



COLUMBIA CRICKET CLUB

Founded 1992 Registered as a 501(c)3 in 2017.

Constitution

Jan 9, 2022

Constitution

Preamble

The purpose of this organization shall be to promote and carry on playing and to follow the traditions of the game of Cricket.

1. Name

This organization shall be known as the "COLUMBIA CRICKET CLUB".

2. Membership

- a. Playing membership to the Club is open to persons who pay membership fees based on the fee structure set for that year. While the board does not need to approve all new members, the board will have final say in any new member approvals.
- b. Playing members shall be eligible for selection for the Club's Cricket teams and shall have the privilege of attending meetings and voting in all matters as deemed necessary by the board.
- c. Membership status may be terminated and a member may be expelled from the club through a board decision for violation of the terms set forth in this document and for any other reasons that the board deems to be punishable.
- d. Members with outstanding dues, exceeding a time period set by a treasurer without any reasonable claims, are not eligible for selection in any of the club games.

3. Board & Leadership

- a. The club will be led administratively by elected board members, and President.
- b. Position of President, Board member, Captains, and Vice captains are mutually exclusive. No one person can hold two of these at the same time.
- c. A player is only eligible to be nominated for a Board position, President, Treasurer, or Captain if they have been a member of the club for at least two consecutive years
- d. Each Board member is a representative of a squad. If the number of squads is reduced, then the Board members will be accordingly reduced in the subsequent season.
- e. Under no circumstance can a board member influence team selection, tactics, strategy or any other matters related to on-field game play for the squad that they represent.

Failure to do so will result in an immediate removal of the board member from the board. The club will be led on the playing field by the respective league captains.

- f. Any remedial intervention required by a board member for their respective squad should be communicated to the other board members and president and discussed prior to the action being taken.
- g. Board members are not eligible to be considered as league captains, neither can be selected as a vice-captain. But he/she can captain non-league games.
- h. Additional positions like those of Social Chair, Technology Chair, Fixtures Officer, and Uniform coordinator etc. will be selected at the discretion of the President. These positions are not mandatory, and are left to the discretion of the president.
- i. Board members, President, Treasurer will have a two-year term limit and will have to be re-elected after. If any member(s) elected to any of these positions decide to step down prior to the completion of their approved term, their replacements will need to be elected immediately by the members of the club.
- j. League Captains will have a one-year term limit and can be reappointed by the board if there are no other eligible candidates.
- k. No one can be selected as a league captain for more than 3 straight terms.

4. Amendments

- a. Any amendment to the constitution will need to be approved by the Board with **3:4** majority, to be deemed valid.
- b. Amendments will need to be announced to the rest of the club's membership within 1 week of the amendment taking effect.

5. Dissolution

In the event of dissolution of the Club, any residual funds, after settling all liabilities, shall be donated to a charity selected by the Board. The charity cannot be associated with any current board member directly or in-directly through family or other financial relations.

6. Duties of Board & Leadership

- a. President
 - i. Communicate club-level decisions to the rest of the membership in an open transparent way.
 - ii. Represent the club to the leagues, other clubs, sponsors and any other outside entities.

- iii. Build relationships with other clubs and leagues to initiate tours, friendlies, away games and “tradition” games (games that become a tradition of the club on an annual basis).
- iv. Execute policies set forth in this constitution and those set by the Board.
- v. Hold all the elections in the club.
- vi. Nominate members to take up key leadership positions such as but not limited to Social Chair, Technology Chair, Fixtures Officer, and Uniform coordinator etc. Handle club-level logistics that fall outside of the game-day logistics such as town hall meetings, annual meetings, and updating and maintaining the constitution.
- vii. Support the treasurer in the planning and execution of budgeting and finances of the club and obtaining necessary approvals from the Board
- viii. Help obtain sponsorships for the club.
- ix. Resolve internal or external matters that pertain to club members, board members, squad issues and such with the assistance of appropriate board members.

