



Cowdray Park Polo Club
Members' Rules
2019

COWDRAY PARK POLO CLUB LIMITED 2019



COMMITTEE

President	The Viscount Cowdray
Vice President	The Hon. Mrs Lila Pearson
Chairman	Roderick Vere Nicoll Esq
Members	Michael Bickford Esq
	Robert Graham Esq
	James Harper Esq
	Alan Kent Esq
	Charlie McCowen Esq
	Marchioness of Milford Haven
	Jack Richardson Esq
	Jonathan Russell Esq
	David Taylor Esq
Hon Member	Julian Hipwood Esq

OFFICIALS

Operations Manager	Mrs Janey Delow
Polo Manager	Chris Bethell Esq
Grounds Manager	Julian Russell-Hayes Esq
Treasurer	Stuart Markley Esq
Finance Controller	Miss Vanessa Graham
Events Manager	Mrs Pip Hitchman
Sponsorship & Partnerships	Guy Pridie Esq
Polo Manager's Assistant	Matt Sim Esq
Polo Office Assistant	Miss Connie Fernandez-Pelling
Veterinary Consultant	P J McMahon MRCVS
Pony Welfare	Patrick Churchward BVSc MRCVS
Chief Umpire	Chris Bethell Esq
Match Supervisor	Mrs Mo de Villiers

HANDICAP COMMITTEE

Chairman	Alan Kent Esq
Members	Chris Bethell Esq
	Boyd Allen Esq
	Nick Clague Esq
	Niall Donnelly Esq
	Andre Fattal Esq
	James Harper Esq
	Jack Richardson Esq
	Adrian Wade Esq

Peter Wright Esq

THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION (RULES)

1. The name of the Club shall be 'Cowdray Park Polo Club Limited'.
2. The address of the Club is Cowdray Park Polo Club, Easebourne, Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 0AQ.
3. The objects of the Club shall be to foster and encourage the game of Polo in Great Britain and, in particular, in West Sussex, and for this purpose to maintain polo grounds at Cowdray Park or elsewhere, to own, buy, sell and train polo ponies as the Committee may think fit. The Club shall be affiliated to the Hurlingham Polo Association ('HPA') and all Members who play polo shall observe the Rules and Regulations of the HPA as shall from time to time be in force.
4. It shall be a non-profit making concern, and any surplus funds not required for the normal working of the Club shall be devoted to improving the standard of Polo in Great Britain, and, in particular, West Sussex, by distribution to suitable non-profit making concerns.
5. The President of the Club shall be The Viscount Cowdray.
6. The management of the Club shall be in the hands of a Committee consisting of the President, Vice-President, Chairman and CEO of The Cowdray Estate and not less than three or more than nine other members (of whom not less than half shall be active polo players). The Vice-President of the Club is to be nominated by the President. The Chairman and other members of the Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Club in each year to hold office until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting. The retiring members of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election. The Committee shall have power to co-opt such additional members as they shall think fit within the above limits to be effective until the next such Annual General Meeting.
7. The President or failing him the Chairman shall act as Chairman of Annual General Meetings of the Club and of meetings of the Full Committee.

8. Members of the Club shall be elected by the Committee by ballot or otherwise as the Committee may from time to time determine. Every application for membership shall be made to the General Manager, accompanied by the name of the proposer and seconder. The names of candidates shall be notified to the members of the Committee not less than two days before the election is to be held.

9. Membership

- (a) The annual subscription for membership shall be £185 inc. VAT, to be paid on or before the 1st March each year. The committee may at any time vary the subscription to become effective immediately, but any such variation will require confirmation by the next General Meeting of the Club. The committee may at any time vary the subscription to become effective immediately, but any such variation will require confirmation by the next General Meeting of the Club.
- (b) The annual Junior subscription shall be £50 Inc. VAT, to be paid on or before the 1st March each year. Junior Members must be under 21 years of age on the 1st of January in the current year to qualify. They may attend any General Meeting though they may not vote.
- (c) If any member shall fail to pay his annual subscription on or before the 1st May next after it has become due, notice shall be sent to him calling his attention thereto. If he shall not pay the amount within 14 days from the despatch of such notice, he shall forthwith be a defaulter not entitled to use the Club premises. If such subscription shall not be paid on or before the 1st July following, the defaulter shall cease to be a member of the Club. If at any time he shall give to the Committee a satisfactory explanation he may, at the discretion of the Committee, and upon payment of the arrears, be re-admitted to membership without payment of any entrance fee.
- (d) Junior Playing Members may attend any General Meeting though they may not vote.
- (e) In the event of members losing badges or car discs, applications for replacements shall be considered by the Committee. If the Committee decides to allow replacement, a charge of £10 per badge or disc shall be made.
- (f) Any member of the Club who, for service or other reasons, will be absent from Great Britain may, by making written application to the

