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**CRAWLEY OLD GIRLS (COGS) – CONSTITUTION.**

**NAME**

The name of the Group shall be: **Crawley Old Girls (COGS)**.

**AIMS & OBJECTIVES**

The aims of the Group shall be to:

**1.** Encourage women to become active by learning to play football in a fun, safe and enjoyable environment. Crawley Old Girls will also welcome women who want to come back into the game as well as occasional attendees who want to play football for recreational enjoyment. All abilities will be welcome and no experience is required to be a part of the Crawley Old Girls.

**2.** Benefit the local Community with offering voluntary help to encourage others to get active, by using the power of football.

**3.** Be a positive, inclusive and representative organisation, open and accessible to all women (primarily over 30) regardless of their race, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, religious or moral belief.

**4.** Promote the positive wellbeing and stories that come from being a member of Crawley Old Girls, while promoting responsible and constructive Community Engagement in Crawley and the surrounding areas.

**5.** Operate democratically, fairly, transparently and with financial responsibility.

**POWERS**

To further these aims the Management Committee shall have power to:

**1.** Obtain, collect and receive money or funds by way of contributions, donations, grants and any other lawful method towards the aims of the Group.

**2.** Co-operate with, support and work in partnership with other local statutory authorities, community groups, charities and corporate bodies in a common effort to carry out the aims of the Group.

**3.** Do all such lawful things as will further the aims of the Group.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Membership of the Group shall be open to:

**1.** Individuals (over the age of 18 years) who are registered with the Crawley Town Community Foundation (as being a participant in the previous 12 months), individuals who are participants at COGS’ run sessions and who have completed a COGS’ Player Registration Form, individuals who have completed a COGS Membership Form and Committee Members.

**2.** Individuals (over the age of 18 years) who participate in the Group’s activities outside the Group’s sessions. Membership fees (if charged) will be set by the Committee.

There will be 2 types of Membership. Members (non-voting) and Registered Members (voting).

**2.1.** Every Registered Member shall have one vote. All those registered with the Community Foundation ONLY, will automatically become non-voting Members. Those who complete a COGS’ Player Registration Form or COGS’ Membership Form will be voting Members and known as Registered Members.

**2.2.** The COGS’ Committee may unanimously and for good reason terminate the membership of any individual or member organisation provided that the individual concerned or the appointed representative of the member organisation concerned shall have the right to be heard by the Executive Committee, accompanied by a friend, before a final decision is made.

**2.3.** All Members will be entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Registered Members will have a vote.

**2.4.** Registered Members will be required to complete either a COGS’ Player Registration Form or a COGS’ Membership Form, which will be held by the Secretary, and will include a declaration regarding the use of Data Protection in relation to the GDPR Act of 2018 as well as consent from the Member that their details are being held.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**Crawley Old Girls** will not discriminate on the grounds of race, colour, ethnic or national origin, sexuality, disability, religion or political belief, marital status or age, as detailed in our Aims & Objectives.

**MANAGEMENT**

**1.** A Management Committee will be elected, by the Registered Membership annually, at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and shall manage the Group.

**2.** The Committee shall consist of a Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and up to 5 other voting members.

**3.** The Committee shall meet at least 4 times each year.

**4.** At least 3 Committee Members must be present at a Committee meeting to be able to make decisions. **Setting up Voluntary and Community Groups**

**5.** A proper record of all transactions and meetings shall be kept.

**GENERAL MEETINGS**

**1.** An Annual General Meeting shall be held within 12 months of the date of the adoption of this Constitution and each year thereafter. The trustees shall present the annual report and accounts. Members shall elect between 3 and 8 Committee Members to serve for the next year. They will retire at the next AGM but may stand for re-election.

**2.** Notices of the AGM shall be published 21 days beforehand and a report on the Group’s financial position for the previous year will be made available before the Meeting.

**3.** An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting may be called at any time at the request of the Committee, or not less than one quarter of the membership. A notice explaining the place, date, time and reason shall be sent to all members 21 days beforehand.

**4.** One third of the membership or three members being present, whichever is the greater, shall enable a General Meeting to take place.

**5.** Proposals to change the Constitution must be given in writing to the Secretary at least 28 days before a General Meeting and approved by a two thirds majority of those present and voting.

**FINANCE**

**1.** The funds of the group including all donations, contributions and bequests, shall be paid into an account operated by the Management Committee. All cheques drawn on the account must be signed by at least two members of the Management Committee.

**2.** The funds belonging to the Group shall be applied only to further the aims of the group.

**3.** A current record of all income, funding and expenditure will be kept.

**DISSOLUTION**

**1.** The Group may be dissolved by a resolution passed by a simple two-thirds majority of those present and voting at a Special General Meeting.

**2.** If confirmed, the Committee shall distribute any assets remaining after the payment of all liabilities to other charitable group(s) or organisation(s) having aims similar to the Group or some other charitable purpose(s) as the Group may decide.

**SETTING UP THE GROUP**

This Constitution was adopted on 21st November 2018 by the people whose signatures appear below. They are the first members of the Group and will be the trustees until the AGM, which must be held within one year of this date.

November 2020 – This Constitution was revised and adopted at the AGM on 27.11.20.

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Signed by Chair.................................... Date……………………….

Signed by Secretary......................... Date……………………….

Signed by Treasurer............................ Date……………………….