b. Treasurer

- i. Responsible for all financial aspects of the club.
- ii. Plan the budget for the year in consultation with the President and Board members prior to the start of the respective cricket season.
- iii. Keep a record of expenses and revenue for the club i.e. maintain the ledger and balance sheet.
- iv. Submit tax returns as required by the federal law and state law of New York ([Form 990N](#)) if the club's annual revenues are less than \$50,000).
- v. Ensure all overdue fees are collected with help from captains.
- vi. Ensure any approved club expenses incurred by members are reimbursed to them.
- vii. Ensure all expenses are approved by the Board.
- viii. Propose a fee structure to the board and president for approval along with the yearly financial budget.
- ix. Ensure all overdue fees are collected with help from captains.
- x. Eligible to captain a league team.

c. Board members

- i. Decide on which leagues to participate in.
- ii. Select captains/vice-captains for each of the league teams.
- iii. Measure and approve nominations of leadership positions by the President.
- iv. Measure and approve the budget presented by the Treasurer before the start of the season.
- v. Resolve disciplinary issues with players that are escalated to the board.

- vi. Develop and maintain a long-term vision for the club from both - a performance and cultural perspective.
- vii. Maintain the Constitution and make any necessary amendments
- viii. Request an independent audit of the finances of the club from a third party at any time the Board deems suitable.
- ix. Hold the President and Treasurer accountable for their duties and discharge them if they are not performing their duties and facilitate selection/election of their replacement.

d. League Captains

- i. In-charge of all game-day logistics eg: game location, matting/nails if needed, new balls, stumps, bails, cones etc.
- ii. In-charge of team and squad selection as per the policies set in the team selection guidelines addendum.
- iii. In-charge of going through all the league related schedules & rules and ensure that they are communicated to the players in advance.
- iv. Responsible for player conduct on the game day and will ensure that players adhere to club's policies, league's policies and park department's policies for conduct (Eg: No physical violence, public urination, drinking alcohol in the park, wearing spikes on matting, cheating etc.).
- v. Responsible for collecting match fees & keeping a record of it. Captains will need to then pass the match fees and the record to the treasurer.
- vi. Responsible for accurate scoring during the game using CricClubs or any other scoring mechanism adopted by the team/club.
- vii. Delegate responsibility to vice-captain and the rest of the team and squad as required to ease the burden of logistics.
- viii. Make sure that all the rules set forth by the Club and respective leagues are being followed during team selection, and during the game.
- ix. Responsible for maintaining all club owned equipment and returning it with normal wear and tear back to the club.

7. Board Election

- a. Members will be asked to nominate themselves for the Board.
- b. Board members will be elected through online voting - based on the most votes within their squad.
- c. In case of a tie, there will be a runoff vote with just the tied members up for consideration.
- d. Board members cannot hold Captaincy or Administrative positions in any other cricket clubs.

- e. Board Election will be based on preceding year's squads. Members will vote based on the squad they belonged to in the previous season. Members can run for a Board position based on the squad they want to represent in the next season.
- f. If the squad ends up selecting no board member or not more than one member from the squad contests for the position, then for the rest of the season that squad will be represented by the other board members and the President.

8. Board decision-making

- a. Board will make all decisions through a simple majority.
- b. President will be the tie-breaking vote if needed.

9. President Election

- a. Members will be asked to nominate themselves for the post of President.
- b. President will be elected through online voting - based on the most votes gathered.
- c. In case of a tied vote, there will be a runoff vote with just the tied members up for consideration.
- d. If not more than 1 member nominates themselves, then the Board will select a President for 1 year.

10. Treasurer Nomination

- a. During the annual elections, members may also nominate themselves for the position of Treasurer. The board and president will then appoint a nominee.
- b. If there are no nominees, then the board and president will appoint a Treasurer.

10. General Election Rules

- a. Elections for the board, president and/or any open official positions must be completed before March 1st of the calendar year.
- b. The nomination (self or other) period for an open position must be kept open for a period of 2 weeks. This period can be extended based on board and president's discretion.
- c. The election/voting period must be kept open for a period of 2 weeks. This period can be extended based on board and president's discretion.
- d. Results must be announced within 1 week of the end of the voting period. Once the voting period has ended, no additional votes will be counted towards the tally.
- e. It is preferred that elections are carried out through an online voting system such as google forms etc.

