

Blessington Association Football Club

Constitution

1. The Name of the Club shall be **"Blessington Association Football Club"**.
 2. The objects of the Club shall be :
 - (a) To promote, foster, manage, improve and develop football in our area for all ages.
 - (b) To operate under the rules, guidelines and auspices of the Football Association of Ireland.
 - (c) To provide for all or any such matters and things as may be considered necessary for the comfort, convenience, or benefit of the people in our area, or of any other persons concerned or engaged in the activities of Blessington Association Football Club.
 3. All work shall be voluntary.
 4. The Club colours shall be Green and White of any design the Committee of Management may from time to time determine.
 5.
 - (a) The business and affairs of the Club shall be under the management of a Committee of Management, elected for not less than a year by the general body of members, and subject to re-election. No member of the Committee, and no manager or servant employed in the Club, shall have personal interest in the sale of excisable liquors therein, or in the profits arising from such sale.
 - (b) The Committee of Management shall consist of a President or Joint-Presidents, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Underage Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Registrar, P.R.O., together with a Representative of the Senior teams, and 3 Representatives of the Underage teams, who shall hold office for the ensuing year. Only fully paid up, registered members of the Club for the period as defined at Rule 9 will be eligible for appointment on the Committee of Management.
 - (c) The Committee of Management shall have the power to co-opt members of the Club to fill any casual vacancy on the Committee that may occur.
 - (d) The Committee of Management shall appoint a Child Welfare Officer from within the members of the Club. The duties of the Child Welfare Officer shall be to ensure and monitor the safety of all juvenile Club members.
 6. The Committee of Management shall hold periodical meetings throughout the year. The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held on or before the 30th of June of each year, for the following purposes:
 - (a) To confirm the proceedings of the previous General Meeting;
 - (b) To receive and consider the Honorary Secretary's report of the year's working of the Club;
 - (c) To receive and consider the Honorary Treasurer's statement of accounts and balance sheet, made up to the 31st May;
 - (d) To elect the Committee of Management - only members who are fully paid-up members for the period as defined at Rule 9 are eligible to nominate or vote; underage members are not eligible to nominate or vote.
 - (e) To transact any other business that may arise.
 7. Members will be notified of the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting at least four weeks prior to such meeting taking place. Nominations for positions on the Committee of Management must be entered on a nomination form issued by the Committee of Management, and must be seconded by another fully paid up, registered member of the Club for the period as defined at Rule 9. Permission for nomination must be given in advance by the Nominee. Nomination forms must be with the Honorary Secretary of the Club at least fourteen days prior to the due date of the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting. A nomination can be made at the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting only in the case where insufficient nominations exist for a position to be filled.
 8. Acceptance of candidates for membership shall be at the discretion of the Committee of Management. All players, committee members, team managers and assistants must be members of the Club.
 9. There shall be a defined subscription payable by members in advance. The subscription shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting. The annual subscription shall be paid before the 1st September in each year. Any member whose subscription is unpaid by that date shall cease to be a member of the Club, unless such member can excuse the default to the satisfaction of the Committee of Management.
 10. Correct accounts and books shall be kept, showing the financial affairs and receipts and disbursements of the Club.
 11. The Committee of Management shall decide on all reported breaches of Club Rules, misconduct, or of bringing the Club into disrepute, by a member of the Committee. After hearing such member in his or her defence, and giving such member an opportunity to defend himself or herself, the Committee of Management shall take appropriate action as necessary.
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12. Any member of the Committee of Management absenting himself or herself without legitimate reason from three consecutive meetings of the Committee of Management shall thereupon cease to be a member of such Committee, and his or her seat thereupon shall be declared vacant by the continuing members of the Committee of Management.
13. The Committee of Management may appoint Sub-Committees and may delegate all or any of their powers to them. Any Sub-Committee so formed shall, in exercise of the powers so delegated, conform to those rules, and to any regulations that may be from time to time imposed on them by the Committee of Management. If desired, any Honorary Officer may take part in said Sub-Committees.
14. The Committee of Management may determine the quorum necessary for the transaction of its business, but a quorum shall consist of not less than five members of whom one shall be an Honorary Officer.
15. The Chairman, or in his absence the Vice-Chairman, shall preside at all meetings of the Club, and shall conduct the business in accordance with the Club's rules. In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, the Committee shall appoint a Chairman. The Chairman shall not be entitled to a deliberate vote, but, in the case of an equality of votes on any motion, the Chairman shall be entitled to a casting vote.
16. The Honorary Secretary shall enter up all the minutes of all General and Committee of Management Meetings, and shall produce and read same at the appropriate occasions. He or she shall conduct all correspondence of the Club.
17. The Honorary Treasurer shall receive all monies accruing to the Club and generally take control of the finances of the Club, and shall account to the Committee of Management for same. The funds of the Club shall be lodged in such bank or banks as may from time to time be approved of by the Committee of Management. All cheques shall be signed by any two of the Honorary Treasurer, the Honorary Secretary, and the Chairman.
18. The Registrar shall keep a Roll of Membership of the Club, duly entered up with names and addresses correctly written therein.
19. All expense claims must be accompanied by relevant receipts and invoices, and must be approved by any two of the Honorary Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer, and the Chairman.
20. A Special General Meeting may be called by the Committee of Management as they may deem necessary. A Special General Meeting shall also be called upon receipt by the Honorary Secretary of a requisition signed by at least one third of the total membership, as defined by Rule 6 (d).
21. In case the conduct of any member, player or team manager, in the opinion of the Committee of Management be injurious to the good name or interests of the Club, the Committee of Management may, after hearing any explanation of his or her misconduct tendered by such member, player or team manager request such member, player or team manager to resign. If such request be not complied with by any member, player or team manager, the Committee of Management may call a Special Meeting to consider the misconduct of such member, player or team manager; and after hearing such member, player or team manager in his or her defense, or giving such member, player or team manager an opportunity to defend himself or herself, if a majority of two-thirds of those present and voting vote for the expulsion of such member, player or team manager, he or she shall thereupon cease to be connected with the Club. If any member, player or team manager refuses to attend without a proper excuse, the hearing shall continue in his or her absence. The allegiance of all team managers, members of the Committee of Management, and members of the Club is expected to be given firstly to this Club.
22. That it is most important for the welfare of the Club that the Committee of Management should use the greatest circumspection and discretion in its duties, the several members pledge themselves not to entertain any ill feeling towards them for any decision which they may come to, and unless the Committee is called on for an explanation before a General Meeting, its proceedings shall not transpire. Should any member of the Committee of Management be found to have breached the confidentiality or proceedings of the Committee, he or she shall be fined as the Committee of Management may decide for the first offence, and expelled for the second offence.
23. The Club shall have power at a General or Special Meeting convened by the Committee of Management for that purpose, by vote of two-thirds of the members (as defined by Rule 9) present thereat and voting, to rescind or amend these Rules. Special propositions by members to alter Rules must be handed in to the Honorary Secretary one month previous to a General Meeting.
24. If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Club there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid off or distributed among the members of the Club, but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the Club, or some charitable object to be determined by the members of the Club at or before the time of such dissolution.
25. The Committee of Management may from time to time borrow such sums not exceeding €100,000 in all for the purposes of the Club. Such borrowings shall be secured on the property of the Club on such terms as the Committee may think fit.
26. The Committee of Management have power to deal with any matter not provided for in the foregoing Rules. All decisions of the Committee of Management in relation to disciplinary matters are subject to appeal.