



## THE GREAT BRITAIN KURLING ASSOCIATION

### RULES AND CONSTITUTION

#### Table of Contents

<b>1 Title .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2 The Object and Purpose of The GBKA .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3 Eligibility of Membership .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4 Membership Fees.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>5 Annual General Meeting .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>6 The National Executive Committee.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>7 Finance and Annual Audit .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>8 Trustees of the GBKA .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>9 Alterations to the Rules and Constitution.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>10 Extraordinary General Meeting .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>11 National &amp; Area Associations .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>12 Tournaments and Foreign Visits .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>13 Colours.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>14 International Awards .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>15 Long Service Award.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>16 Travelling Expenses .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>17 Conduct and Misconduct.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>18 Disciplinary Powers.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>19 Appeals, Complaints and Claims.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>20 Registrations .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>21 Contingencies .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>22 Dissolution of the Great Britain Kurling Association .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>23 Approval.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>24 Change History .....</b>	<b>11</b>

# **RULES AND CONSTITUTION**

## **1 Title**

**1.1** The Association, formed on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2005 with the Head Office situated at Hunters Lodge, Cherry Garden Lane, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 3QD will be called the "The GREAT BRITAIN KURLING ASSOCIATION" (hereafter referred to as The GBKA).

## **2 The Object and Purpose of The GBKA**

**2.1** The object and purpose of The GBKA will be to organise, develop and control the game of Kurling within Great Britain (which may include the provision of facilities) in accordance with these Rules and Constitution and, for these purposes, authorise such expenditure and enter into such legal agreements as is necessary.

## **3 Eligibility of Membership**

**3.1** All individuals elected as Life Members under rule 6.3 shall be treated as an Individual Member and will have full voting rights as laid down in rule 5.

**3.2** All individuals playing in accordance with the Rules of Kurling shall be eligible to become an Individual Member and will have full voting rights as laid down in rule 5 once they join The GBKA.

**3.3** Clubs or Organisations playing in accordance with the Rules of Kurling shall be eligible to become Club Members and each registered member of the Club / Organisation will have full voting rights as laid down in rule 5 once the Club / Organisation joins The GBKA.

**3.4** The GBKA shall have the power to undertake obligations on behalf of its own members.

**3.5** The GBKA accepts on behalf of its own members the obligation to comply with the rules of the game.

**3.6** The members of The GBKA undertake to conduct themselves in accordance with the provisions laid down in 3.5.

In addition, all members shall be obliged to comply with any resolution made by an Annual or Extra-ordinary General Meeting or the National Executive Committee, together with the requirements of The GBKA's Child Protection Policy, its Anti-Doping Regulations, its Disciplinary Regulations, and all clauses of these Rules and Constitution.

All members must also comply with any applicable government legislation including, but not limited to, The Children's Act 1989, Data Protection Act 1988 and Human Rights Act 2002 - Freedom of Information Act.

**3.7** All members must have suitable Civil Liability Insurance.

## **4 Membership Fees**

**4.1** Life Members shall pay no membership fee.

**4.2** Each Individual Member shall pay a membership fee to become a member of The GBKA and this should be paid to the Membership Secretary of The GBKA, at the rate fixed in accordance with rule 4.4.

**4.3** Each Club / Organisation shall pay a membership fee to become a member of The GBKA and this should be paid to the Membership Secretary of The GBKA, at the rate fixed in accordance with rule 4.4.

**4.4** The membership fees to be paid by Individual Members and Clubs / Organisations, shall be fixed annually by the National Executive Committee. Fees shall be per membership year which runs from November 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>

**4.5** No Member shall be allowed to take part in the business of The GBKA unless they or their Club / Organisation have paid their membership fee by the due date.

**4.6** Individual Members and Clubs / Organisations will have a period of grace of 21 days after their membership due date to pay their membership fee, however their membership will revert to the original membership due date.

## **5 Annual General Meeting**

**5.1** The Annual General Meeting will be held no later than the last Sunday in May. Individual Members, Club / Organisation Main Points of Contact and National / Area Association Main Points of Contact will receive notice of the Annual General Meeting 28 days prior to the meeting. Members wishing any subject to be discussed, including alterations, amendments or additions to these Rules and Constitution, will give notice of such business, in writing, to The GBKA's Secretary 21 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

**5.2** The National Executive Committee are entitled to put forward for consideration by the AGM any business including alterations, amendments or additions to these Rules and Constitution, provided that 21 days notice is given in writing to the Secretary.

