

CONSTITUTION OF NEWCASTLE IVC

Drawn up in compliance with the constitution of the Association of Inter-Varsity Clubs and revised by Annual General Meeting of the Newcastle IVC on: - 19 March 1970; 22 March 1973; 21 March 1974; 20 March 1975; 18 March 1976; 17 March 1977; 16 March 1978; 8 March 1979; 13 March 1980; 5 March 1981; 13 March 1984; 4 March 1986; 3 March 1987; 5 March 1991; 6 March 1996; 21 April 2009; 14 December 2010; 18 September 2018

NAME

1. The name of the Club shall be "The Newcastle IVC", hereinafter referred to as "the Club".

OBJECTS

2. The objects of the Club are:
 - (a) To provide opportunities for social, cultural and recreational activities among full and part time students, graduates, professionals and other people of similar interests.
 - (b) To provide facilities for visitors or temporary residents from other member clubs of the Association of Inter-Varsity Clubs, in accordance with the Association Reciprocal Agreement.
3.
 - (a) The Club shall not hold or express any political, religious or racial opinions, nor shall it be associated with any organisation which does.
 - (b) The club shall conduct its business in such a way that it complies at all times with current anti-discrimination and applicable data protection legislation and especially that which relates to gender, sexual orientation, politics, religion, race and age.

MEMBERSHIP

4. The following shall be eligible for ordinary membership of the Club:

- Full time and part time students in higher and post 18 education
- Graduates of Universities or similar institutions
- Professional people by career, experience or other educational routes
- Others considered by the Committee to have similar tastes and interests.

Admission to membership shall be subject to approval of the Committee who may take such steps as they see fit to determine the applicant's suitability for membership. All applicants for membership shall, if required, produce evidence of their eligibility for membership. The Committee may, at its absolute discretion, refuse any application for any class of membership without assigning any reason.

5. The Committee may, by resolution, invite any person of standing to become an honorary member.

6. Honorary members shall not be qualified either to vote at General Meetings or to hold any office. They shall be entitled to all other benefits and privileges of membership.
7. Prospective members shall be encouraged to attend activities of the Club for at least one month after the initial request for membership.
8. All ordinary members, having paid the applicable current subscription, shall be entitled to the facilities afforded by the Club. They shall be bound by the Constitution, Standing Orders (see Article 23) and other rules of the Club.
9. The Club shall not knowingly admit as a member any person who has been expelled, or who has been refused membership by any Constituent or affiliated group of the Association of Inter-Varsity Clubs without consultation with such Association.
10. Members of other groups which are members of or affiliated to the Association of Inter-Varsity Clubs may, subject to the payment of such supplementary fees or subscriptions as may from time to time be laid down by the Committee, enjoy all the privileges of membership of the Club, provided that at the same time they comply with the rules and regulations of the Club.
11. The subscription for ordinary members shall be fixed by resolution of a General Meeting, provided that notice of intention to change such fee or subscription shall first have appeared in the agenda or notice of the meeting.
12. Membership shall be levied yearly in September. The classes of ordinary membership are standard member and unwaged member. If the annual subscription has not been paid by 31st October, their membership shall lapse forthwith. If any lapsed member wishes to renew their annual subscription within twelve months of the renewal date, they shall be liable for the annual subscription that shall apply from that date. If after twelve months a lapsed member wishes to renew their annual subscription it will be necessary to submit a formal application to the Committee.
13. Any member may resign membership by giving any member of the Committee notice in writing to that effect.
14. The Committee may invite any member who brings the Club or the Association into disrepute, disgrace or otherwise behave in any manner which is considered harmful or injurious to the Club, the Association or any section of its members, to resign membership within a specified time. They may, at their absolute discretion, give such a member an opportunity of appealing against this decision. Failing such withdrawal, the matter shall be considered at a further meeting of the Committee and, if two-thirds of the members of the Committee vote for their expulsion, they shall thereupon cease to be a member of the Club.
15. Upon a person ceasing to be a member of the Club they shall forfeit all right to and claim upon the Club and its property and funds except for any claim notified to the Secretary in writing at the time of resignation under Article 13 or 14 or within one

month of a notice of expulsion being sent to them.

16. Every member of the Club shall communicate to the Secretary any change of their contact details. All notices posted to a member's address shall be considered as having been duly given on the second day following the date of posting, in the case of first class mail, or on the fourth day following the date of posting, in the case of second class mail. Notices served by electronic means such as e-mail, fax or other electronic media shall be considered as having been duly given if no delivery failure message has been received within 24 hours.
17. No proceedings of the Club shall be invalidated solely because of the discovery subsequent thereto of some accidental omission to give notice.

MANAGEMENT

18. The officers of the Club shall include a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Co-ordinator.
19. The management of the Club shall be deputed to a Committee consisting of:
 - (a) The officers mentioned in Article 18.
 - (b) Those ordinary members of the Committee elected in accordance with Articles 26 and 27 of the Constitution.
20. The Committee or any Sub-Committee of the Club may by resolution co-opt any additional members for the remainder of the meeting only, unless otherwise empowered by their parent body in accordance with Article 19. At least two-thirds of the members present and eligible to vote must vote in favour of such resolutions.
21.
 - (a) The Committee may appoint such Sub-Committees as it considers necessary or expedient and may depute or refer to them such powers and duties as it may determine. Such Sub-Committees shall periodically report their proceedings to the Committee and shall conduct their business in accordance with any directions which the Committee might give.
 - (b) The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall be entitled to attend any Committee or Sub-Committee of the Club.
22. Any Committee or Sub-Committee may act despite any vacancy thereon.
23. The Committee may make standing orders to govern its own meetings and those of Sub-Committees of the Club and may make regulations governing the conduct of officers of the Club and the use of Club facilities by members.
24. The Committee shall have the power to appoint, pay and dismiss such servants of the Club as it deems necessary.

25. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the funds of the Club, which shall be kept in a recognised bank or building society. Cheques must be signed by both the Treasurer and the Secretary or Chairman.

ELECTIONS

26. At the Annual General Meeting an election shall be held for:
- (a) The Officers of the Club as defined in Article 18.
 - (b) A number of Ordinary Committee Members as decided by (a).
27. All nominations must be signed by at least two members of the Club and the written consent of the nominee obtained. All nominees must be ordinary members of the Club.
28. Any vacancies remaining from the Annual General Meeting or occurring during the year shall be filled by election/co-option at a meeting of the Committee. At least seven clear days' notice shall be given of all such elections.
29. A Committee member may be dismissed by the unanimous vote of all the other Committee members on grounds of either a breach of the Constitution or for some other serious reason showing that they should no longer remain in office. An explanation shall be given to all Club members without delay and to the next General Meeting.

MEETINGS

30. Not less than fourteen days' notice shall be given of any General Meeting.
31. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held during September in every year, the date to be fixed by the Committee and published by the Secretary at least fourteen days in advance.
32. The business of the AGM shall include:
- (a) Reception of a financial report to include the inspected accounts for the preceding financial year and a budget for the current financial year.
 - (b) Reception of reports from Club Officers of Club activities during the previous year.
 - (c) Election of Officers and Ordinary Committee Members as laid down in Article 26.
 - (d) Any motion relevant to the meeting of which seven days' notice has been given to the Secretary.
 - (e) Any other business agreed to by the Meeting.
33. The Committee may at any time order an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM). The Secretary shall convene an EGM within twenty-one days of the receipt of a

written requisition signed by at least twenty-five per cent of the ordinary members, or twenty, whichever is less, stating the purpose for which the meeting is required, or within such longer period as is stated in such requisition. The principal business of an EGM shall be stated in the notice of meeting or in a preliminary agenda circulated at least fourteen days before the meeting.

34. The final agenda for an EGM incorporating any motions relevant to the purpose of the meeting received by the Secretary shall be drawn up by the Secretary and be available to any member at least seven days before the meeting. No business shall be discussed at an EGM other than that on the Agenda.

QUORUM

35. The quorum for any General Meeting shall be twenty-five per cent of the ordinary members or ten, whichever is the lesser number. If any General Meeting held does not reach a quorum within one hour of the designated start time it shall proceed, with any decisions taken being reviewed at an EGM convened for the purpose. If the second meeting is not quorate at the start time specified in the agenda then the decisions of the original meeting shall be deemed to be ratified.

VOTING

36.
 - (a) At all General Meetings of the Club every ordinary member present shall be entitled to one vote on every motion and in case of an equality of vote the Chairman shall have a casting vote.
 - (b) Voting shall be by a show of hands unless five members request a secret ballot. Proxy votes cannot be accepted.
 - (c) A motion shall only be passed when at least half the ordinary members present have voted in favour.
37. The Committee shall meet when required.
38. Not less than seven clear days' notice shall be given of a Committee Meeting. The quorum for a Committee Meeting shall be four persons.
39. Minutes of all meetings shall be taken and shall be open to inspection by any member of the Club.

ACCOUNT AND AUDIT

40. The financial year of the Club shall end on 30th June each year.
41. A suitably qualified non-committee person shall inspect and report on the accounts after the end of the financial year and before the Annual General Meeting.
42. No member shall, except for services rendered at the request of the Committee, on

any pretence or in any manner receive any profit, salary or emoluments from the funds or transactions of the Club.

DISSOLUTION

43. If, at any General Meeting of the Club, a resolution for the dissolution of the Club be passed by two-thirds of the members present, a poll of all ordinary members shall be held not less than one month and not more than three months thereafter. If such resolution be confirmed by two-thirds of those voting in the poll, the Committee shall thereupon, or at such future date as shall be specified in such resolution, proceed to realise the property of the Club, and after discharge of all liabilities, shall divide the residue equally among the ordinary members, or shall dispose of it in accordance with the resolution. Honorary members shall have no claim to such residue. Notice of any motion to dissolve the Club shall be given not less than fourteen days before the meeting.

INTERPRETATION AND AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

44. The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of these Articles of Constitution, and of any regulations made thereunder, and the decision of the Committee upon any question of interpretation or upon any matter affecting the Club and not specially provided for by these Articles or by any regulations made thereunder shall be final and binding upon the members.
- 45.
- (a) Subject to AIVC approval these Articles of Constitution may be added to, repealed or amended by resolution of a General Meeting, the intention of which shall have appeared in the notice of or Agenda for the meeting, provided that two-thirds of the members present vote in favour thereof. Voting shall be by a show of hands unless at least five members shall demand a secret ballot.
- (b) This Constitution must comply with the minimum requirements of the Association of Inter-Varsity Clubs Constitution at all times. If the minimum requirements of the Association of Inter-Varsity Clubs Constitution are amended, this Constitution must be amended appropriately as soon as possible by the Committee. Whenever it is changed for whatever reason, a copy should be sent to the Secretary of the Association of Inter-Varsity Clubs.

LIABILITY

46. No member shall by virtue of being a member of the Club have any more rights to compensation for any injury, loss, damage, legal or other expenses arising from any of the Club's activities than if they were a person that were not a member of the Club.