Secretary on or before the 1st March in any year, be transferred to the Overseas Members' List until further notice. An Overseas Subscription of £30 Inc. VAT shall be made payable on or before 1st March in each year. Such Overseas Members shall not receive badges, car passes or other privileges of Membership but shall be re-admitted to full membership of the Club at any time without formality other than the payment of the subscription for the current year.

(g) An entrance fee of £50 Inc. VAT shall be imposed on members admitted to membership of the Club.

(h) In addition to the annual subscription, playing fees to be fixed by the Committee shall be payable as soon provided in the Bye-Laws.

10. The Committee shall have the power (subject to the provisions of Rule 11) to elect Honorary Members on payment of a subscription of five pence on such conditions as the Committee shall think fit and to allow them the same or other privileges as ordinary members.
11. The total number of Honorary Members shall not be significant in proportion to the total membership of the Club.
12. Any member may apply additionally to become a Full Playing Member. Applications to become a Full Playing Member shall be made in writing to the Polo Manager. Each application shall be put before the Committee for election. The decision as to whether or not a member is elected as a Full Playing Member shall be entirely at the discretion of the Committee who may make or arrange to be made such enquiries about the applicant as they think fit. Their deliberations and any such enquiries shall be confidential and they shall not be required to give any reason for refusing any application.
13. A Tournament Committee under the guide lines of the HPA rule (5a, b, and c) will be formed and appointed by the main Committee for each and every tournament played at or under the auspices of the club. There will not be less than four members on the Tournament Committee.
 - (a) Save as provided in the Bye-Laws from time to time no category of membership entitles a person to play polo or to ride on the polo grounds or surrounds of the Cowdray Park Polo Club. Such activities shall be controlled by the Committee and they may delegate their authority for that purpose in whole or in part to the

Tournament Committee or the Polo Manager and through them to other appropriate persons.

14. Only the following shall be entitled to purchase alcoholic refreshment, and the appropriate badge must be produced on demand: members; members' guests in possession of the current transferable badge; members' guests who have paid the charge of the day; members of clubs affiliated to the Hurlingham Polo Association who have paid the charge of the day; visiting players in possession of a current Players' Complimentary badge; visitors holding a current Complimentary badge; Pressmen holding a current Press badge.
15. Any member who has resigned his membership of the Club shall give notice in writing to the General Manager on or before the 1st March in any year that he has done so, otherwise he shall be liable for the subscription for that year for the relevant category of membership.
16. The Committee shall have power to expel a member who shall be guilty of any conduct which, in the opinion of the Committee, is of a character which renders the member unsuitable for membership or is otherwise prejudicial to the interests of the Club and shall not be required to give any reasons therefore. Provided where the Committee considers the conduct in question is 'Misconduct' as defined in the HPA Regulations, the provisions of Rule 17 shall apply. In either case any member who is expelled shall not be allowed to enter the Club as a visitor.
17. Terms used in this Rule have the same meanings as in the HPA Regulations.

If a Disciplinary Incident occurs on the Club ground or on a ground for which the Club is normally responsible, then the Committee (three or over forming a quorum) shall hold a Disciplinary Enquiry as required by the HPA Regulations. Every member must provide such assistance and information in connection with a Disciplinary Enquiry as the Committee may reasonably require of him. If the Committee finds that the Disciplinary Incident involves Misconduct on the part of the person charged, it may;

- i) dismiss the matter; or
- ii) warn the person charged; or
- iii) refer the matter to the Stewards of the HPA, in which case it may suspend the person charged from playing in the remainder of the tournament and/or from the Club pending adjudication by the Stewards.