- f. Results shall be tallied by the President, Treasurer, and all Board members.
- g. The detailed results of the election should be made available to the entire club when announcing results. For example - the number of votes for each candidate must be provided.
- h. If a new squad is formed, elections for the board member of that squad may be held separately from the regular elections.

11. Captain and vice-captain Selection

- a. Members will nominate themselves to the Captaincy or Vice-Captaincy
- b. Board will select both captains and vice-captains based on a simple majority with the President's vote being the tie-breaking vote.

12. Squad & Team Selection

- a. Team selection guidelines shall be set forth in a separate document that will be dated and versioned. The active and prior versions of the team selection guidelines shall be listed at the bottom of this document and updated as needed. The latest effective date representing the most current version.
- b. The "active" guidelines followed should be the most recent version that has been approved by the board and president. They will be communicated to the members prior to the start of every season.
- c. These guidelines should be followed for a minimum term of 1 year.
- d. There will be mutually exclusive squads. These squads will not represent any form of hierarchy. However as a caliber, the level of cricket game in these leagues will be kept in mind and players will be advised to pick a squad accordingly,
- e. Members will elect to play for one and only one squad at the start of the season. They will have the option to switch to a different squad, once, at the mid-season mark (July 4). To do so, members must inform the squad captains and board members of both squads, the squad they are leaving and the squad that they are joining.
- f. Squad lists will be finalized based on a survey prior to the start of the season and shared with the captains of the respective teams

13. Player Conduct

- a. It is the duty of each player and member to conduct themselves, at all times, in a manner appropriate to the laws, spirit, and reputation of the game of cricket. Members are at all times expected to adhere to the club's policies, the league's policies and park department's policies for conduct.
- b. Wearing a helmet during batting and while wicket-keeping close to stumps is a must.

- c. Players take complete responsibility for their safety. Columbia Cricket Club is not liable for any injuries caused to the players during, before or after the game on or off the field.
- d. Any conduct on or off the field of play before or after a game or whilst participating in a Club event that brings into disrepute the game itself, or the Club, will be deemed an infraction leading to possible non-selection or termination. Examples include and not limited to:
 - i. Turning up for a game without proper attire or lateness
 - ii. Not turning up for a game after being selected and confirming availability for the game
 - iii. Turning up inebriated or under the influence for a game, or otherwise in a condition unfit for play
 - iv. Verbal abuse, inappropriate sledging or any physical contact with umpires, opposition, spectators, members, guests or teammates
 - v. Public urination, wearing spikes on mats, cheating during or after the game, bullying fellow teammates, stealing balls, stumps or other club property, stealing club funds, unsubstantiated allegations on fellow members
- e. If an infraction occurs, the concerned player will be suspended immediately and will be given a chance to present their case to the Board. The Board will conduct a disciplinary hearing in the format it deems best before taking a decision to sanction, terminate or absolve the player.
- f. If an infraction or any incident on or off the field related to the club and its members is observed or comes to a member's attention, it is the responsibility and duty of the member to report the incident to the captain, and Board immediately. Their identity will be kept anonymous if necessary.
- g. If the issue/incident involves the captain or board-member then the player must report the issue directly to the president in addition to the captain or board-member that is not involved.
- h. In the event that the member does not receive a response from their board-member or captain, they can also escalate the issue to the president via email.
- i. In the event that a member is banned from the club, indefinitely or for a definite period, the member cannot under any circumstance represent the club in any formal club games.
- j. A banned member can appeal their ban by providing letters of support from at least 5 current members that are in good standing. Once provided, it is up to the President and Board to review and interview that banned member's specific case and make the ultimate decision. Having the letters of support alone does not guarantee reinstatement.

14. Communication channels

- a. While a variety of channels are used to communicate with members - the official method of communication will be "email", as such members are required to provide their email

addresses when joining the club. This list of emails will be refreshed every year as members renew their membership.

