



ABINGDON

Constitution of the Old Abingdonian Club

Revised at OA Club AGM 11 October 2014

1. Objectives of the Club

The Club exists in order to provide a constant, continuing and active forum for the maintenance and development of relationships made by OAs with their fellow pupils and the staff during their time at the School.

The Club has three main objectives:

1. To facilitate social and professional networking opportunities amongst OAs.
2. To help current pupils evaluate, choose and pursue their educational and career interests.
3. To support the Foundation Development Plan through the funding of bursaries, facilities and other strategic needs.

2. Responsibilities

The Club will actively promote and fund social, sporting and reunion events which directly support the Objects of the Club.

The Club will maintain a close relationship with the School in order at all times to be aware of the direction the School is taking and the areas where OA support and activity is appropriate.

The Club will control carefully the funds entrusted to it and will always seek to use these, with the approval of the OA Club Committee, by a simple majority, for the benefit of both OAs and the School.

The Club values the fact that there is a permanent place upon the Board of Governors for a nominated OA, representing the Club. The OA Club Committee reviews this nomination, which will be an OA on the Committee, every three years.

3. Membership

Members shall be known as Old Abingdonians (OAs) and there will be two groups eligible for membership:

- Ordinary Members: former pupils of the School of good standing who, having left the School, may be elected by the Committee to be life members of the Club;
- Honorary Members: individuals from within the Foundation or from outside who, in the opinion of the Committee, have rendered special service to the School or the Club, will be eligible to be life members of the Club.

Membership of the Club, and withdrawal of membership, is at the discretion of the Committee.

4. Officers and the Club Committee

The general management of the Club is the responsibility of the OA Club Committee which is deemed to have the necessary authority to carry out this task on behalf of members.

The Officers of the Club are:

President of the OA Club

The President shall be elected for a three-year term at the AGM. He will represent the Club at OA events and invited events. He will select a theme for his tenure of office which will promote an aspect of the Club's objectives. At the end of his three-year term of office the President will be invited to remain on the Committee for a further period of one year. The Committee will recommend an OA to become President Elect at the AGM preceding the AGM at which the President concludes his three-year term and the President Elect takes office.

Chairman of the OA Committee

The Chairman will be an OA and will be elected by members of the OA Committee and serve in office for a period of three years. He will chair all committee meetings, maintain regular contact with the Head, The Director of Operations and Finance and the Director of Development and Alumni Relations. He will also be a member of and chair the Executive Committee of the main Committee. This Committee comprises the President, Chairman and Deputy Chairman and will undertake the preparatory work necessary for issues to be presented to the full Committee and take day to day decisions which need not wait until the full Committee is convened. The retiring Chairman will be invited to serve a further one-year period on the Committee.

Deputy Chairman of the Committee and Treasurer

The Deputy Chairman and Treasurer will be an OA and will be elected by members of the OA Club Committee and will serve in office for a period of three years. He will undertake some duties delegated by the Chairman and will represent him, in his absence, on selected occasions. He will act as Club Treasurer.

Ordinary Members of the Committee

There will be up to twelve elected OA members, each representing one of the past six decades of School leavers. The member representing the earliest decade in this sequence will also represent earlier decades.

Members of the Committee will be elected or re-elected at the AGM and will serve for a period of three years. Unless contested, each Ordinary Member may serve a second consecutive three-year term to a maximum of six years, after which a period of at least one year must elapse before he is eligible to stand for re-election.

Ex-officio members of the Committee

The Head of the Foundation
The OA Club Officer
The Director of Development and Alumni Relations
A Common Room representative

Vacancies on the Committee

The Committee may nominate an OA to fill any vacancy that occurs on the Committee and the person nominated shall serve until the next AGM. The Committee may co-opt members as required and for any period.

Committee Meetings

Meetings of the Committee will be chaired by the Chairman and, in his absence, by the Deputy Chairman and in the absence of both by the President and in his absence by the President Elect. In the absence of all the aforementioned those present will elect a Chairman for that meeting. A quorum for a Committee meeting is formed when at least half of the full Committee members are present.

The constitution of the Club can only be changed with a two thirds majority at an AGM or at an EGM. Resolutions at both the AGM and an EGM are passed by a simple majority.

5. Meetings of Members

The Committee will report upon its activities and plans to the membership at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be convened by the Committee or at the request of more than twenty members of the Club. A quorum for the AGM or EGM is formed when at least twelve OAs are present, both Committee and Ordinary Members.

6. Property

None of the property or assets of the Club may be used for any purpose other than to fulfil the Objects of the Club. Any disposal of Club property or assets, in fulfilling the Club's Objects, is subject to Treasurer, Committee and where necessary AGM approval. The Treasurer may authorise payments exceeding £1k. Payments of between £2-5k require the approval of the Chairman. Payments in excess of £5k require full Committee approval. All payments are exclusive of VAT.

7. Winding Up

The Club may only be wound up for whatever reason by a written majority of 10% of registered members. If the Club is so wound up the balance of property and assets will, in the absence of any resolution to the contrary, be transferred to the Head and Board of Governors.

8. Indemnity

The Committee, Officers, OA Club Office staff and Governors are each and every one INDEMNIFIED against loss of claim incurred on behalf of the Club provided that such indemnity shall be limited to the value of the then current funds of the Club net of all other accrued and contingent liabilities as certified by the Treasurer, and provided further that if the liability exceeds one tenth of such net current value the said indemnity shall not take effect without the approval of an AGM.