Where the person charged is a member, the Committee may additionally or alternatively do any one or more of the following;

- i) censure the member, or
- ii) impose a suspension from playing in any organised game of polo, including practice chukkas, conducted at the Club or under the auspices, for such period as it deems appropriate; or
- iii) expel the member from the Club.

18. The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held on a date to be decided by the Committee for the purpose of:

- (i) approving the Minutes of the last AGM;
- (ii) receiving the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts;
- (iii) appointing the Chairman and Committee; and
- (iv) transacting any other business of the Club.

19. An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club may be called at any time by the Committee, or upon a requisition being sent to the General Manager signed by at least twenty members (or if the total membership of the Club is less than 100, one-fifth of the total) and stating the purpose of the meeting. The Secretary shall call a meeting accordingly, which shall be held within 14 days of receipt of the requisition.

20. At General Meetings of the Club, whether Annual or Extraordinary, members of the Committee and Full Playing members only shall be entitled to vote on the following:

- (a) Any proposal or resolution to alter, amend or add to the Rules of the Club
- (b) The election of the Chairman and members of the Committee who are Full Playing members
- (c) Those matters pertaining to the accounts which have a specific bearing on playing fees and costs arising directly from the playing of polo.

21. The duties and powers of the Committee shall include the following:

- (a) To meet when necessary for the conduct of Club affairs.

- (b) To appoint a Sub-Committee to make recommendations for the handicapping of players.
 - (c) To appoint three of its own members as a Licensing Sub-Committee from amongst its own members.
 - (d) To make and vary Bye-laws as they may consider necessary for the well-being of the Club.
 - (e) To elect members and honorary members in accordance with Rules 8 and 10.
 - (f) To buy, lease or make any other arrangements they think fit for the use and preparation of grounds on which polo may be played, or for using any other premises (whether permanent or temporary), apparatus or equipment (including tents) for purposes of the Club.
 - (g) To make any arrangements they think fit for the purchase and use of ponies or any other matter.
 - (h) To make whatever arrangements they think fit for the playing of matches, admission of the public, the parking of vehicles, the charges to be made and other matters.
22. (a) The Licensing Sub-Committee shall be responsible for controlling the purchase of intoxicating liquor and the sale thereof on the Club's premises.
- (b) It shall also be the duty of the Sub-Committee to ensure that the bar is open only during the permitted hours and that no intoxicating liquor is made available to anyone except under the direct supervision of a member of the Sub-Committee or a responsible person or persons duly appointed by the Sub-Committee for that purpose.
 - (c) Intoxicating liquor is not to be sold on the Club's premises otherwise than by the licence holder or his nominee/s

- 23 Alterations of these Rules shall be made only at a General Meeting of the Club and after written notice of the proposed alteration has been given to the General Manager at least two weeks prior to the General Meeting, so that the same may be printed in the circular calling the Meeting. The Committee may, however, alter any rule of the Club to become effective immediately and until such time as it is approved or otherwise at the next General Meeting of the Club.
- 24 The property of the Club shall when necessary be vested in four Trustees or a Trust Corporation and Barclays Bank Limited of 54 Lombard Street in the City of London shall be the first Trustees. The Committee shall have power to remove any of the Trustees and to fill all vacancies occurring by removal, resignation or death.

BYE-LAWS 2019

1. BADGES

(a) All Members will receive:

one Member's (non-transferable) metal badge and one guest (transferable) badge, (this can be upgraded to another metal badge for a fee of £15) which will give admission to the Members' Enclosure, and Junior Members one Member's metal badge (non-transferable) plus

- i) a car sticker which will allow parking in the Members' car park, together with free admission to the grounds for occupants holding current membership badges. The sticker of all Playing Members will be written with Player allowing them to park in the Players' car park.

(b) A Full Playing Member only will receive additionally:

- i) a second guest (transferable) badge
ii) a second car sticker
iii) one Groom's Pass

(c) The Under 27 and Under 23 Playing Members only will additionally receive:

- i) one Groom's Pass

(d) A Junior Playing Member will receive:

- i) one Players Member's Badge; one guest badge and
ii) one car sticker if 17 years of age or older

- (e) A player in a visiting team, who is not a member, will receive:
 - i) one Player's badge (for the day or tournament)
 - ii) one complimentary badge for admission to the members' enclosure.

