



## Constitution

### 1. Name of Club

The club will be named Crouch Kayak Club (hereinafter will be referred to as the Club) and may also be known as CKC. CKC will be affiliated to Paddle UK (PUK).

### 2. Aims and Objectives

Our vision:

CKC aims to provide a fun, safe environment to enjoy kayaking and canoeing, welcoming new members and providing opportunities for members to improve their skills and confidence. CKC aspires to offer paddling and training opportunities for members on the River Crouch, inland waterways, during pool sessions and open sea further afield.

The aims and objectives of the club will be:

- To offer paddling opportunities in Canoeing/Kayaking
- To offer paddlers the chance to improve their performance and confidence through regular training sessions
- To promote the club within the local community and Canoeing/Kayaking
- To manage CKC within Burnham Sailing Club (BSC) facilities
- To ensure a duty of care to all members of the Club, ensuring members abide by the clubs Rules and Guidance policy
- To provide all its services in a way that is fair and consistent to everyone

### 3. Membership

(a) Membership of the Club is open to anyone interested in promoting, coaching, volunteering or participating in canoeing/kayaking regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs.

(b) The membership shall consist of the following categories:

- Full Member
- Wednesday Only Member. These members can only attend on the Wednesday evening Burnham Sailing Club sessions and for Saturday pool sessions. This membership will have no joining fee and will be FREE. This membership will have no voting rights or be eligible for the committee. Different equipment hire and/or pool charges may be set for this membership category by the committee. This membership will not be able to keep kayaks in the CKC storage facility.

All members must be a full member of Burnham Sailing Club.

(c) All members will be subject to the regulations of the constitution and the Club's Rules and Guidance Policy, and by joining the Club will be deemed to accept these regulations and codes of practice that the Club has adopted.

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(d) Members in each category will pay membership fees, as determined by the Committee.

(e) Full members shall be eligible to take part in the business of the Club, vote at general meetings or be eligible for selection of any Club team unless the applicable subscription has not been paid by the due date and/or membership has not been agreed by the Club committee.

#### 4. Sports Equity

(a) The Club is committed to ensuring that equity is incorporated across all aspects of its development. In doing so it acknowledges and adopts the following Sport England definition of sports equity:

Sports equity is about fairness in sport, equality of access, recognising inequalities and taking steps to address them. It is about changing the culture and structure of sport to ensure it becomes equally accessible to everyone in society.

(b) The Club respects the rights, dignity and worth of every person and will treat everyone equally within the context of their sport, regardless of age, ability, gender, race, ethnicity, religious belief, sexuality or social/economic status.

(c) The Club is committed to everyone having the right to enjoy their sport in an environment free from threat of intimidation, harassment and abuse.

(d) All club members have a responsibility to oppose discriminatory behaviour and promote equality of opportunity.

(e) The Club will deal with any incidence of discriminatory behaviour seriously, according to club disciplinary procedures.

#### 5. Committee

(a) The affairs of the Club shall be conducted by a Committee of at least three non-cohabitating, unrelated committee members which shall consist of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Welfare Officer, Membership Secretary, Health and Safety Officer, Social Media Officer, Public Relations / Marketing Officer, Training Officer, Committee Communications Officer and Equipment Officer who shall be elected at the AGM.

(b) All committee members must be full members of the Club.

(c) Additional non role bearing committee members can also be elected at the AGM or coopted during the season onto the committee to assist with the running of the Club.

(d) The term of office shall be for one year and members shall be eligible for re-election.

(e) If the post of any officer or ordinary committee member should fall vacant after such an election, the Committee shall have the power to fill the vacancy until the succeeding AGM.

(f) The Committee will be responsible for adopting new policy, codes of practice and rules that affect the organisation of the club.

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(g) The Committee will have powers to appoint subcommittees and advisers to the Committee as necessary to fulfil its business.

(h) The Committee will be responsible for disciplinary hearings of members who infringe the Club rules/regulations/constitution. The Committee will be responsible for taking any action of suspension or discipline following such hearings.

(i) Committee meetings will be convened by the Secretary and held no less than 4 times per year.

(j) Only the posts listed above will have the right to vote at committee meetings.

(k) The quorum required for business to be agreed at Committee meetings will be a minimum of 4 Committee members.

## 6. Finances

(a) The Treasurer will be responsible for the finances of the club.

(b) The financial year of the club will end on 31<sup>st</sup> March.

(c) All club monies will be banked in an account held in the name of the Club.

(d) A statement of annual accounts will be presented by the Treasurer at the AGM.

(e) Any cheques drawn against club funds should hold the signature of the Treasurer and one other authorised signature.

## 7. Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings

(a) General meetings are the means whereby the members of the Club exercise their democratic rights in conducting the Club's affairs.

(b) The Club shall hold the AGM in the month of March to:

- Approve the minutes of the previous year's AGM.
- Receive reports from the Chairman and Secretary.
- Receive a report from the Treasurer and approve the Annual Accounts.
- Elect the officers on the committee.
- Consider any proposed changes to the constitution.
- Deal with other relevant business.

(c) Notice of the AGM will be given by the Secretary with at least 14 days' notice to be given to all members.

(d) Nominations for officers of the Committee will be presented to the Secretary prior to the AGM.

(e) Proposed changes to the constitution shall be sent to the Secretary prior to the AGM, who shall circulate at least 7 days before an AGM.

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- (f) All full members attending the AGM have the right to vote.
  - (g) The quorum for AGMs will be 25% of membership.
  - (h) The Chairman of the Club shall hold a deliberative as well as casting vote at general and committee meetings.
  - (i) An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) shall be called by an application in writing to the Secretary supported by at least 10% of the members of the Club. The Committee shall also have the power to call an EGM by decision of a simple majority of the committee members.
  - (j) All procedures shall follow those outlined for AGMs.

## 8. Amendments to the constitution

The constitution will only be changed through agreement by majority vote at an AGM or EGM.

## 9. Discipline and appeals

- (a) All concerns, allegations or reports of poor practice/abuse relating to the welfare of children and young adults will be recorded and responded to swiftly and appropriately in accordance with the Club's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and procedures. The Club Welfare Officer is the lead contact for all members in the event of any child protection concerns.
- (b) All complaints regarding the behaviour of members should be presented and submitted in writing to the Secretary and/or Welfare Officer.
- (c) The Committee or nominated sub-committee will make the relevant party/s aware of the complaint against them on a confidential basis. They have the right to submit their account of the dispute to the Secretary and/or Welfare Officer within 14 days.
- (d) The Committee will meet to hear complaints within 14 days of a complaint being lodged. The committee has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action including the termination of membership.
- (e) The outcome of a disciplinary hearing should be notified in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made within 14 days of the hearing.
- (f) There will be the right of appeal to the Committee following disciplinary action being announced. The committee should consider the appeal within 14 days of the Secretary and/or Welfare Officer receiving the appeal.

## 10. Dissolution

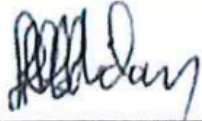
- (a) A resolution to dissolve the club can only be passed at an AGM or EGM through a majority vote of the membership.




(b) In the event of dissolution, all debts should be cleared with any Club funds. Any assets of the club that remain following this will become the property of another club with a similar interest or Paddle UK (PUK).

### 11. Declaration

Crouch Kayak Club hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members.

Name	John Holliday	Position	Chairman
Signature		Date	10/3/26

Name	Alan Organ	Position	Treasurer
Signature		Date	10/3/26