**5.3** The agenda for the AGM will be distributed to Individual Members, Club / Organisation Main Points of Contact and National / Area Association Main Points of Contact 14 days prior to the Meeting. The Agenda will include all proposed changes to the Rules and Constitution of The GBKA, nominations for the National Executive Committee together with any other proposals received from Members or the NEC. Ballot papers will also be included to facilitate postal / electronic voting on changes to the Rules and Constitution of The GBKA, elections to the National Executive Committee and any other proposals included in the Agenda.

**5.4** All nominations for Officers of The GBKA will be sent, in writing, to the Secretary 21 days prior to the AGM. Only Members will be permitted to make nominations. The retiring Officers of the National Executive Committee will be eligible for re-election. Where no nominations are received for a vacant position, nominations will be permitted at the AGM.

**5.5** The quorum for a General Meeting will be 10 current members of The GBKA. Each member present shall be entitled to one vote provided that they have not already cast a postal / electronic vote.

**5.6** For proposed changes to the Rules and Constitution of The GBKA all postal / electronic votes received by 1 day before the meeting shall be added to the show of hands votes cast by those present at the meeting. The outcome of the vote shall be subject to Clause 9.2.  
For elections to the National Executive Committee and voting on other proposals on the AGM Agenda, all postal / electronic votes received by 1 day before the meeting shall be added to the show of hands votes cast by those present at the meeting. The Chairperson of the meeting will use a casting vote if a vote results in a draw.

At the Annual General Meeting attendees will: -

- a. Receive the Chairperson's Report.
- b. Approve the audited Statement of Accounts for the previous financial year and receive the provisional Statement of Accounts for the financial year just ended.
- c. Receive sub-committee reports.
- d. Vote on any proposed amendments to the Rules and Constitution.
- e. Elect the National Executive Committee.
- f. Elect the Honorary Auditor.
- g. Receive the draft outline budget.
- h. Discuss any other business on the agenda.

**5.7** At the discretion of the National Executive Committee, The GBKA shall have a Life President who shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting and shall serve for the duration of their life or until they formally retire from the position. Nominations for Life President shall be submitted only by the National Executive Committee who shall take into consideration any proposals for nomination received from Members.

## **6 The National Executive Committee**

**6.1** The National Executive Committee of The GBKA will comprise of the following Officers:

1. Chairperson
2. Secretary
3. Finance Officer
4. Membership Secretary
5. Child Protection Officer
6. Up to six Officers Without Portfolio

Each Officer will have one vote with the Chairperson using a casting vote in the case of equal votes. The Officers of the National Executive Committee shall be elected for a period of three years with at least three of these retiring each year. Retiring members shall be eligible for re- election. The retirement rota shall be published with the notice of the AGM.

**6.2** The National Executive shall meet at least four times a year. A quorum for the National Executive Committee shall be at least 50% of Officers currently in post, one of whom must be the Secretary or his / her nominated deputy. Should the position of Secretary become a paid position, then he / she shall not be entitled to a vote.

**6.3** The National Executive Committee can annually appoint 1 Life Member.

**6.4** All Officers of the National Executive Committee shall, subject to rules 6.5 and 6.6, be required to be members of The GBKA.

**6.5** Officers whose membership lapses under rule 4 will be deemed to have resigned their appointment. The National Executive Committee shall have the power to fill a vacancy until the next AGM or EGM called for the purpose of making elections.

**6.6** Any Officer of the National Executive Committee who fails to attend two consecutive Committee meetings without offering satisfactory reasons will be deemed to have resigned their appointment. The National Executive Committee shall have the power to fill a vacancy until the next AGM or EGM called for the purpose of making elections.

**6.7** The National Executive Committee shall have the power to set up sub-committees for specific purposes and may delegate powers to such committees. Each sub-committee shall provide a report on its activities for the National Executive Committee as and when requested.

## **7 Finance and Annual Audit**

**7.1** The financial year of The GBKA will end on 5<sup>th</sup> April.

**7.2** The accounts of The GBKA will be kept by the Finance Officer who will be responsible to the National Executive Committee for all money received and paid on The GBKA's behalf.

**7.3** The Accounts of The GBKA will be audited annually and a printed Statement of Accounts, detailing income and expenditure, will be sent to Individual Members, Club / Organisation Main Points of Contact and National / Area Association Main Points of Contact with the agenda of the Annual General Meeting if so requested.

**7.4** The National Executive Committee shall present to the Annual General Meeting, or an Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose, an outline budget for the use of the income from the Membership Fees mentioned in rules 4.1 to 4.4 together with income from other sources. The General Meeting concerned shall approve this outline budget.

