in international affairs and to affiliate to and carry out functions delegated to it by the **International Biathlon Union** and other relevant bodies;

3.1.3 promote, administer and encourage the development of, and participation in the Sport within the UK amongst all sections of the community;

3.1.4 to treat all persons participating equally and with respect irrespective of their age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation

- 3.1.4 to develop and implement a strategy for the development of the Sport in the UK including strategies for each of performance at international and national level; national competition; and increasing participation;
- 3.1.5 to make and vary all such rules for persons participating in the Sport in the UK (including rules against doping in the Sport) from time to time;
- 3.1.6 to develop a commercial, marketing and public relations programme for the Sport in the UK;
- 3.1.7 to develop a competition programme and co-ordinate competition fixtures across the UK;
- 3.1.8 to select the representative teams to represent the UK in international events;
- 3.1.9 to consult and co-operate with other organisations operating in the Sport within the UK in all matters relating to the administration, promotion and playing of the Sport;
- 3.1.10 to develop and nurture relationships between the Company and the sports councils within the UK, the British Olympic Association, and relevant government departments;
- 3.1.11 to take such action from time to time as the Board may consider desirable for the benefit of the Sport and the members of the Company;
- 3.1.12 to undertake and execute charitable trusts for the benefit of the Sport, and;
- 3.1.13 to do all such other things as shall be thought fit to further the interests of the Company or to be incidental or conducive to the attainment of all or any of the objects stated in this Article 3.

4. Powers

- 4.1 The Company shall have the powers to do all such lawful things as are consistent with the furtherance of its Objects (**Powers**).
- 4.2 The income and property of the Company shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its Objects and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly, overtly or covertly by way of distribution, bonus or otherwise by way of profit to the members of the Company.
- 4.3 Nothing in Article 4.2 shall prevent the payment in good faith by the Company:
 - 4.3.1 of remuneration of any Director of the Company in accordance with Article 21;
 - 4.3.2 to any Director, committee or sub-committee member of reasonable and proper out-of-pocket expenses incurred in the exercise of their powers and the discharge of their responsibilities in relation to the Company;
 - 4.3.3 of interest on money lent by a member of the Company or its Directors at a commercial rate of interest;
 - 4.3.4 of reasonable and proper rent for premises demised or let by any member of the Company or by any Director;
 - 4.3.5 of any premium in respect of the purchase and maintenance of indemnity insurance in respect of liability for any act or default of the Directors (or any of them) in relation to the Company
 - 4.3.6 other payments as are permitted by these Articles.

5. Liability of Members

- 5.1 The liability of each member is limited to £1, being the amount that each member undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Company in the event of it being wound up while he is a member or within one year after he ceases to be a member, for any of the items set out in Article 5.2.
- 5.2 The items for which the members undertake to contribute are:
 - 5.2.1 payment of the Company's debts and liabilities contracted before he ceases to be a member;
 - 5.2.2 payment of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up; and
 - 5.2.3 adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

PART 2

DIRECTORS AND OTHER OFFICE HOLDERS

DIRECTORS' POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

6. Directors' General Authority

6.1 Subject to these Articles, any Rules and Regulations made pursuant to them and the 2006 Act, the Board is responsible for the management of the Company's business, for which purpose it may exercise all the Powers of the Company.

6.2 No resolution passed by the Company in general meeting shall invalidate any prior act of the Board which would have been valid if such resolution had not been passed.

7. Directors may Delegate

7.1 Subject to these Articles, the Board may delegate any of the powers which are conferred on it under these Articles:

7.1.1 to such person or committee;

7.1.2 by such means (including by power of attorney);

7.1.3 to such an extent;

7.1.4 in relation to such matters or territories; and

7.1.5 on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit.

7.2 All acts and proceedings delegated under Article 7.1 shall be reported to the Board in due course.

7.3 Unless the Board specifically so specifies, any such delegation shall not authorise further delegation of the Board's powers by any person to whom they are delegated.

7.4 The Board may revoke any delegation in whole or part or alter its terms and conditions.

8. Committees

8.1 The Company shall have the following Board-delegated committees:

8.1.1 Selection Committee; and

8.1.2 such other committees as the Board thinks fit.

