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*MERSEYSIDE BSAC  
BRANCH 5*



The  
Proposed New  
Constitution  
2020

To voted on at the AGM 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020

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VERSION For the AGM November 2020AMENDMENTS SHEET

DATE	AMENDMENT	BY WHOM
26th FEBRUARY 1993	BY UNANIMOUS VOTE AT THE SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING AS ACCEPTED	BRANCH MEMBERS
12 <sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 1993.	AMENDED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING BY UNANIMOUS VOTE	BRANCH MEMBERS
4 <sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 1994	AMENDED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING BY UNANIMOUS VOTE	BRANCH MEMBERS
29 <sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 1999	AMENDED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING BY UNANIMOUS VOTE	BRANCH MEMBERS
3 <sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2000	AMENDED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING BY UNANIMOUS VOTE	BRANCH MEMBERS
6 <sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2003	AMENDED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING BY UNANIMOUS VOTE	BRANCH MEMBERS
19 <sup>th</sup> APRIL 2007	AMENDED TO INCLUDE THE "FACILITIES MEMBER" AT THE SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING BY UNANIMOUS VOTE AND MINOR AMENDMENTS BY THE COMMITTEE	BRANCH MEMBERS & COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 2011	MAJOR REVIEW OF DOCUMENT IN TERMS OF TITLE, FORMATTING, UPDATING, LANGUAGE, MEMBERSHIP CLASSES AND RULES & BYELAWS	SUB-COMMITTEE
9 <sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2012	NEW CONSTITUTION ACCEPTED BY MEMBERSHIP AT EGM	BRANCH MEMBERS
9 <sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2017	AMENDED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING BY MEMBERSHIP AT THE AGM 9 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2017	BRANCH MEMBERS & COMMITTEE
22 <sup>nd</sup> November 2018	Addition of a preamble / Unincorporated Association	Branch members & Committee
14 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	Amended at the 2019 AGM (section 3b)	Branch Members & Committee
19 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	Voting to Amend Constitution at the AGM 2020	TBA

## **Unincorporated Association**

Merseyside Sub-Aqua Club (Branch 5) is an 'unincorporated association', the common purpose of its members being to explore the underwater world. Merseyside Sub-Aqua Club is not a business.

Persons who join the club on payment of their membership (and those of the BSAC governing body) are entitled to full access to the club house, lecture room as well as the boat house, compressor, boats and sundry other facilities (subject to the terms and conditions contained in club rules and guide lines), for the period of their membership.

Training is provided on an ad hoc voluntary basis according to the needs of the membership. Individuals may take advantage of this amenity at their leisure and without further payment.

# **MERSEYSIDE BSAC** **BRANCH 5 CONSTITUTION**

## **1 TITLE**

a) The title of the Branch shall be called the MERSEYSIDE BRANCH OF THE BRITISH SUBAQUA CLUB (herein after called THE BRANCH).

Herein after the BSAC shall be called THE CLUB.

b) Any words importing the singular number only shall include the plural number and vice versa. Words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine gender. Words importing person shall include corporations.

c) Headquarters. The headquarters of the Branch shall be at the Clubhouse

1 Riverview Road, Seacombe, Wallasey, Merseyside

or at any place at any time as may be decided by the Committee.

## **2 AIMS & OBJECTIVES**

The Aims and Objectives of the Branch shall be those of the BSAC and as set down in the publication "*Memorandum and Articles of Association and Rules of the BSAC*".

## **3 MANAGEMENT**

a) The Officers of the Branch shall be the Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Diving Officer.

b) No person may be elected to hold more than one Officer position at a time and the Office of Chairperson, of Treasurer of Secretary and Diving Officer shall not be held by the same person for more than four years consecutively. Should any Officer post be undertaken for a part year that part year period will be deemed a full year and count towards the four years maximum term. An Officer shall not be re-elected for the same post within eleven months of the expiry of the four-year period for which they previously held that post.

c) The Aims and Objectives of the Branch shall be promoted by and the management thereof shall be the responsibility of the Committee.

#### 4 CLUBHOUSE

The Branch may maintain for the convenience of its members a clubhouse at a site selected by the Committee, the control of which is the responsibility of the Branch Committee.

#### 5 MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP OF BSAC MERSEYSIDE BRANCH 5 IS ANNUAL. NO REFUNDS ARE MADE ON TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP FOR ANY REASON PRIOR TO THE EXPIRY OF THE MEMBERSHIP PERIOD.

There shall be ten classes of membership available as outlined below. Full members thereof shall be entitled to vote on all matters. All other classes of membership shall be entitled to vote on matters pertaining to only the Branch administration and matters relating to their class of membership and not BSAC matters.

#### MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS

There are three groups of membership:

- Diving
- Snorkelling
- Social

#### Group 1 – Diving

A. FULL DIVING MEMBER – Includes all diving and instructor grades – Any person over the age of 18 years who submits a valid medical or medical self-declaration form.

B. DUAL (Affiliate) MEMBERSHIP – A member who is a full member of another Branch of the BSAC, but will not entitle such a member to hold an office on the Branch Committee nor organise club dives using Branch 5 boats and equipment unless such dives are sanctioned by the Branch Diving Officer. Branch fee same as Full Member. BSAC membership fee paid to primary Branch or BSAC Direct Debit. Proof of current membership is required by the Branch 5 Membership Secretary.

- C. JOINT (Abated) MEMBERSHIP – Available for members of the same household of a full member. Branch fee same as Full Member. No BSAC fee charged by Merseyside Branch.
- D. JUNIOR MEMBER – AGED 12 – 17. Parent or Guardian must be an active member, although not necessarily a diving member of the Branch. Branch fee same as Full Member. Reduced BSAC fee. Full instructor training is always given with the parent present.
- E. STUDENT MEMBER – For those over the age of 18 and in full time education. Proof of full-time education required. Branch fee same as Full Member. Reduced BSAC fee.