## **8 Trustees of the GBKA**

**8.1** The National Executive Committee of The GBKA are appointed, for all intents and purposes, Trustees and legal owners of all trophies, property and funds of The GBKA.

## **9 Alterations to the Rules and Constitution**

**9.1** Alterations to these Rules and Constitution can only be made at an AGM or an Extraordinary General Meeting convened for that purpose.

**9.2** A proposed alteration will only be carried when supported by two-thirds of the eligible persons who have voted.

**9.3** No proposed alteration will be considered at the AGM or at an Extraordinary General Meeting unless it has been lodged with the Secretary, in writing, within the prescribed time limits (see rules 5 and 10).

**9.4** Any such alteration, addition or amendment approved at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting will come into effect immediately.

## **10 Extraordinary General Meeting**

**10.1** The Secretary will convene an Extraordinary General Meeting within 28 days of a request by any of the following: the National Executive Committee; the Honorary Auditor; or upon receipt of a written request from at least 50% of Member Clubs / Organisations stating the business they wish discussed.

## **11 National & Area Associations**

**11.1** National Associations for England, Scotland and Wales may be affiliated to The GBKA with the written permission of the National Executive Committee. Such National Associations will be responsible for fulfilling the objectives and purpose of The GBKA within their geographical borders in consultation with the National Executive Committee.

**11.2** Area Associations may only be affiliated to The GBKA with written permission from the National Executive Committee, who will define the area of such Associations.

**11.3** The Rules and Regulations of each National and Area Association, together with those of their Leagues and other Competitions, will be submitted to the National Executive Committee for final approval and acceptance. This also applies to amendments and addenda referring to each respective Association.

All amendments to the above must be notified to The GBKA within 21 days of the National or Area General Meeting where they were voted upon.

Each National and Area Association shall, if requested to do so, submit to the National Executive Committee a copy of the minutes of its Annual General Meeting and its audited accounts.

Failure to comply with any of these requirements will incur a fine of £50.

**11.4** National and Area Associations shall be entitled to attend General Meetings of The GBKA but will have no voting rights.

**11.5** A player shall be eligible to play for a National Association's representative team if he / she fulfil at least one of the following criteria: -

a He / she was born in the country governed by the National Association

b He / she has resided for a minimum of three years in such an Area and has not played for another National Association's Representative team within the qualification period.

**11.6** A player shall be eligible to play for the County in which he / she has a permanent postal address, as defined by the county listed in his / her registration details. A player is eligible to play for an Area's representative team if he / she is a registered player in any of that Area's teams, unless in the case where a player is participating outside of the designated area when there is no team / club in their area. However once a team / club has been established, that player must make themselves available to their area team.

## **12 Tournaments and Foreign Visits**

12.1 Members of The GBKA wishing to organise a tournament or to play against Associations / Clubs of another nationality **must** apply for written consent from the National Executive Committee. Application should be made at least 6 weeks prior to the date of the intended match / tournament.

## **13 Colours**

13.1 The colours of The GBKA will be red, white and royal blue.

## **14 International Awards**

14.1 The National Executive Committee will award, at their discretion, a memento to each individual playing his or her first international representative match and each match thereafter.

## **15 Long Service Award**

15.1 The National Executive Committee may grant a Long Service Award to any Officer or Member of The GBKA who has served for ten years.

15.2 The National Executive Committee may also grant awards for continuous service as an Officer or Member of the GBKA.

## **16 Travelling Expenses**

16.1 With the exception of representatives from National Affiliated Associations, all National Executive Committee Members and appointed Sub-Committee Members are permitted to claim from The GBKA for any expenses incurred in travelling on business of The GBKA.

16.2 The representatives from National Affiliated Associations shall claim their expenses from their own Association.

16.3 Each year the National Executive Committee shall lay down what may be claimed as expenses during the Financial Year in question and the mileage rate that shall apply.

## **17 Conduct and Misconduct**

### **17.1 General Behaviour**

17.1.1 A Participant shall, at all times, act in the best interests of the game, and shall not act in any manner that is improper or brings the game into disrepute.

17.1.2 A Participant shall not use violent, threatening, abusive, indecent, or insulting words or behaviour.

17.1.3 If working with young children, defined as anyone under the age of 18 years old, a participant must comply with the provisions of The GBKA's Child Protection Policy.

### **17.2 Discrimination**

17.2.1 A Participant shall not carry out any act that is discriminatory by reason of ethnic origin, colour, race, nationality, religion, sex, sexual orientation or disability.