DECISION-MAKING BY DIRECTORS

9. Directors to take Decisions Collectively

9.1 Any decision of the Board taken at or outside a duly convened and constituted meeting of the Board may be a majority decision.

9.2 Where a matter is dealt with outside of a duly convened and constituted meeting of the Board, a decision of the Board is considered to have been taken in accordance with this Article, when a majority of eligible Directors communicate to each other by any means that they share a common view on such a matter.

10. Calling a Meeting of the Board

10.1 The Board may meet together for the dispatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit. provided that:

10.2 The Board shall report on their activities to the members at the annual general meeting.

- 10.3 Any Director may call a meeting of the Board by giving notice of the meeting to the Directors or by directing the Company Secretary to give such notice.
- 10.4 Notice of any meeting of the Board must indicate:
 - 10.4.1 its proposed date and time;
 - 10.4.2 where it is to take place; and
 - 10.4.3 if it is anticipated that Directors participating in the meeting will not be in the same place, how it is proposed that they should communicate with each other during the meeting.
- 10.5 Notice of a meeting of the Board must be given to each Director, either in writing or in electronic form.

11. Participation in Meetings of the Board

- 11.1 Subject to these Articles, Directors participate in a meeting of the Board, or part of a meeting of the Board, when:
 - 11.1.1 the meeting has been called and takes place in accordance with these Articles, and
 - 11.1.2 they can each communicate to the others any information or opinions they have on any particular item of the business of the meeting.
- 11.2 In determining whether Directors are participating in a meeting of the Board, it is irrelevant where any Director is or how they communicate with each other.
- 11.3 If all the Directors participating in a meeting of the Board are not in the same place, they may decide that the meeting is to be treated as taking place wherever any of them is.

12. Composition of the Board and Quorum

- 12.1 At a meeting of the Board, unless a quorum is participating, no proposal is to be voted on, except a proposal to call another meeting.
- 12.2 The quorum for meetings of the Board may be fixed from time to time by a decision of the Directors, but it must never be less than three, and unless otherwise fixed it is three.
- 12.3 Subject to Article 12.4, the Board may act notwithstanding any vacancy in their body.
- 12.4 If the total number of Directors for the time being is less than the quorum required, the Directors must not take any decision other than a decision:
 - 12.4.1 to fill a casual vacancy arising among the Directors in accordance with Article 27;
 - 12.4.2 to admit Voting Members to the Company.

13. Chairing of Meetings of the Board

- 13.1 The Chair shall chair meetings of the Board. The Chair shall preside as chair at all meetings of the Board, or delegate this role to a Director.
- 13.2 If at any meeting the Chair is not present or he is not willing to preside, the members of the Board present shall choose one of their number to be chair of the meeting.

14. Casting Vote

- 14.1 If the numbers of votes for and against a proposal are equal, the chair of the meeting of the Board has a casting vote. This does not apply if, in accordance with these Articles, the chair or other Director is not to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum or voting purposes.

15. Conflicts of Interest

- 15.1 Pursuant to Section 177 of the 2006 Act, any declaration of interest required by a Director must be made before the Company enters into the transaction or non-pecuniary arrangement.

