

# Constitution of Squash Bucklers

## 1. Name

The name of the club is **Squash Bucklers** (“the Club”).

## 2. Purpose

The purpose of Squash Bucklers is to:

- provide a welcoming, inclusive, and rainbow-friendly squash club
- promote participation in squash for players of all abilities and experience levels
- foster a safe, respectful, and supportive community through sport and social connection

The Club is non-profit and exists for the benefit of its members.

## 3. Values

Squash Bucklers is committed to:

- inclusion and diversity
- respect, fairness, and good sportsmanship
- safety and personal responsibility
- creating a space where people feel comfortable being themselves

## 4. Membership

### 4.1 Eligibility

Membership is open to anyone who supports the purpose and values of the Club.

### 4.2 Membership Requirements

All members must:

- agree to this Constitution
- agree to the Code of Conduct
- follow any safety guidelines or policies set by the Club

### 4.3 Membership Termination

Membership may be suspended or terminated for serious or repeated breaches of the Code of Conduct or Club policies, following the Complaints Procedure.

#### **4.4 Membership Categories**

The Club may offer different categories of membership, including but not limited to:

- Annual Membership
- Monthly Membership
- Casual Membership
- Non-Playing Membership

The committee may determine the rights, benefits, fees, and conditions of each membership category from time to time.

#### **4.5 Voting Rights**

Voting rights at general meetings are held by:

- Annual Members
- Monthly Members

Casual Members and Non-Playing Members do not have voting rights.

Only members with voting rights may stand for committee positions.

### **5. Management and Committee**

#### **5.1 Committee**

The Club will be managed by a committee consisting of at least:

- a Club Captain
- a Vice Club Captain
- a Secretary
- a Treasurer

Roles may be combined where appropriate.

#### **5.2 Responsibilities**

The committee is responsible for:

- the general management of the Club
- finances and administration
- organising activities and events
- adopting and enforcing Club policies

#### **5.3 Decision Making**

Decisions may be made by consensus or by majority agreement of the committee.

#### **5.4 Founder Recognition**

Squash Bucklers acknowledges Benjamin Troy Lennard as the Founder of the Club, in recognition of their role in establishing the Club, its values, and its inclusive, rainbow-friendly culture.

This recognition is honorary and permanent.

### **5.5 Protection of Core Values**

The following principles are fundamental to Squash Bucklers and must not be removed or materially weakened:

- the Club's inclusive and rainbow-friendly nature
- its commitment to respect, safety, and non-discrimination
- its aim to provide a welcoming environment for people of all identities, backgrounds, and abilities

Any proposal to amend the Club's purpose, values, or Code of Conduct must be consistent with these principles.

### **5.6 Supermajority Requirement**

**Any amendment relating to the Club's:**

- purpose
- values
- Code of Conduct
- Complaints Procedure

must be approved by a supermajority of not less than 75% of members present and voting at a general meeting.

### **5.7 Founder – Advisory Role**

The Founder may hold the role of Founding Advisor to the Club.

- This role carries no voting rights and does not override the authority of the committee or members.
- The Founding Advisor may raise concerns or provide advice relating to the Club's values, safety, or inclusive culture.
- The committee must consider any such concerns in good faith and formally record its response in meeting minutes or written correspondence.

## **6. Meetings**

### **6.1 General Meetings**

General meetings may be held as needed.

### **6.2 Annual Meeting**

An annual meeting may be held to:

- review the year
- confirm committee roles
- discuss major matters

Meetings may be held in person or online.

### **6.3 Quorum**

A quorum for a general meeting is 50% of current members, or such number as the committee determines from time to time.

## **7. Finances**

- The Club's funds will be used solely to further the purpose of the Club.
- No member may derive personal profit from the Club.
- A bank account may be maintained in the Club's name.

## **8. Health and Safety**

The Club is committed to providing a safe environment for members.

Members participate in Club activities voluntarily and accept the inherent risks associated with sport. Nothing in this Constitution limits the application of New Zealand law, including the Accident Compensation Act (ACC).

## **9. Complaints and Discipline**

The Club will maintain:

- a Code of Conduct
- a Complaints Procedure

These documents form part of the Club's governance framework and must be followed. They may be adopted or updated by the committee, subject to Clause 5.6.

## **10. Amendments**

Except where otherwise specified in this Constitution, this Constitution may be amended by resolution at a general meeting.

Amendments affecting Clauses 2, 3, 5.5, 5.6, 8, or 9 are subject to the supermajority requirements set out in Clause 5.6.

## **11. Financial Year**

The Club's financial year will commence on 1 April and end on 31 March each year, unless otherwise determined by the committee and approved at a general meeting.

## **12. Dissolution**

If the Club is dissolved:

- any remaining assets must be distributed to a non-profit or community organisation with similar aims
- no assets may be distributed to members

## **12. Adoption**

This Constitution was adopted by the members of Squash Bucklers on:

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_