### **17.3 Compliance with Decisions, including Suspensions**

17.3.1 Each Participant shall comply with a decision made pursuant to the Rules and Regulations of The GBKA, including but not limited to a decision of a Disciplinary Commission or Appeal Board.

17.3.2 A Participant shall not participate in any activity with another Participant suspended from carrying out such activity.

**17.3.3** A Club shall do all things necessary to ensure that a Player associated with it complies with a penalty or order imposed by a Disciplinary Commission or Appeal Board.

**17.3.4** An Affiliated Association or Club shall not appoint to any position, or allow to continue in such position, any individual who has been suspended from holding such position.

#### **17.4 Reporting Misconduct**

**17.4.1** A Participant shall immediately report to The GBKA any incident, facts or matters which may constitute misconduct. For the purposes of this Rule, a report to an Affiliated Association shall constitute a report to The GBKA.

**17.4.2** A report to The GBKA of any incidents, facts or matters shall not be made for vexatious or frivolous reasons.

#### **17.5 Suspension Pending Misconduct Hearing**

**17.5.1** The GBKA shall have the power to order that a Club Official or Player associated with a Club shall be suspended from all or any specific Kurling activity for such period and on such terms and conditions as The GBKA considers fit (an "Interim Suspension Order") where The Club Official or Player has been charged by The GBKA in relation to an alleged act of misconduct, or with a criminal offence, in connection with disciplinary action pursuant to relevant regulations.

**17.5.2** The period of an Interim Suspension Order shall not be capable of lasting beyond the date upon which any charge of misconduct or criminal offence or other disciplinary proceedings referred to in paragraph 17.5.1 is decided or brought to an end.

**17.5.3** Notification of an Interim Suspension Order shall be given as soon as reasonably practicable to the individual concerned and/or the Club and/or Association with which the individual is associated.

#### **17.6 Attendance at and Participation in Matches**

**17.6.1** An individual (including a spectator) may take part in or attend at a Match only on condition that such individual observes The GBKA's Rules, and each Affiliated Association and Club is required to observe and enforce such Rules.

**17.6.2** Each Affiliated Association and Club shall be responsible for ensuring that its players, officials, representatives, spectators, and all persons purporting to be its supporters or followers, conduct themselves in an orderly fashion and refrain from violent, threatening, abusive, obscene or provocative behaviour, conduct or language whilst attending at or taking part in a Match in which it is involved, whether on its own venue or elsewhere; and that no spectators or unauthorised persons are permitted to encroach onto the playing area, save for reasons of crowd safety.

**17.6.3** Any Affiliated Association or Club which fails effectively to discharge its said responsibility in any respect whatsoever shall be guilty of misconduct, save that it shall be a defence if it can show that all events, incidents or occurrences complained of were the result of circumstances over which it had no control, or for reasons of crowd safety, and that its responsible officers or agents had used all due diligence to ensure that its said responsibility was discharged.

#### **17.7 Doping Control**

**17.7.1** A Participant shall comply with the provisions of any Doping Control Regulations as shall be in force from time to time as determined by the National Executive Committee.

**17.7.2** A player is absolutely responsible for any prohibited substance found to be present in his/her body. It is a player's responsibility to ensure that no prohibited substance enters his/her body and that prohibited methods are not used. In order for a doping offence to be established under The GBKA Doping Control Regulations it is not necessary that intent or fault on the part of a player be shown.

**17.7.3** The GBKA Doping Control Regulations must comply with the requirements of UK Sport and WADA. Notice of any changes in the regulations, including the prohibited list of substances and methods, shall be sent to each Member Club and Association.

**17.7.4** Players named in The GBKA testing pool shall be required to sign that they have been informed of the requirements of the GBKA Doping Control Regulations and that they agree to comply with all provisions. Failure to do so will mean exclusion from participation.

**17.7.5** Each player is responsible for ensuring that they are aware of the requirements of The GBKA Doping Control Regulations and the prohibited substances and methods as listed by WADA. If anti-doping testing takes place then the players being tested will need to sign a declaration that they have been informed of, or are aware of, the requirements of The GBKA's Doping Control Regulations and the WADA list of prohibited substances and methods.

## **17.8 Reinstatement**

**17.8.1** A member who has been suspended or removed from any Area Association or Club will not be eligible for membership of any other Area Association or Club affiliated to The GBKA, without special permission from the National Executive Committee.

