

# *The Dedanists' Society*™

## **Rules and Regulations**

**30<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

## **1. Name**

The Name of the Society shall be “The Dedanists’ Society”.

## **2. Aims**

The aims of the Society are to share the virtues and pleasures of the ancient game of Real Tennis and to raise funds for benevolent purposes.

## **3. Activities**

The activities of the Society shall be Real Tennis and such other games as the members of the Society in general meeting shall resolve.

## **4. Benevolent Activities**

A major aim of the Dedanist Society is to generate funds for good causes. Each year the activities of the Society should generate a surplus. After setting aside a modest amount for working capital, the rest will be declared available for distribution for benevolent purposes. At each annual general meeting, there will be a discussion and a decision as to the benevolent purposes which the Society will support.

## **5. Officers, Trustees and the Committee of Management.**

The following provisions shall take effect subject to the provisions of the Appendix attached.

The Officers of the Society shall consist of a Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary who must be members of the Society

The Committee shall consist of the Officers and six more elected members of the Society. The Committee shall be entitled to appoint one of the elected committee members or officers as a Fixture Secretary.

At all committee meetings, votes shall be passed by a simple majority. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

All elections of Officers and Committee Members will be for a period of not more than three years. Officers and Committee Members shall be entitled to stand for re-election.

At least one Officer and one Committee Member shall retire each year, and their replacements shall be elected at the annual general meeting. Members will by election fill all vacancies for Officers and other members of the Committee at the annual general meeting.

There will be a body of Trustees (the Trustees). The Trustees will be members of the Society but will not be members of the Committee. The role of the Trustees is to supervise the actions of the Committee on behalf of members and to act as a final arbiter in disputed issues. The Trustees shall be elected en bloc for a period of three years, renewable once for a further period of three years.

If any vacancy shall occur in the Officers or on the Committee, the Trustees shall appoint a replacement who shall hold office until the next general meeting. Any vacancy among the Trustees shall be filled by election at the next annual general meeting such that the Trustee elected serves for the remainder of the term of his/her predecessor.

## **6. Nominations to all Elected Appointments**

Members who wish to serve as an Officer, on the Committee or as a Trustee shall send a letter to the Secretary not later than one month before the AGM. The application should be supported in writing by two members proposing and seconding the nomination.

Should the Secretary receive more nominations than required to fill any vacancy, a ballot of members shall take place at the annual general meeting.

## **7. Management**

The Committee is responsible for the management of the Society and the funds and affairs thereof. Funds held by the Society shall only be invested in trustee savings accounts or the equivalent (i.e. government securities, bank or building Society accounts).

The Trustees shall hold a watching brief over the Committee and shall determine any dispute as to the meaning or interpretation of these

rules or as to the powers of the Officers or Committee. Their decision shall be final and binding on all members of the Society.

Members of the Society including Officers, Committee Members and Trustees shall not be liable for any loss arising from any act or default or advice and shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Society

## **8. Accounts**

All accounts and securities of the Society shall be held in the name of the Society. All cheques should be signed by at least two members of the Committee.

The Accounts of the club shall be prepared annually and submitted to members for approval each year at a general meeting

## **9. Quorum**

The quorum of the Committee shall be four. The quorum at a general meeting shall be ten.

## **10. Voting Procedure**

All members eligible to vote and personally present shall be entitled to one vote at a general meeting. Resolutions at a general meeting shall be carried if approved by a majority of members present except in the case of resolutions to change the rules and regulations of the Society in which case the majority must be at least 70% of those present who are eligible to vote and do so.

## **11. Meetings**

The annual general meeting of the Society shall be held on such dates as shall be decided by the Committee. It shall be for the purposes of electing Officers, the Committee and the Trustees, for the presentation of the annual report and for any other business specified in the notice of the meeting.

The Secretary may call a general meeting of the Society at any time and for any business on the authority of the Committee or at the written request of not less than 30 members of the Society. At least 21 days notice shall be given to members.

## **12. Financial Year, Subscriptions and Entrance Fee.**

The annual financial year of the Society (the financial year) shall commence on the first day of August in each year or on such date as the Society shall decide at an annual general meeting by simple majority.

New members shall pay an entrance fee of £100 to include the club colours.

The annual subscription shall be set by the Committee, shall not exceed £50 per year and shall become payable on the first day of each financial year. Proposed changes to the entrance fee or to the upper limit of subscription fees shall be decided by the Society by simple majority at a General Meeting, at which due notice has been given in the Notice calling the Meeting.

## **13. Non-Payment of Subscription and Entrance Fee.**

If a member's subscription due at the commencement of the financial year shall not be paid within 3 calendar months that member may lose his / her membership

A candidate when elected should pay the entrance fee within three months after notification of election.

## **14. Re-election**

Any person who has ceased to be a member of the Society owing to non-payment of subscription shall be eligible for re-election on being proposed and seconded in accordance with the rules.

## **15. Overseas List**

Any member who resides in a country without real tennis courts in current use for a period of 12 months or more shall be entitled to have his/her name placed on the overseas list and shall not be required to pay an annual subscription until he /she shall again reside in a country with real tennis courts in current use

Members wishing to have their names placed on the overseas list must notify the Treasurer in writing.

## **16. Proposal of Candidates**

The names of candidates for election shall be placed before the Committee for approval and acceptance.

The Committee must be satisfied that the candidate is a lover of the game of real tennis and supports the aims and activities of the Society. An application for membership shall be submitted on the prescribed form and signed by a proposer and seconder, both of whom should be members of the Society.

## **17. Election of Candidates**

The election of members shall be vested in the Committee.

## **18. Honorary Life Members**

The Society may offer honorary life membership to individuals who have rendered special services to real tennis or to the Society. Such offers of honorary life membership shall only be made when approved by members at a general meeting. Honorary life members shall have the same privileges as full members.

## **19. Club Fixtures**

If any match is cancelled, the match manager shall subsequently report the circumstances to the committee.

## **20. Resignation**

A member desiring to resign his/her membership of the Society should give notice in writing to the Secretary.

## **21. Expulsion of Members**

In the event of the Committee considering the conduct of any member to be prejudicial to the interests of the Society they may call upon him/her for an explanation. If such explanation is not forthcoming or unsatisfactory the Committee shall have the power to request his/her

resignation. A member who has been forced to resign has the right to appeal to the Trustees. The decision of the Trustees shall be final.

## **22. Inspection of Books**

Members may inspect the books of account and minute books of the Society at the address of the Secretary on reasonable notice.

## **23. Dissolution.**

Any resolution to dissolve the Society may be proposed only at a special general meeting called for that purpose.

In the event of dissolution and after discharging all debts and liabilities, the remaining funds shall be distributed for charitable and / or benevolent purposes to be selected by the Society in general meeting.

## **24. Alterations to Rules**

These rules shall only be altered at a general meeting of the Society at which 70% of those who vote, and are eligible to do so, vote in favour of the alteration.