



DOWNSHIRE YOUNG MEN FOOTBALL CLUB - CLUB CONSTITUTION

1. Name

The Senior club will be called Downshire YM FC and will be affiliated to the County Antrim FA and Irish Football Association.

The Club's colours will be Red, White and Black

The Junior sides within the Club will be called Downshire Dynamos.

The Club's home Ground will be located at McCarthy Park, Old Coach Road, Hillsborough, BT26 6PB

2. Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of the club will be:

- ☐ To promote the sport of Association Football
- ☐ To promote Downshire YM Football as a community-based Club within the local Hillsborough area at all levels.
- ☐ To offer recreational (and competitive) opportunities in Association Football at all age levels
- ☐ To ensure a duty of care to all members of the club
- ☐ To ensure that all present and future members receive fair and equal treatment
- ☐ To create other social activities as required by the members
- ☐ To provide Training and Coaching Facilities for all of its playing Members.

3. Membership

Membership should consist of officers and members of the club.

All members will be subject to the regulations of the constitution and by joining the club will be deemed to accept these regulations and codes of conduct that the club has adopted and the policies and rules of the Northern Amateur Football League (NAFL) and the Irish Football Association (IFA).

Members can join the Club in one of the following categories:

- ☐ Full member
- ☐ Associate/Playing member (Over 17)
- ☐ Junior member

4. Membership fees

Membership/weekly fees will be set annually and determined at the Annual General Meeting.

Fees will be paid for senior Membership by 31st October on an annual basis.



Junior Members will pay a monthly subscription by Direct Debit

5. Officers of the club

The officers of the club will be :

- ☐ Chair
 - Vice Chair
- ☐ Secretary
 - Asst Secretary
- ☐ Treasurer
 - Asst Treasurer
- ☐ Child Safety Officer
- ☐ NAFL League Representative
- ☐ Disciplinary Officer

Officers will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. Committee members may serve in the same position if re-elected at the AGM with no restriction on duration.

6. Committee

The club will be managed through the Management Committee consisting of the Elected Officer Posts and a minimum of 6 Committee Members elected at the AGM.

Only these posts will have the right to vote at meetings of the Management Committee.

The Management Committee will be convened by the Secretary of the club and held on a monthly basis throughout the playing season.

The quorum required for business to be agreed by the Management Committee

The Management Committee will be responsible for adopting new policy, codes of conduct and rules that affect the organisation of the club.

The Management Committee will have powers to appoint sub-committees as necessary and appoint advisers to the Management Committee as necessary to fulfil its business.



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

7. Team Selection

(a) Team selection shall be made by the Team Managers who have been selected by the Management Committee and ratified by the Annual General Meeting.

(b) When selection is being made all Managers shall abide by the following: -

All Players must be registered with their appropriate leagues and comply with rules laid down by that authority. Only players eligible for selection as per NAFL/ County Antrim FA rules may be selected

8. Finance

All club finances will be banked in an account held in the name of the club with the Dankse Bank, Donegall Square West, Belfast, BT1 6JS.

The Club Treasurer will be responsible for the finances of the club.

The financial year of the club will end on May 31st

An audited statement of annual accounts will be presented by the Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting.

Any cheques drawn against club funds should hold the signatures of the Treasurer plus one other officer.

All expenditure in excess of £50 will be agreed by the Management Committee

8. Annual general meetings

Notice of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be given by the Club Secretary. Not less than 21 clear days' notice to be given to all members.

The AGM will receive a report from officers of the Management Committee and a statement of the audited accounts.

Nominations for officers of the Management Committee will be sent to the Secretary prior to the AGM.

Elections of officers are to take place at the AGM.

All Full members have the right to vote at the AGM.

The quorum for AGMs will be 25% of the Full Membership.



The Management Committee has the right to call Extraordinary General Meetings (EGMs) outside the AGM. Procedures for EGMs will be the same as for the AGM.

9. Discipline and appeals

All complaints regarding the behaviour of members should be submitted in writing to the Secretary.

The Management 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.

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 7 days of the hearing.

There will be the right of appeal to the Management Committee following disciplinary action being announced. The committee should consider the appeal within 14 days of the Secretary receiving the appeal.

10. Trustees

There shall be at least 5 Trustees who shall be elected by the Management Committee, and they shall hold office during the pleasure of the club. New Trustees shall be appointed by a special meeting of the surviving Trustees and Committee. The funds and property of the club shall be invested in the joint names of the Trustees and dealt with by them as the Management Committee shall direct.

The office of a Trustee shall be declared vacant and the Trustee deemed to have removed himself from office upon any of the following events that is to say his death, resignation or bankruptcy. In the event of a Trustee dying, resigning or being removed from office, another shall be elected by a joint meeting of the remaining Trustees and Managing Committee.

All deeds, documents of Title and securities for money of the club shall be held by the Trustees and they may take such measures for the safe custody thereof at the expense of the club as they think fit. They shall produce them for inspection when required by resolution of the general meeting or Management Committee.

No Trustee shall invest any part of the fund of the club upon the security of his own property, or otherwise than in accordance with the law, nor in any private business except in accordance with the directions of the Management Committee or the Annual General Meeting. All Trustees are entitled to attend and vote at any Management Committee Meeting.

The Trustees be in power to purchase property of any tenure or to take property on lease or tenancy and that they will with the approval of the Management Committee and on such terms as the management Committee approves, borrow monies on the security of any property for the time being belonging to the Club and may mortgage, charge or deposit the title deeds of such property for this purpose.



The Trustees may at their discretion and with the approval of the Management Committee vest any property of the Club or transfer the same to a Trust Corporation within the meaning of the Probate and Letters of Administration Act (N. Ireland) 1933 notwithstanding the revision here-before maintained that the funds and property of the Club shall be invested in the joint names of the Trustees.

11.Dissolution

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

In the event of dissolution, any assets of the club that remain will become the property of the Trustees of Downshire YM FC.

12.Amendments to the constitution

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

13.Documentation

The Club will produce documentation/plans which will control all the processes required to manage the Club, namely Safe Guarding Plan, Health & Safety Plan and others required. All documents will be approved by the Management Committee and signed off by the author and Chairman.

Declaration

Downshire YM FC hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide, regulating the management of the Club and the actions of its members.

SIGNED: NOEL OGLE

DATE: 30/5/25

Noel Ogle
Hon Sec

POSITION: Club Secretary