## **18 Disciplinary Powers**

**18.1** The GBKA may act against a Participant in respect of any misconduct.

**18.2** Misconduct is a breach of any of the following:

**18.2.1** The Playing Rules of Kurling;

**18.2.2** The Rules and Constitution of The GBKA;

**18.2.4** The rules or regulations of a GBKA Competition or an Affiliated Association or one of its Competitions;

**18.2.5** An order, requirement or instruction of The GBKA.

**18.3** The same facts or matters may constitute a breach of more than one rule, regulation, statute, or law referred to above and The GBKA may bring a charge or such charges, as it sees fit.

**18.4** Only The GBKA, or an Affiliated Association on its behalf, may deal with Misconduct under Rule 18.2., notwithstanding that the alleged breach may constitute misconduct under the rules and regulations of an Affiliated Association or Competition.

**18.5** The GBKA shall have the power to take disciplinary action in all cases where facts or matters give rise to alleged misconduct under Rule 18.2.2 to 18.2.5 above.

**18.6** The power to impose a penalty or other order for misconduct shall be exercised by a Sub-Committee having responsibility for such matters (referred to in these Rules as a "Disciplinary Commission"). Where alleged misconduct is to be dealt with, the Chairperson or (in the Chairperson's absence) the Chairperson's nominee, shall appoint the Disciplinary Commission to deal with the matter.

**18.7** The setting up of the Disciplinary Commission and procedures for dealing with misconduct shall be in compliance with The GBKA's Disciplinary Regulations as laid down by the National Executive Committee.

**18.8** If a member of a Disciplinary Commission doubts his or her ability to be impartial, or believes there to be a materially conflicting interest in the proceedings, this must be declared as soon as possible, and unless all parties waive it and request the member to act, then the member shall withdraw completely from the proceedings.

**18.9** Misconduct under Rule 18.2.1 above shall be dealt with under Rule 18.10.

**18.10** The Affiliated Association having jurisdiction over the Club in relation to the Match concerned shall, on behalf of The GBKA, deal with any breach of the Playing Rules of Kurling involving a Player associated with its affiliated Club. The Affiliated Association shall deal with the matter in accordance with the relevant Disciplinary Regulations laid down by The GBKA National Executive Committee.

**18.11** Misconduct under Rule 18.2.2 – 18.2.5 shall be dealt with under The GBKA's Disciplinary Regulations.

**18.12** The GBKA shall have the power to monitor the compliance by each Participant with the Rules and Constitution, the Playing Rules of Kurling, and the rules and regulations of each Affiliated Association and Competition to which a Participant is subject and inquire into any incident, facts or matters which may constitute misconduct under these Rules.

**18.13** In carrying out its functions under Rule 18.11, The GBKA shall have the power to require:



**18.13.1** The attendance, upon reasonable notice, of any Participant to answer questions and provide information; and

**18.13.2** The production, upon reasonable notice, of documents by a Participant.

**18.14** Each Affiliated Association, Competition, or Club shall ensure the compliance by its officials, players or representatives with a requirement to answer questions and provide information or to produce documents.

**18.15** In carrying out its functions under Rule 18.11, The GBKA may request any person who is not a Participant to assist it by producing documents or answering questions and providing information.

## **19 Appeals, Complaints and Claims**

**19.1** Except when subject to Rule 19.2 below, an appeal may be to an Appeal Board under these Rules and Regulations from a decision of:

**19.1.1** A Disciplinary Commission; or

**19.1.2** An Affiliated Association or Competition where rules and regulations provide for an appeal to the National Executive Committee of The GBKA.

**19.2** No appeal may be made to an Appeal Board under these circumstances:

**19.2.1** From a decision of a Disciplinary Commission of The GBKA, or a penalty imposed by such a Commission, for a breach of the Playing Rules of Kurling(i.e. yellow / red cards or equivalent); or

**19.2.2** Where an appeal has been heard by an Affiliated Association in respect of decisions arising out of competitions of Affiliated Associations where the rules and regulations provide that such decisions are final.

**19.3** Only the person or body who is the subject of the original decision being appealed against may make an appeal.

**19.4** An appeal must be made in writing in accordance with The GBKA's Disciplinary Regulations. Any appeal must be made within 7 days of the disputed decision and a deposit of £25 must be paid in accordance with those Regulations.

**19.5** The GBKA's Chairperson or (in the Chairperson's absence) the Chairperson's nominee, shall appoint an Appeal Board, which shall comprise three Members, at least two of whom shall be members of the National Executive Committee.