- 15.2 Subject to Article 15.2, if a proposed decision of the Board is concerned with an actual or proposed transaction or arrangement with the Company in which a Director is interested, that Director is not to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum or voting purposes.
- 15.3 The prohibition under Article 15.1 shall not apply when:
- 15.3.1 the Board approves the Director counting towards the quorum and voting on the transaction or arrangement notwithstanding such interest in accordance with Section 175 of the 2006 Act;
- 15.3.2 the Director need not declare an interest pursuant to Section 177 or 182 of the 2006 Act;
- or
- 15.3.3 the Director's conflict of interest arises from a permitted cause.
- 15.4 For the purposes of Article 15.2, the following are **permitted causes**:
- 15.4.1 a guarantee, security or indemnity given, or to be given, by or to a Director in respect of an obligation incurred by or on behalf of the Company or any of its subsidiaries (if any);
- 15.4.2 arrangements pursuant to which benefits are made available to employees and Directors or former employees and Directors of the Company or any of its subsidiaries (if any) which do not provide special benefits for Directors or former Directors.
- 15.5 For the purposes of this Article 15, references to proposed decisions and decision-making processes include any meeting of the Board or part of a meeting of the Board.
- 15.6 Subject to Article 15.8, if a question arises at a meeting of the Board or of a committee of the Board as to the right of a Director to participate in the meeting (or part of the meeting) for voting or quorum purposes, the question may, before the conclusion of the meeting, be referred to the chair of the meeting whose ruling in relation to any Director other than himself is to be final and conclusive.
- 15.7 Where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment of two or more Directors to employment with the Company or anybody corporate in which the Company is interested the proposals may be divided and considered in relation to each Director separately and (provided he is not for another reason precluded from voting) each of the Directors concerned shall be entitled to vote and be counted in the quorum in respect of each resolution except that concerning his own appointment.
- 15.8 If any question as to the right to participate in the meeting (or part of the meeting) should arise in respect of the chair of the meeting, the question is to be decided by a decision of the Directors at that meeting, for which purpose the chair of the meeting is not to be counted as participating in the meeting (or that part of the meeting) for voting or quorum purposes.
- 15.9 A Director may vote, and count towards the quorum, in regard to any transaction or arrangement in which he has, or can have, a direct or indirect conflict of interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict with the interests of the Company only where such matter has been authorised in accordance with Article 15.2.
- 15.10 The Company may by ordinary resolution suspend or relax to any extent, either generally or in respect of any particular matter, any provision of these Articles prohibiting a Director from voting at a meeting of the Board or a committee formed under Article 7.
- 16. Records of Decisions to be kept**
- 16.1 The Board must ensure that the Company keeps a digital record for at least 15 years from the date of the decision recorded, of every appointment by the Board and of every unanimous or majority decision taken by the Board (and all committees) and by the Company at general meeting.
- 16.2 Any such records, if purporting to be signed by the chair of the meeting, or by the chair of the next succeeding meeting, shall be sufficient evidence without any further proof of the facts therein stated.

17. Directors' Discretion to make Regulations

17.1 The Board may from time to time make, vary and revoke Regulations relating to membership of the Company.

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

18. Methods of Appointing Directors

18.1 The number of Directors shall be not less than three.

18.2 The members of the Board who will all have specified roles and may perform more than one role, shall comprise the following:

18.2.1 the Chair;

18.2.2 the Secretary General;

18.2.3 the Sports Director;

18.2.4 the Finance Director;

each of which shall be appointed by the Board;

18.2.5 up to an additional six (or such lower number as the Board shall from time to time decide) Appointed Directors;

18.2.6 up to two (or such lower number as the Board shall from time to time decide) Elected Directors; and

18.2.7 up to two other persons (if any) as the Board may from time to time in its sole discretion co-opt to the Board, provided that the total number of directors at any one time shall not exceed the maximum number fixed by these Articles. Co-opted directors shall be entitled to vote at the meetings of the Board.

18.3 The Board may at its discretion award honoraria to such persons as it thinks fit.

18.4 All acts carried out in good faith at any meeting of the Board or of any committee, or by any person acting as a Director, shall, notwithstanding it be afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment or continuance in office of any such person be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed or had duly continued in office.

18.5 The appointment of the Chair shall be confirmed by simple majority at the next general meeting following his or her appointment.

19. Directors

19.1 Subject to Article 27, each Elected Director shall serve a regular four-year -year term in office from the meeting at which they are elected Director.

19.2 The election for the office of Elected Directors shall be conducted in accordance with Article 26.

19.3 Elected Directors shall be eligible for re-election on one further occasion for up to four years, save in exceptional circumstances outlined in Article 19.4.

19.4 In exceptional circumstances, and only with the agreement of the members by ordinary resolution, the Elected Directors may serve a maximum of three four-year terms.

20. Termination of Director's Appointment

20.1 Without prejudice to the provisions of Section 168 of the 2006 Act, a person shall cease to be a Director of the Company as soon as:

- 20.1.1 that person ceases to be a Director by virtue of any provision of the Companies Act 2006 or is otherwise prohibited from being a Director by law;
- 20.1.2 a bankruptcy order is made against that person;
- 20.1.3 a composition is made with that person's creditors generally in satisfaction of that person's debts;
- 20.1.4 a registered medical practitioner who is treating that person gives a written opinion to the Company stating that that person has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a Director and may remain so for more than three months;
- 20.1.5 by reason of that person's mental health, a court makes an order which wholly or partly prevents that person from personally exercising any powers or rights which that person would otherwise have;
- 20.1.6 unless the Board resolves otherwise, that person shall without sufficient reason for more than three consecutive Board meetings have been absent without permission of the Board;
- 20.1.7 that person is requested to resign by a majority of two-thirds of the other members of the Board acting together;
- 20.1.8 that person ceases to be a member; or
- 20.1.9 notification is received by the Board from the Director that the Director is resigning from office, and such resignation has taken effect in accordance with its terms.