- b. For convenience, platforms such as Facebook can be used to schedule games and collect availability.
- c. In general we may use the following platforms
 - a. Facebook
 - b. Meet up
 - c. Email
 - d. Whatsapp
 - e. Website

Team selection addendum

Version	Effective Date
1.0	1/9/22

Team Selection Addendum

Version 1.0, Jan 9 2022

A squad or team can be considered either a “Competitive” or “Friendly” squad. The main difference between the type of squads is that the “Social” squad(s) are required to select all 11 players from the respective squad pool, if available. Whereas the “Competitive” squad(s) are only required to select 7 players from the respective squad pool; the rest can be selected from any other member of the club. A higher emphasis will be applied in "Social" squads to ensure an equal opportunity to all players of those squads.

The intent of differentiating these is to allow a free flow of players between the various Columbia Cricket Club squads and build a stronger sense of community within the club. This also encourages friendly competition and facilitates a mechanism for penalizing the bad actors in the competitive squads.

Competitive Squad(s):

Formation

- Each competitive squad will inherit its name from the league it takes part in
- 15 is the minimum number of players required to form a new squad.
- Squad size will not exceed 18 players, unless the board approves it explicitly.
- Squad membership for players should be exclusive (no overlap among squads)
- Squads will form via self-selection at the beginning of the season (via Poll)
 - Squad leadership (Captain, VC) in consultation with the respective Board member can trim the size of the squad if it exceeds 18 players.
- Squad membership can be changed at the halfway mark of the season.

Selection of Playing XI

- For greater flexibility and competitiveness, playing XI selection will accommodate cross-squad overlaps with the following stipulations:
 - Player selection will adhere to the following order:
 1. **[Squad Quota] 7 out of playing 11** must be from the Squad. If 7 players from the squad are not available, the size **Free Quota** can be increased by the difference.
 2. **[Free Quota] 4 open spots**, can be filled from within the Squad or available players from other squads (including social squad(s)).

3. If no player is available in the above two quotas, captain may select a ringer
 - A new player signed up for their **first ever game** (free game) with Columbia CC, will not be considered a **ringer**. They can be picked in the **Free Quota**.
 - **Ringers** (non-member players who have ever played for CCC) should get the last priority in selection, i.e. when no one is available for selection from the squads.
- Playing XI must be announced by Thursday(EOD) of each week but not earlier than Wednesday. Announcements can be delayed if not enough RSVPs are available by Wednesday.
- After the XI is announced, players from the XI can not be dropped/replaced without their consent or request.

Social Squad(s)

Formation

- Members will be polled at the beginning of the season for selection into social squad(s)
- If at least 15 members are available, the first social squad will be formed.
- Board member(s) for the social-squad(s) will be elected via the same process as competitive squads.
- Social squad sizes should not exceed 18 players, unless the board approves it explicitly.
- The Board will decide the league in which the social squad(s) will compete in.
- The Board will select Captain and Vice Captain from the Squad
- If more than one social squad is formed, social-squad membership must be exclusive.

Selection of Playing XI

- Playing XI must be selected from the respective social-squad(s)
- If not enough RSVPs from social-squad(s) are available, selection priority will be:
 - First, any CCC member
 - Second, new player
 - Third, ringer
- Playing XI must be announced by Thursday(EOD) of each week but not earlier than Wednesday. Announcements can be delayed if not enough RSVPs are available by Wednesday.
- After the XI is announced, players from the XI can not be dropped/replaced without their consent or request.

Selection Equity

- Rotation policy must be adopted by the Captain/VC so that by end of the season, the number of games played by each squad member (excluding Captain and VC) are in the same ballpark.
- Squad leadership group (Captain, VC and Board member) must ensure:
 - By end of the season, games played by each member (excluding Captain/VC) is within +/-2 games of the squad game average (excluding Captain/VC).
 - At the mid-season mark, respective squad board member(s) must review the above KPI and inform the rest of the board about tracking this metric.