**19.6** If a member of an Appeal Board doubts his or her ability to be impartial, or believes there to be a materially conflicting interest in the proceedings, then this must be declared as soon as possible and unless all parties waive it and request the member to act, then the member shall withdraw completely from the proceedings. An individual who sat on the body that made the decision appealed against may not be a member of the Appeal Board.

**19.7** An Appeal shall be dealt with under The GBKA's Disciplinary Regulations.

**19.8** A complaint or claim made by any Association or Club against any other Association or Club will be submitted in writing, in duplicate, to the Secretary together with a fee of £25. In the event of the complaint or claim being disallowed, the fee may be forfeited and all expenses incurred in hearing the case may be payable by the complainant.

## **20 Registrations**

**20.1** The GBKA shall keep a register of all players. By making a request, either individually or through a Club / Organisation, to become a registered player, a player shall be deemed to have given consent to being included on this register and that if he / she is over the age of 16 then he / she may be subject to Doping Control testing in accordance with the provisions of The GBKA Doping Control Regulations. All clubs must notify their players of this requirement before applying to register them. It is a requirement under the Doping Control Regulations that once a person, through his / her club, has been notified that their registration has been accepted, they must keep The GBKA (or anyone whom it directs) informed of their up-to-date address and contact telephone number(s).

**20.2** Copies of an area's registered players will be provided for each area and the Membership Secretary will liaise as required with each area to update the list of registered players.

**20.3** Unless individual competition rules prescribe otherwise, all players must be registered with The GBKA's Membership Secretary prior to playing in any league or competition match.

## **21 Contingencies**

**21.1** The National Executive Committee will have the right to provide for any contingency that may arise.

## **22 Dissolution of the Great Britain Kurling Association**

**22.1** If, at any Annual General Meeting of The GBKA, a resolution be passed calling for the dissolution of The GBKA, the Secretary shall immediately convene an Extraordinary General Meeting of The GBKA to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.

**22.2** If, at that Extraordinary General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two-thirds of the Members present at the meeting, the National Executive Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets of The GBKA and discharge all debts and liabilities of The GBKA.

**22.3** After discharging all debts and liabilities of The GBKA, the remaining assets shall not be paid or distributed amongst the Members of The GBKA, but shall be given or transferred to some other voluntary organisation having objectives similar to those of The GBKA.

## **23 Approval**

On behalf of The GBKA, we, the undersigned, confirm that changes to this document were approved at the AGM on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

<b>Signed: Nick Gibbs</b>
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(GBKA Secretary)

<b>Name: Cliff Woollass</b>	<b>Name: Vivienne Davies</b>
<b>Position within The GBKA: Chairperson</b>	<b>Position within The GBKA: Child Protection Officer</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Date:</b>

## **24 Change History**

**Approved at AGM on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

### **Added Table of Contents**

#### **Clause 3**

Changed from “

**3.1** All individuals playing in accordance with the Rules of Kurling shall be eligible to become a Member and will have full voting rights as laid down in rule 5.

**3.2** The GBKA shall have the power to undertake obligations on behalf of its own members.

**3.3** The GBKA accepts on behalf of its own members the obligation to comply with the rules of the game.

**3.4** The members of The GBKA undertake to conduct themselves in accordance with the provisions laid down in 3.3. In addition, all members shall be obliged to comply with any resolution made by an Annual or Extra-ordinary General Meeting or the National Executive Committee, together with the requirements of The GBKA's Child Protection Policy, its Anti-Doping Regulations, its Disciplinary Regulations, and all clauses of these Rules and Constitution.

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**3.5** All members must have suitable Civil Liability Insurance.”

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#### **Clause 4**

Changed from “

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To “

**4.1** Life Members shall pay no membership fee.

**4.2** Each Individual Member shall pay a membership fee to become a member of The GBKA and this should be paid to the Membership Secretary of The GBKA, at the rate fixed in accordance with rule 4.4.

**4.3** Each Club / Organisation shall pay a membership fee to become a member of The GBKA and this should be paid to the Membership Secretary of The GBKA, at the rate fixed in accordance with rule 4.4.

**4.4** The membership fees to be paid by Individual Members and Clubs / Organisations, shall be fixed annually by the National Executive Committee. Fees shall be per membership year which runs from November 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>

**4.5** No Member shall be allowed to take part in the business of The GBKA unless they or their Club / Organisation have paid their membership fee by the due date.

**4.6** Individual Members and Clubs / Organisations will have a period of grace of 21 days after their membership due date to pay their membership fee, however their membership will revert to the original membership due date.”