21. Remuneration

- 21.1 Subject to the provisions of the 2006 Act, and to Article 21.4 below, the Board may enter into an agreement or arrangement with any Director:
 - 21.1.1 for his services to the Company as a Director; and
 - 21.1.2 for his employment by the Company or for the provision by him of any services outside the scope of the ordinary duties of a Director or benefits.
- 21.2 Any appointment of a Director to an executive office shall terminate if he ceases to be a Director but without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of the contract of service between the Director and the Company.
- 21.3 Subject to these Articles, a Director's remuneration may take any form and include any arrangements in connection with the payment of a pension, allowance or gratuity, or any death, sickness or disability benefits, to or in respect of that Director provided that such remuneration:
 - 21.3.1 is fixed having regard to the current remuneration of Directors in comparable posts;
 - 21.3.2 does not exceed the general market rate for Directors providing comparable services; and
 - 21.3.3 is not to any extent determined by or conditional upon the profits or losses derived from some or all of the activities of the Company or by reference to the level of the Company's gross income from some or all of its activities.
- 21.4 Unless the Board decides otherwise, Directors' remuneration accrues from day to day.
- 21.5 Unless the Board decides otherwise, Directors are not accountable to the Company for any remuneration which they receive as Directors or other officers or employees of the Company's subsidiaries (if any) or of any other body corporate in which the Company is interested (if any).

22. Chair

- 22.1 The Board may appoint a person to be the Chair on such terms and for such period as they think fit and may delegate to him such of their powers as they think desirable to be executed by him.
- 22.2 The Chair shall be a Director by virtue of his office and shall have such rights and privileges as the Board shall from time to time prescribe.

22.3 The office of Chair shall be vacated with immediate effect if the person appointed as Chair ceases to be a Director of the Company.

23. Secretary General, Sports Director, Finance Director, etc.

23.1 Subject to the provisions of the 2006 Act, the Secretary General, the Sports Director, the Finance Director and such other Directors as the Board shall determine, may be appointed by the Board for such term at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit and any such person appointed may be removed by them.

24. Company Secretary

24.1 Subject to the provisions of the 2006 Act, a Company Secretary may be appointed by the Board for such term at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit and any company secretary appointed may be removed by them.

25. Other Honorary Positions

26. Other Officials of the Company (such as, but without limitation, the Athletes' Representative and a President) may be appointed by the Board for such terms and upon such conditions as they may think fit and any such person appointed may be removed by them.

Elections

26.1 Any Voting Member may nominate another member to be an Elected Director provided that a vacancy exists. Any nomination must be made on the form prescribed from time to time by the Board and signed by the nominee. Any nomination must be seconded by another Voting Member. Voting Members may only nominate or second one candidate for each post and the form must be completed and returned to such person as the Board shall determine not later than such date as the Board shall prescribe.

27. Vacancies

27.1 A casual vacancy arising among the offices of Director, shall be filled by the Board provided always that the person appointed to fill the vacancy shall hold office until such time as the person he replaced was due to retire but shall be eligible for re-election/appointment in accordance with these Articles.

27.2

PART 3 MEMBERS

BECOMING AND CEASING TO BE A MEMBER

28. Applications for Membership

28.1 The Company may have multiple classes of Members including non-voting membership classes for individuals wishing to support the Company but not wishing, or eligible to gain the rights and benefits of a Voting Member. In addition to different classes, the Board may also provide for different types of memberships, such as Supporter, Full and Platinum and may prescribe such eligibility criteria applicable to the different classes and or types of membership as it may reasonably determine.

28.2 Those members of the Company as at the date of adoption of these Articles and such other persons as are admitted to membership in accordance with these Articles (and any applicable Rules and Regulations), shall be the Voting Members of the Company.

