

# **OCEAN-LIFE SCUBA DIVING & SPEARFISHING CLUB CONSTITUTION**

Issue 1 – April 2016



## **CONSTITUTION:**

### **1/ NAME**

1.1 The name of the Club shall be 'Ocean-Life Scuba Diving & Spearfishing Club'.

### **2/ OBJECTIVES**

- To provide membership to all persons having an interest in diving & spearfishing activities;
- To promote diving & spearfishing as safe and exciting sports;
- To promote safe diving & spearfishing practices, techniques and procedures;
- To remain independent of affiliation and accept membership of qualified divers & spearo's regardless of training agency;
- To promote marine conservation in the general protection of the world's ecosystem and
- To provide a range of diving & spearfishing holidays and expeditions for Club members.

### **3/ MANAGEMENT**

- 3.1 The management of the Club shall be vested in Annual and Extraordinary General Meetings and operate as an elected Committee.
- 3.2 The Committee shall be responsible to the membership for the efficient, prudent and proper general and financial management of the Club.

### **4/ CHAIR**

- 4.1 The Chairperson shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall chair the subsequent Annual General Meeting.
- 4.2 The Chairperson shall be regarded as an independent arbiter in all matters.

### **5/ COMMITTEE**

- 5.1 The affairs of the Club shall be managed by the Committee. The Committee shall be responsible for the overall policy, finance and general organisation of the Club.
- 5.2 The Committee shall comprise a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer (the Three Officers), and other members who shall all be elected at the Annual General Meeting (e.g. Safety Officer, Training Officer and Events Officer etc).
- 5.4 The Committee shall have the power to co-opt members for specific purposes, or to fill a vacancy until the next AGM and to appoint other officials as required. Such un-elected members shall not have voting powers. Should the position of any of the Three Officers or their deputies become vacant, the position will be filled by election at an Extraordinary General Meeting.
- 5.5 Committee Meetings shall be held at least four times each year and four members of the Committee shall form a quorum, the Chairman having the casting vote. All members of the Committee shall have at least seven days notice of the meeting in writing. All discussions of the Committee shall be recorded. Any member missing three consecutive Committee Meetings, without good cause, shall forthwith cease to be a member of the Committee.

### **6/ ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

- 6.1 An Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held in January or February each year. The business of the AGM shall be to elect the Officers and Committee for the forthcoming year, receive and accept reports from the Officers and agree matters of Club policy.
- 6.2 A notice convening the AGM shall be circulated to the membership at least 30 days before the date set for the meeting and shall call for the nominations of Officers, the Committee and motions for consideration. The Secretary, in writing, must receive these nominations and motions no later than 21 days before the date set for the AGM. The Committee shall have no power of veto of these motions. The agenda for the AGM, detailing all nominations and motions in full, shall be sent to all members of the Club at least 14 days before the date set for the AGM.

6.3 The minutes of the General Committee Meetings and all Officers' files shall be on view to Club Members at the Annual General Meeting.

## **7/ EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS**

7.1 An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be called at any time by the Committee, or at the written request of at least 10 members of the Club. Such an EGM called by the membership shall require at least 21 days notice to the Secretary who shall, in any event, give the Club membership at least 14 days written notice of the EGM stating the full text of the motion to be considered

## **8/ FINANCE**

8.1 The Club shall be financed by the proceeds from any fund raising events, donations and subscriptions. The level of subscriptions shall be agreed at the AGM and paid by all Members of the Club by 1st March annually. No member whose subscription is unpaid shall be eligible to take part in any Club activity or vote on any matter of the Club.

## **9/ ACTIVITIES**

### **9.1 Diving Holidays and Expeditions**

9.1.1 The Committee may appoint a Holidays or Expeditions member (or members), if required, to plan and organise diving holidays and expeditions. Any members may propose a holiday or expedition for consideration by the Committee.

### **9.2 Diving Training and Club Activities**

9.2.1 The Committee shall appoint members to plan and organise specialist diving training and associated club activities. Any members may propose a training activity for consideration by the Committee.

### **9.3 Social Events**

9.3.1 The Committee shall appoint an Entertainments member to plan and organise social events for the Club. Any members may propose a social event for consideration by the Committee.

## **10/ CLUB RULES**

10.1 The Members and Activities of Ocean-Life Scuba Diving & Spearfishing Club shall be governed by Club Rules, which will be set by the Committee and agreed by the membership of the Club at an AGM or EGM.  
10.2 Amendments to the Rules shall be subject to the submission of proposals to an AGM or EGM in accordance with Rule 6.2 herein.

## **11/ AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

11.1 Any amendments to this Constitution may be made at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting properly constituted under Rule 6.2 and 7.1 herein respectively and shall require the assent of at least two thirds of those members present.

## **12/ DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB**

12.1 The Club shall only be dissolved by the agreement of two thirds of those members present at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting properly constituted under Rule 6.2 and 7.1 herein respectively, which shall also decide the charitable distribution of all monies and realisable assets remaining after all debts have been settled.