2. PLAYING ARRANGEMENTS

- (a) No one, whether he be a member or not, may play polo or ride on the polo grounds or surrounds of the Cowdray Park Polo Club except by invitation of the Committee conveyed through the Polo Manager or General Manager.
- (b) Only those who are Associate members, or temporary Associate members of the HPA, are permitted to play in any organised game of polo, including practice chukkas, conducted at the Club or under its auspices. They must have paid the relevant subscription to the HPA through their Club and signed and lodged with the Polo Manager a declaration agreeing to be bound by the current Rules, Regulations, Orders and Directives and Bye-Laws of the Club and the HPA.
- (c) Any member of the HPA who is not a Playing Member or a Junior Playing Member, and who is not a player in an invited team, may play in Chukkas or practice matches up to a maximum of five times on the authority of the Polo Manager.
- (d) A member whom the Committee elects additionally as a Full Playing Member will pay a playing fee of £5,540 per season in addition to the annual members' subscription - £185; see Rule 9(a). The relevant HPA membership will need to be paid to the HPA directly. A catering credit of £100 will be collected and passed onto the Members' caterer for catering in the Members' areas.
A Full Playing Member shall be allowed to play throughout the season subject to the match and practice chukka schedule and the availability of grounds. Full Playing Members who start to play after 1st July are required to pay half of the playing fee and will receive the entitlement of Player's badges from that date.
- (e) Any Full Playing Member whose playing fee has not been paid by 31st March in any year will be deemed to have resigned their playing status. Should they wish to resume their playing status they must seek re-election and, on acceptance, will be required to pay

the Full Playing Member entrance fee currently in force, unless the Committee in its discretion decides otherwise, and the playing fee.

- (f) A member whom the Committee elects additionally as a Full Playing Member Under 27 years of age on the 1st of January in the current year and has a handicap of 2 goals or lower will pay a playing fee of £4,155 per season in addition to the annual members' subscription - £185; see Rule 9(a). The relevant HPA membership will need to be paid directly to the HPA. A catering credit of £100 will be collected and passed onto the Members' caterer for catering in the Members' areas.
- (g) A member whom the Committee elects additionally as a Full Playing Member Under 23 years of age on the 1st of January in the current year and has a handicap of 2 goals or lower will pay a playing fee of £2,216 per season in addition to the annual members' subscription - £185; see Rule 9(a). The relevant HPA membership will need to be paid direct to the HPA. A catering credit of £100 will be collected and passed onto the Members' caterer for catering in the Members' areas.
- (h) A member whom the Committee elects additionally as a Weekend Polo Member will pay a playing fee of £2,460 per season in addition to the annual members' subscription - £185; see Rule 9(a). The relevant HPA membership will need to be paid direct to the HPA. Weekend Polo members are restricted to playing Weekend Polo matches only as part of their membership. There is no concession rate allowed with the Weekend Polo membership. Player match fees will be charged at the Non-Cowdray Player rate for eligible tournaments. No Weekend Polo Member may enter a domestic tournament.
- (i) A member whom the Committee elects additionally as a Junior Playing Member Under 21 years of age on 1st of January in the current year and has a handicap of 2 goals or lower will pay a playing fee of £280 per season in addition to the annual junior members' subscription - £50; see Rule 9(b). The relevant HPA membership will need to be paid direct to the HPA. Junior playing members will not be charged for practice chukkas but will be charged £25 per match chukka (VAT exempt). The amount will be capped at £2,200. Match chukkas will be charged monthly, and each bill is due on presentation. Failure to pay within thirty days will lead to automatic suspension of the Member from the Club. All

members will have the option to buy up to two further guest badges for the Members' enclosure at £40 Inc. VAT each.

The Rules contained in this booklet have been extracted from the Articles of Association of Cowdray Park Polo Club. A full copy of the Articles and Memorandum of Association of Cowdray Park Polo Club Limited are available in the Club's Offices.