28.3 No person shall become a voting member of the Company unless such person is a British Citizen and / or UK Passport holder, who has attained the age of 16 and:

- 28.3.1 that person has completed an application for membership in such form as determined by the Board, and as may be set out in the Regulations, and the Board has approved the application; or
- 28.3.2 that person has entered the British Biathlon Championships and has paid the appropriate annual subscription through his or her race entry fees in which case that person will automatically become a member of the Company from the first day of such Championships until the day before the following year's Championships open.
- 28.4 A corporation and unincorporated association may be admitted as a member in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 28.2.1 and may exercise such powers as are prescribed by Part 9 of the 2006 Act.
- 28.5 The Board may from time to time fix the levels of entrance fees (if any) and annual subscriptions to be paid by the different categories of members.

29. Conditions of Membership

- 29.1 All members shall be subject to these Articles and the Rules and Regulations.
- 29.2 The members shall pay any entrance fees and annual subscription set by the Board under Article 28.4. Any member whose subscriptions and/or entrance fee is more than three months in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned his membership of the Company unless the Board decides otherwise.

30. Termination of Membership

- 30.1 It shall be the duty of the Board, if at any time it shall be of the opinion that the interests of the Company so require, by notice in writing or electronic form, to request a member to withdraw from membership of the Company within a time specified in such notice. No such notice shall be sent except on a vote of the majority of the Directors present and voting, which majority shall include one half of the total number of the Board for the time being.
- 30.2 If, on the expiry of the time specified in such notice, the member concerned has not withdrawn from membership by submitting notice in writing or electronic form, or if at any time after receipt of the notice requesting him to withdraw from membership the member shall so request in writing or electronic form, the matter shall be submitted to a properly convened and constituted meeting of the Board or such committee to which it has delegated its powers. The Board or committee and the member whose expulsion is under consideration shall be given at least 14 days' notice of the meeting, and such notice shall specify the matter to be discussed. The member concerned shall at the meeting be entitled to present a statement in his defence either verbally or in hard copy form, and he shall not be required to withdraw from membership unless a majority of the Board members or committee members present and voting shall, after receiving the statement in his defence, vote for his expulsion, or unless the member fails to attend the meeting without sufficient reason being given. If such a vote is carried, or if the member shall fail to attend the meeting without sufficient reason being given, he shall thereupon cease to be a member and in the case of a Voting Member his name shall be erased from the register of members.
- 30.3 A member may withdraw from membership of the Company by giving 14 clear days' notice to the General Secretary in writing or electronic form.
- 30.4 A membership terminates automatically when that person dies or ceases to exist or on the failure of the member to comply or to continue to comply with any condition of membership set out in these Articles or the Rules and Regulations.
- 30.5 Membership is not transferable.
- 30.6 Any person ceasing to be a member forfeits all rights in relation to and claims upon the Company, its property and its funds and has no right to the return of any part of his subscription. The Board may refund an appropriate part of a resigning member's subscription if it considers it appropriate taking account of all the circumstances.

ORGANISATION OF GENERAL MEETINGS

31. Notice of and Calling General Meetings

- 31.1 General meetings are called on at least 14 clear days' notice in writing or electronic form.
- 31.2 Pursuant to Section 307 of the 2006 Act, any shorter notice period can be given on condition that a majority of Voting Members communicate their agreement.
- 31.3 A general meeting may be called at any time by the Board or by the Company Secretary acting on behalf of the Board or may be called on a written request to the Board from at least 5% of the Voting Members.
- 31.4 On receipt of a written request made pursuant to Article 31.2, the Company Secretary must call a general meeting within 21 days and the general meeting must be held not more than 90 days after the date of the notice calling the general meeting

32. Annual General Meetings

- 32.1 The Company shall hold a general meeting in every calendar year as its annual general meeting at such time and place as may be determined by the Board and shall specify the meeting as such in the notices calling it.
- 32.2 The annual general meeting shall be held for the following purposes:
 - 32.2.1 to receive from the Board the Company's accounts;
 - 32.2.2 to receive from the Board a report of the activities of the Company since the previous annual general meeting;
 - 32.2.3 to appoint the Company's auditors;
 - 32.2.4 to elect the Elected Directors in place of those retiring and to ratify the appointment of any other Directors where relevant;
 - 32.2.5 to impromptu answer or record and commit to answer as soon as practicable any questions posed by a Voting Member; and
 - 32.2.6 to transact such other business as may be brought before it.
- 32.3 All general meetings, other than annual general meetings, shall be called general meetings.