#### **Clause 5.1**

Changed from “The Annual General Meeting will be held no later than the last Sunday in May. Individual Members, School / Club Main Points of Contact and National / Area Association Main Points of Contact will receive notice of the

Annual General Meeting 28 days prior to the meeting. Members wishing any subject to be discussed, including alterations, amendments or additions to these Rules and Constitution, will give notice of such business, in writing, to The GBKA's Secretary 21 days prior to the Annual General Meeting."

To "The Annual General Meeting will be held no later than the last Sunday in May. Individual Members, Club / Organisation Main Points of Contact and National / Area Association Main Points of Contact will receive notice of the Annual General Meeting 28 days prior to the meeting. Members wishing any subject to be discussed, including alterations, amendments or additions to these Rules and Constitution, will give notice of such business, in writing, to The GBKA's Secretary 21 days prior to the Annual General Meeting."

### **Clause 5.3**

Changed from "The agenda for the AGM will be distributed to Individual Members, School / Club Main Points of Contact and National / Area Association Main Points of Contact 14 days prior to the Meeting. The Agenda will include all proposed changes to the Rules and Constitution of The GBKA, nominations for the National Executive Committee together with any other proposals received from Members or the NEC. Ballot papers will also be included to facilitate postal / electronic voting on changes to the Rules and Constitution of The GBKA, elections to the National Executive Committee and any other proposals included in the Agenda."

To "The agenda for the AGM will be distributed to Individual Members, Club / Organisation Main Points of Contact and National / Area Association Main Points of Contact 14 days prior to the Meeting. The Agenda will include all proposed changes to the Rules and Constitution of The GBKA, nominations for the National Executive Committee together with any other proposals received from Members or the NEC. Ballot papers will also be included to facilitate postal / electronic voting on changes to the Rules and Constitution of The GBKA, elections to the National Executive Committee and any other proposals included in the Agenda."

### **Clause 5.5**

Changed from "The quorum for a General Meeting will be 10."

To "The quorum for a General Meeting will be 10 current members of The GBKA. Each member present shall be entitled to one vote provided that they have not already cast a postal / electronic vote."

### **Clause 6**

Changed from "

**6.1** The National Executive Committee of The GBKA will comprise of the following Officers:

1. Chairperson
2. Secretary
3. Finance Officer
4. Membership Secretary
5. Child Protection Officer
6. Up to four Officers Without Portfolio

Each Officer will have one vote with the Chairperson using a casting vote in the case of equal votes. The officers of the National Executive Committee shall be elected for a period of three years with at least two of these retiring each year. Retiring members shall be eligible for re- election. The retirement rota shall be published with the notice of the AGM.

**6.2** The National Executive shall meet at least four times a year. A quorum for the National Executive Committee shall be at least 50% of members currently in post, one of whom must be the Secretary or his / her nominated deputy. Should the position of Secretary become a paid position, then he / she shall not be entitled to a vote.

**6.3** The National Executive Committee can annually appoint 1 Life Member."

To "

**6.1** The National Executive Committee of The GBKA will comprise of the following Officers:

1. Chairperson
2. Secretary
3. Finance Officer
4. Membership Secretary
5. Child Protection Officer
6. Up to six Officers Without Portfolio

Each Officer will have one vote with the Chairperson using a casting vote in the case of equal votes. The Officers of the National Executive Committee shall be elected for a period of three years with at least three of these retiring each year. Retiring members shall be eligible for re- election. The retirement rota shall be published with the notice of the AGM.

**6.2** The National Executive shall meet at least four times a year. A quorum for the National Executive Committee shall be at least 50% of Officers currently in post, one of whom must be the Secretary or his / her nominated deputy. Should the position of Secretary become a paid position, then he / she shall not be entitled to a vote.

**6.3** The National Executive Committee can annually appoint 1 Life Member.

**6.4** All Officers of the National Executive Committee shall, subject to rules 6.5 and 6.6, be required to be members of The GBKA.

**6.5** Officers whose membership lapses under rule 4 will be deemed to have resigned their appointment. The National Executive Committee shall have the power to fill a vacancy until the next AGM or EGM called for the purpose of making elections.”

**Clause 7** renumbered as Clause 6.6 and

Changed from “Any member of the National Executive Committee who fails to attend two consecutive Committee meetings without offering satisfactory reasons will be deemed to have resigned their appointment. The National Executive Committee shall have the power to fill a vacancy until the next AGM or EGM called for the purpose of making elections.”

