

The Guernsey Netball Association Constitution

1. The name of the company is “GUERNSEY NETBALL ASSOCIATION LBG” (hereinafter called “Guernsey Netball”).

LBG COMPANY

2. Guernsey Netball is a non-cellular company limited by guarantee within the meaning of sections 2(1)(c) and 2(2)(a)(ii) of the Companies (Guernsey) Law 2008. Company number: 50721.

RAISON D'ÊTRE

3. Guernsey Netball's raison d'être is to have a positive effect on the lives of islanders.
4. Guernsey Netball must seek to nurture lifelong passions for netball knowing that the sport has the power to enhance physical, social and emotional wellbeing. Guernsey Netball must strive to help members realise their full potential by increasing participation and improving performance.
5. Finding qualified people to manage and deliver the programme, suitable places to host the programme, strategic partnerships to support the programme and sufficient 'pounds' to fund the programme, Guernsey Netball must endeavour to provide a sustainable programme built on a clear pathway which embraces the twin pillars of participation and performance.

ENGLAND NETBALL

6. Guernsey Netball is affiliated to England Netball and must work with them to embed the national governing body's procedures and programmes on a local level.

GUERNSEY SPORTS COMMISSION

7. Guernsey Netball is affiliated to the Guernsey Sports Commission and must work with them to meet criteria around governance, safeguarding and coaching in order to receive their 'SportsMark' accreditation.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

8. Guernsey Netball is an inclusive organisation and everybody who plays, coaches, umpires or organises netball, or is connected to the sport in any way, can become 'Association Members'. Nobody should be disadvantaged, irrespective of sex, age, disability, race, ethnicity, economic or other status.
9. That being said, Guernsey Netball recognises that netball is one of the few team sports to attract girls and women in large numbers and that this trait sets netball apart, entrusting it with a special social responsibility. Whilst Guernsey Netball should aim to be a trailblazer for mixed and men's netball, female participation and performance must always remain the primary focus to help to resolve the indisputable global and local disparity in sports.
10. Annual association membership of Guernsey Netball, starting from 1 September onwards and ending on 31 August, is available in various categories. Membership fees will be determined by the AGM.
11. Corresponding England Netball membership fees must also be paid at the prevailing rate.

12. All association members agree to conform to Guernsey Netball's code of conduct which will be published on the Guernsey Netball website and emailed to members.
13. Association members may resign at any time by emailing the company secretary.
14. Guernsey Netball's board of directors has the power to take disciplinary action against any association member and may, in exceptional circumstances, terminate membership. There is a right of appeal and this should be considered by an independent panel within 14 days of the appeal being received by the company secretary.

GUARANTEE MEMBERS

15. Up to three association members will be elected and/or re-elected annually at the AGM as 'Guarantee Members' to represent the 'ownership' of Guernsey Netball. Guarantee members will be required to pay £1 as their guaranteed amount. Whilst Guernsey Netball's articles of incorporation do not restrict the number of guarantee members to be appointed at the board of directors' discretion, three guarantee members is deemed appropriate and manageable.
16. To facilitate oversight and maintain the independence of this de facto 'trustee' role, guarantee members cannot become Guernsey Netball directors or vice-versa.
17. As enshrined in article 11 of Guernsey Netball's articles of incorporation, the votes of association members must be considered when guarantee members vote at AGMs and EGMs in order that guarantee members reflect and represent the views of association members.

LIFE MEMBERS

18. 'Life Members' may be nominated by Guernsey Netball's board of directors for election at an AGM or EGM. Members can suggest recipients of this special distinction, recognising exceptional commitment and/or long service to Guernsey netball, by sending a biography to the board for their consideration. The cost of association membership will be covered by Guernsey Netball.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

19. Guernsey Netball will be managed by a board of directors consisting of chairperson, company secretary, finance director and up to four additional directors which will each likely focus on participation, performance, partnerships and protection.
20. Regular Guernsey Netball board meetings will be convened by the chairperson. Meetings will be quorate with a minimum of three directors present. Every decision will be determined by a simple majority vote.
21. The board of directors may choose to invite other Guernsey Netball members and/or any non-members for their expertise and advice, to attend any or all board meetings in a non-voting capacity.
22. The board of directors will be elected and/or re-elected annually at Guernsey Netball's AGM.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