33. Attendance and Speaking at General Meetings

- 33.1 A person is able to exercise the right to vote at a general meeting when:
 - 33.1.1 that person is in a position to communicate to all those attending the meeting, during the meeting, any information or opinions which that person has on the business of the meeting, whether present in person or by video conference or equivalent and able to vote, during the meeting, on resolutions put to the vote at the meeting, and
 - 33.1.2 that person's vote can be taken into account in determining whether or not such resolutions are passed at the same time as the votes of all the other persons attending the meeting.
- 33.2 The Board may make whatever arrangements they consider appropriate to enable those attending a general meeting to exercise their rights to speak or vote at it.

34. Quorum for General Meetings

- 34.1 No business other than the appointment of the chair of the meeting is to be transacted at a general meeting if the persons attending it do not constitute a quorum.
- 34.2 Ten Voting Members present in person shall be a quorum.

35. Chairing General Meetings

35.1 The Chair shall chair general meetings if present and willing to do so. If the Chair shall be absent the Board shall appoint a Director or other Voting Member to preside, and the appointment of the chair of the meeting must be the first business of the meeting.

35.2 The person chairing a meeting in accordance with this Article is referred to as **the chair of the meeting**.

36. Attendance and Speaking by Non-Members

36.1 The chair of the meeting may permit other persons who are not members of the Company to attend and speak at a general meeting.

37. Adjournment

37.1 If the persons attending a general meeting within half an hour of the time at which the meeting was due to start do not constitute a quorum, or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the chair of the meeting must adjourn it.

VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS

38. Voting: General

38.1 Every Voting Member shall be entitled to receive notice of, attend general meetings and cast one vote.

38.2 A resolution put to the vote of a general meeting must be decided on a show of hands or any electronic medium of communication approved by the Board unless a poll is duly demanded in accordance with these Articles. Except where otherwise provided by the Companies Act, every resolution is decided by a majority of votes cast.

38.3 Every Voting Member is entitled to send a representative to general meetings to speak and vote on their behalf, subject to Articles 41 and 42.

39. Errors and Disputes

39.1 No objection may be raised to the qualification of any person voting at a general meeting except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to be tendered, and every vote not disallowed at the meeting is valid.

39.2 Any such objection must be referred to the chair of the meeting whose decision is final.

40. Poll Votes

40.1 A poll on a resolution may be demanded:

40.1.1 in advance of the general meeting where it is to be put to the vote, or

40.1.2 at a general meeting, either before a show of hands or any electronic medium of communication approved by the Board on that resolution or immediately after the result of a show of hands or any electronic medium of communication approved by the Board on that resolution is declared.

40.2 A poll may be demanded by:

40.2.1 the chair of the meeting;

40.2.2 the Board; or

40.2.3 five or more Voting Members present in person or proxy having the right to vote on the resolution.

41. Content of Proxy Notices

41.1 Proxies may only validly be appointed by a notice via e-mail only (**proxy notice**) which:

41.1.1 states the name and address of the member appointing the proxy;

- 41.1.2 identifies the person appointed to be that member's proxy and the general meeting in relation to which that person is appointed;
- 41.1.3 is signed by or on behalf of the member appointing the proxy, or is authenticated in such manner as the Directors may determine; and
- 41.1.4 is sent to the Company Secretary in accordance with these Articles and any instructions contained in the notice of the general meeting to which they relate.
- 41.2 The Board may require proxy notices to be communicated in a particular form, and may specify different forms for different purposes.

42. Communication of Proxy Notices

- 42.1 A person who is entitled to attend, speak or vote (either on a show of hands or on a poll) at a general meeting remains so entitled in respect of that meeting or any adjournment of it, even though a valid proxy notice has been delivered to the Office by or on behalf of that person.
- 42.2 An appointment under a proxy notice may be revoked by communicating to the Company Secretary a notice in writing given by or on behalf of the person by whom or on whose behalf the proxy notice was given.
- 42.3 A notice revoking a proxy appointment only takes effect if it is communicated before the start of the meeting or adjourned meeting to which it relates.
- 42.4 If a proxy notice is not executed by the person appointing the proxy, it must be accompanied by written evidence of the authority of the person who executed it to execute it on the appointer's behalf.