To “Any Officer of the National Executive Committee who fails to attend two consecutive Committee meetings without offering satisfactory reasons will be deemed to have resigned their appointment. The National Executive Committee shall have the power to fill a vacancy until the next AGM or EGM called for the purpose of making elections.”

**Clause 8** renumbered as Clause 6.7

**Clause 9 to end** – renumbered.

**Clause 7.3**

Changed from “The Accounts of The GBKA will be audited annually and a printed Statement of Accounts, detailing income and expenditure, will be sent to Individual Members, School / Club Main Points of Contact and National / Area Association Main Points of Contact with the agenda of the Annual General Meeting if so requested.”

To “The Accounts of The GBKA will be audited annually and a printed Statement of Accounts, detailing income and expenditure, will be sent to Individual Members, Club / Organisation Main Points of Contact and National / Area Association Main Points of Contact with the agenda of the Annual General Meeting if so requested.”

**Clause 7.4**

Changed from “The National Executive Committee shall present to the Annual General Meeting, or an Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose, an outline budget for the use of the income from the Membership Fees mentioned in rules 4.1 to 4.2. The General Meeting concerned shall approve this outline budget.”

To “The National Executive Committee shall present to the Annual General Meeting, or an Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose, an outline budget for the use of the income from the Membership Fees mentioned in rules 4.1 to 4.4 together with income from other sources. The General Meeting concerned shall approve this outline budget.”

**Clause 10**

Changed from “The Secretary will convene an Extraordinary General Meeting within 28 days of a request by any of the following: the National Executive Committee; the Honorary Auditor; or upon receipt of a written request from at least 50% of Member Clubs / Schools stating the business they wish discussed.”

To “The Secretary will convene an Extraordinary General Meeting within 28 days of a request by any of the following: the National Executive Committee; the Honorary Auditor; or upon receipt of a written request from at least 50% of Member Clubs / Organisations stating the business they wish discussed.”

**Clause 11.1**

Changed from “National Associations for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland may be inaugurated to the GBKA with the written permission of the National Executive Committee. Such National Associations will be responsible for fulfilling the objectives and purpose of The GBKA within their geographical borders in consultation with the National Executive Committee.”

To “National Associations for England, Scotland and Wales may be affiliated to The GBKA with the written permission of the National Executive Committee. Such National Associations will be responsible for fulfilling the objectives and purpose of The GBKA within their geographical borders in consultation with the National Executive Committee.

**Clause 11.2**

Changed from “Area Associations may only be inaugurated to The GBKA with written permission from the National Executive Committee, who will define the area of such Associations.”

To “Associations may only be affiliated to The GBKA with written permission from the National Executive Committee, who will define the area of such Associations.”

**Clause 11.4 added** “National and Area Associations shall be entitled to attend General Meetings of The GBKA but will have no voting rights.”

**Clause 20.1**

Changed from "The GBKA shall keep a register of all players. By making a request, through a club, to become a registered player, a player shall be deemed to have given consent to being included on this register and that if he / she is over the age of 16 then he / she may be subject to Doping Control testing in accordance with the provisions of The GBKA Doping Control Regulations. All clubs must notify their players of this requirement before applying to register them. It is a requirement under the Doping Control Regulations that once a person, through his / her club, has been notified that their registration has been accepted, they must keep The GBKA (or anyone whom it directs) informed of their up-to-date address and contact telephone number(s)."

To "The GBKA shall keep a register of all players. By making a request, either individually or through a Club / Organisation, to become a registered player, a player shall be deemed to have given consent to being included on this register and that if he / she is over the age of 16 then he / she may be subject to Doping Control testing in accordance with the provisions of The GBKA Doping Control Regulations. All clubs must notify their players of this requirement before applying to register them. It is a requirement under the Doping Control Regulations that once a person, through his / her club, has been notified that their registration has been accepted, they must keep The GBKA (or anyone whom it directs) informed of their up-to-date address and contact telephone number(s)."

**Added new Section 22 – Dissolution**

**22.1** If, at any Annual General Meeting of The GBKA, a resolution be passed calling for the dissolution of The GBKA, the Secretary shall immediately convene an Extraordinary General Meeting of The GBKA to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.

**22.2** If, at that Extraordinary General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two-thirds of the Members present at the meeting, the National Executive Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets of The GBKA and discharge all debts and liabilities of The GBKA.

**22.3** After discharging all debts and liabilities of The GBKA, the remaining assets shall not be paid or distributed amongst the Members of The GBKA, but shall be given or transferred to some other voluntary organisation having objectives similar to those of The GBKA.