23. Guernsey Netball's Annual General Meetings will be held after the end of the main league season and no later than 30 June, apart from in exceptional circumstances. AGMs will be convened by the chairperson with at least 28 days' notice, specifying venue, date and time. Details will be published on the Guernsey Netball website and emailed to members.
24. Notice of any proposals and nominations must be emailed to the company secretary no later than 21 days before the AGM. Agendas, and any supporting 'paperwork', will be published on the Guernsey Netball website and emailed to members no later than 14 days before the AGM.
25. An AGM will be deemed quorate when a minimum of 24 association members – two of whom must be guarantee members and three of whom must be directors – are present.
26. Only association members that were aged 14 or over on 1 September preceding the AGM (school year 10) are eligible to vote at an AGM.
27. In indicative votes, each association member has one vote and motions and elections will be decided by a simple majority. Amendments to the memorandum and articles of Guernsey Netball which will require a 75% supermajority. The chairperson shall have the casting vote, in addition to their deliberative vote.
28. In subsequent formal votes, each guarantee member has one vote and motions and elections will be decided by a simple majority, except amendments to the memorandum and articles of Guernsey Netball which will require ~~a simple~~ a 75% super majority. For the avoidance of doubt, and as clearly detailed in section 17, the indicative vote of association members must be considered when guarantee members place their corresponding formal vote in order that guarantee members reflect and represent the views of association members.
29. Minutes of all Guernsey Netball AGMs will be published on the Guernsey Netball website and emailed to members.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS

30. Extraordinary General Meetings will be convened by the chairperson at the request of the board of directors or a request in writing from 12 or more members specifying why the meeting is required and setting out any proposal to be voted on at the meeting.
31. EGMs will be convened with at least 14 days' notice (no later than 21 days from when a request is made), specifying venue, date, time and the reason why the meeting is required. Notice of any proposals and nominations must be emailed to the company secretary no later than 10 days before the EGM. An agenda, and any supporting 'paperwork', will be published on the Guernsey Netball website and emailed to members no later than 7 days before the EGM. Otherwise EGMs will operate as AGMs.

LEAGUE COMMISSIONER

32. Day-to-day management of Guernsey Netball's league(s) will be delegated to a League Commissioner and an Assistant League Commissioner elected and/or re-elected annually at Guernsey Netball's AGM. They will use any structure and rules agreed at an AGM or by the board of directors as their terms of reference but will be afforded reasonable latitude to make necessary pragmatic decisions.

OTHER ROLES

33. Day-to-day management of other Guernsey Netball activities, including the representative programme, will be delegated to individuals appointed by the board of directors. They will use any structure agreed at an AGM or by the board of directors as their terms of reference but will be afforded reasonable latitude to make necessary pragmatic decisions.

FINANCE

34. Guernsey Netball is 'not for profit' and all funds generated should go towards helping deliver the programme of activity outlined in section 5.
35. The finance director must keep proper accounting records which will give a clear and accurate view of the financial status of Guernsey Netball at all times.
36. All monies must be banked in an account in Guernsey Netball's name. All payments must be made in line with the relevant bank's mandate. On a quarterly basis the cash book will be provided by the Finance Director and reconciled with the accounts. This will be required to be signed off by at least one other member of the board (and not the Finance Director) and included in minutes at the next Board meeting.
37. Guernsey Netball's financial year will be from 1 May until 30 April and the annual accounts must be presented at each AGM by the finance director.
38. Guernsey Netball's prior year's annual accounts will be circulated with any other supporting paperwork prior to each AGM. A summary of Guernsey Netball's accounts will be published on the Guernsey Netball website and emailed to members. Accounts are available to members on request by emailing the finance director.

DISSOLUTION

39. A resolution to dissolve Guernsey Netball can only be passed at an AGM or EGM and would require a 75% supermajority of association members. Following this a formal vote of the guarantee members will take place for a final majority vote.
40. In the event of dissolution, any assets of Guernsey Netball will remain the property of England Netball.

CONSTITUTION

41. Motions to change this constitution can only be passed at an AGM or EGM and require a majority vote from association members followed by a simple majority vote from guarantee members.

HANDBOOKS

42. This constitution is deliberately brief and focused. It is not exhaustive and other guiding principles for the day-to-day activity of Guernsey Netball are covered in separate handbooks that are designed to be more fluid documents.
43. These handbooks will cover the league(s), representative programme et al. They will be published on the Guernsey Netball website and emailed to members.

Version 1 Season 2022-23 (June 2022)