43. Amendments to Resolutions

- 43.1 An ordinary resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution if:
 - 43.1.1 notice of the proposed amendment is communicated to the Company Secretary in writing by a person entitled to vote at the general meeting at which it is to be proposed not less than 48 hours before the meeting is to take place (or such later time as the chair of the meeting may determine), and
 - 43.1.2 the proposed amendment does not, in the reasonable opinion of the chair of the meeting, materially alter the scope of the resolution.
- 43.2 A special resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution, if:
 - 43.2.1 the chair of the meeting proposes the amendment at the general meeting at which the resolution is to be proposed, and
 - 43.2.2 the amendment does not go beyond what is necessary to correct a grammatical or other non-substantive error in the resolution.
- 43.3 With the consent of the chair of the meeting, an amendment may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before the resolution is voted upon.
- 43.4 If the chair of the meeting, acting in good faith, wrongly decides that an amendment to a resolution is out of order, the chair's error does not invalidate the vote on that resolution.

44. Written Resolution

- 44.1 Subject to Article 44.3, a resolution in writing agreed by the Appropriate Majority of members who would have been entitled to vote upon it had it been proposed at a general meeting shall be effective provided that a copy of the proposed resolution has been sent to every eligible member and the Appropriate Majority of members has signified its agreement to the resolution in

an authenticated document which has been received at the registered office within the period of 28 days beginning with the circulation date. A resolution in writing may comprise several copies to which one or more members have signified their agreement. In the case of a member that is an organisation, its authorised representative may signify agreement.

- 44.2 In Article 44.1, the **Appropriate Majority** is:
 - 44.2.1 in the case of an ordinary resolution, a simple majority of the Voting Members;
 - 44.2.2 in the case of a special resolution, 75% or more of the Voting Members.
- 44.3 The following may not be passed as a written resolution:
 - 44.3.1 a resolution to remove a Director before his period of office expires; and
 - 44.3.2 a resolution to remove an auditor before his period of office expires.

PART 4 ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

45. Means of Communication to be used

- 45.1 Subject to these Articles, anything sent or supplied by or to the Company under these Articles may be sent or supplied by any appropriate electronic means of communicating approved by the Board.

46. No right to inspect Accounts and Other Records

- 46.1 Except as provided by law or authorised by the Board or an ordinary resolution of the Company, no person is entitled to inspect any of the Company's accounting or other records or documents merely by virtue of being a member. However, records of special relevance to all Voting Members are, as soon as practicable, to be published on the Company's website.

DIRECTORS' INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE

47. Indemnity

- 47.1 Subject to Article 47.2, a relevant Director of the Company or an associated company may be indemnified out of the Company's assets against:
 - 47.1.1 any liability incurred by that Director in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the company or an associated company;
 - 47.1.2 any liability incurred by that Director in connection with the activities of the company or an associated company in its capacity as a trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined in Section 235(6) of the 2006 Act);
 - 47.1.3 Any other liability incurred by that Director as an officer of the Company or an associated company.
- 47.2 This Article does not authorise any indemnity which would be prohibited or rendered void by any provision of the 2006 Act or by any other provision of law.
- 47.3 In this Article:
 - 47.3.1 companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate, and
 - 47.3.2 a **relevant Director** means any Director or former Director of the Company or an associated company.

48. Insurance

- 48.1 The Board may decide to purchase and maintain insurance, at the expense of the Company, for the benefit of any relevant Director in respect of any relevant loss.
- 48.2 In this Article:
 - 48.2.1 a **relevant Director** means any Director or former Director of the Company or an associated company;

48.2.2 a relevant **loss** means any loss or liability which has been or may be incurred by a relevant Director in connection with that Director's duties or powers in relation to the company, any associated company or any pension fund or employees' share scheme of the company or associated company; and

48.2.3 companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate.

49. Dissolution

49.1 If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Company there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Company, but shall be given or transferred to some other sporting institution or institutions having objects similar to the Objects of the Company and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Company under or by virtue of these Articles, such institution or institutions to be determined by the Voting Members of the Company at or before the time of dissolution, and if so far as effect cannot be given to such provision then to some other sporting object.