



MEMBER CONSULTATION PROPOSED GOVERNANCE CHANGES

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General committee structure and election – our current position

- The club’s General Committee consists of 12 members who are all proposed and elected by the membership.
- Once elected, committee members serve an initial three-year term, after which they must seek re-election to remain in position.
- There is no limit to the number of three-year terms a committee member may serve, but no member may stand for election or re-election having passed the age of 70.
- The Chair is elected or re-elected on an annual basis by the General Committee. There is no limit to the number of years an elected member may serve as Chair.
- The only qualification criterion is that a nominated individual must have been a voting member of the club for two consecutive years and not an employee within the last three years.
- There are no requirements for the club to ensure that its General Committee reflects and represents the diversity of its membership.

Why is there a need for change?

- To improve the process of election and optimise the mix of skills, experience and knowledge on the General Committee.
- To ensure the General Committee represents the diversity of its membership and reflects the future needs of the club.
- To bring our governance in line with the requirements of the England & Wales Cricket Board and Sport England, both of which are critical to the club’s future funding.

Proposed changes – General Committee elections

The General Committee would still consist of 12 members but the nomination and election process would alter;

- Eight members would be proposed and elected by the membership.
- The remaining four positions would be appointed by a newly created Nominations Panel.

The above proposals would guarantee that the majority of the General Committee are nominated and elected by the membership, whilst introducing measures to ensure that the club’s decision-making body has the requisite skills, experience and diversity.

Proposed change – the inauguration of a Nominations Panel

A newly created Nominations Panel comprising the Club Chair, one other serving member of the General Committee, two club members and one non-member would be formed. Its role would be to;

- Select the four Nominated Members from a pool of interested candidates and interview all prospective General Committee nominees.
- Monitor the mix of skills, diversity and experience within the General Committee.
- Consider succession planning for upcoming General Committee vacancies.
- Ensure a formal and transparent election process.

Proposed changes – terms of office

- The initial term of office would remain at three-years but, if re-elected, a General Committee member would serve a maximum of three terms – nine years in total.
- In exceptional circumstances, one additional year could be granted by the Nominations Panel.
- If unforeseen General Committee vacancies arose, an individual could be co-opted following a recommendation by the Nominations Panel. This would be subject to approval by the General Committee with the co-opted person then required to seek re-election should they wish to continue their service beyond the next AGM.
- The 70-year age limit would no longer apply to any individual wishing to stand for General Committee.

The above proposals would be introduced to define a time limit that all individuals may serve. This mechanism would drive an adequate influx of new members and is recommended as best practice to provide churn in new talent, skills, experience and thinking.

Proposed changes – the role of Chair

- The Chair would still be elected or re-elected on an annual basis by the General Committee.
- The maximum period a committee member could serve as Chair would be six years.
- Extensions to the maximum nine-year term on the General Committee could be granted by the Nominations Panel and sanctioned by the General Committee, in order to fulfil a six-year term as Chair. This would be limited to a maximum of three additional years.

Proposed amendment to the Club Rules

Under the existing terms of the club’s constitution, any individual Member of the club may propose a motion at an Annual General Meeting.

Given that the club has over 6,000 voting members at any time, this does not meet recommended best practice where the number of members required to submit such an amendment is significantly higher.

- Following discussion at the consultation forums it is, therefore, recommended that 20 Member signatures be required in order for a motion to warrant inclusion at an AGM, as opposed to the 100 members originally proposed.