#### Group 2 – Snorkelling

- F. FULL SNORKEL MEMBERSHIP – 18 years and over. Includes magazine and voting rights.
- G. SNORKEL MEMBERSHIP – 6 – 17 years. No magazine or voting rights

#### Group 3 – Social Membership

- H. POOL & SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP – Entitles member to use the clubhouse facilities socially and gives free access to the training pool on a club night, specifically excludes the use of snorkelling or SCUBA equipment. No BSAC membership. Excludes voting rights on Diving or Snorkelling activities.
- I. SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP – Entitles member to use the clubhouse facilities socially. Does not provide access to the pool. Excludes voting rights on Diving or Snorkelling issues.
- J. 'Honorary Life Members' are individuals who receive this unique recognition from the committee for their exceptional work for the benefit of the club over a long and protracted period (and should be rarely awarded). This means that their future membership of Branch 5 will be free, and they will no longer have to pay annual dues, but will be expected to pay the annual subscription to BSAC. Honorary Life Members will retain full voting rights at the club's AGM or any EGM, however, they are precluded from standing for the positions of club officers, namely those of Chairman, Diving Officer, Treasurer and Secretary (except in exceptional circumstances, such as there being no other candidate). No such bar exists in respect of the other club committee positions should the Honorary Life Member choose to seek election to such a post.'
- K) If an existing member has a valid objection to someone joining, they must inform the Chairperson. The Chairperson and Committee will decide if the applicant can become a member. This is to prevent friction within the club where there may be a possible conflict of interests.

#### 6 CHARGES

- a) Persons joining or re-joining the Branch shall pay such membership fees as may be determined from time to time by the Committee.

- b) All members shall pay to BSAC (if applicable to that membership) on being accepted such initial and thereafter such annual or other periodical subscriptions as shall be established from time to time by BSAC. Dual Members must provide evidence of current BSAC membership status.
- c) A member of this Branch shall immediately cease to be a member if they do not pay within three months of any subscription being due to this Branch. Individual circumstances will be considered such as, being abroad, redundancy and sickness.
- d) Due to lapsed Third Party Insurance Cover, those members so lapsed shall be excluded from Branch and Club activities.
- e) Persons failing to renew their membership to this Branch within twelve months of the due date will not then be members of the Branch. In such cases, formal application to re-join shall be required.

## 7 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A General Meeting called the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING shall be held each year in the month of November, to be chaired by the current Chairperson, at which the quorum shall be 25 voting members present, or one third of the total membership, whichever is the less.

The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be:

- a) The passing of the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting (AGM) and of any Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) which may have occurred in the interim period. All business shall be deemed to be special that is transacted at an EGM or AGM and defined as any business that may result in changes to the Constitution of the Branch.
- b) The appointment of non-voting members as tellers for a ballot.
- c) The Chairperson's Address.
- d) The Secretary's Report.
- e) The Treasurer's Report and Approval of Accounts
- f) The Diving Officer's Report.
- g) The election of Officers for the ensuing year.
- h) The election of ordinary Committee members as specified.
- i) Motions of which notice has been given.
- j) Other business as the Chairperson may select.

Such other business without prejudice to the provisions of the Constitution, as the Chairperson may allow. All business at an AGM or EGM is treated as special business and must have been duly proposed and seconded and handed to the Secretary in good time for it to be dealt with at the AGM or EGM. Other business arising will be dealt with by the incoming Committee.

- k) Notice of the Annual General Meeting of the Branch, which shall be held on the third Thursday in November of each year, shall be sent by email, Facebook and Branch Notice Board to all paid-up members at least 6-weeks before the meeting.

- l) This notification should confirm the names of those Committee members who wish to stand again and have been duly nominated and seconded. This form for listing all posts will have been recorded in the committee minutes. It should also include a request for further nominations for all posts of the Committee from the membership.
- m) New nominations must be proposed and seconded and signed by the nominee that they are willing to accept the nomination and the position if they are elected.
- n) Nominations for the positions of Chairperson, Diving Officer, Secretary, Treasurer and Training Officer from the membership must be delivered to a Branch Officer no later than the last Thursday before the November Committee meeting. The post of Training Officer being central to the Branch, needs to have the relevant instructor qualifications and be approved by the committee and the Diving Officer. The Committee have the September, October, and November committee meetings to ensure they have all positions nominated, seconded, and approved.
- o) Nominations for other Committee positions must be delivered to a Branch Officer no later than the last Thursday before the November Committee meeting (14 days prior to the AGM).
- p) The notification of the meeting shall also include motions proposed by the Committee. Those proposed by the members must be seconded and delivered to the Honorary Secretary 14 days prior to the Annual General Meeting. Any member may propose an amendment to these motions at the meeting.
- q) The notification is also to include a copy of the previous AGM and any EGM minutes from the past year.
- r) The notification is also to include proxy, postal or email voting options.

## 8 NOMINATIONS

- a) The positions of Chairperson, Diving Officer, Secretary and Treasurer to be approved by the Branch Committee at the October Committee meeting and submitted for election at the Annual General Meeting.

In the event of members at the Annual General Meeting not approving the nominations of Chairperson, Secretary, Diving office and Treasurer put forward by the Committee, the matter shall be referred back to the Committee and a Special General Meeting be called to elect the person(s) named.

- b) If an election is required between nominees, other than those stated in a), a ballot of voting members shall take place and appoint the individual with most votes. If there is only one nominee for a post, that candidate is appointed without a vote being taken. If no nominations

are received by the date of the Annual General Meeting, the Chairperson may accept nominations on that day.

## 9 VOTING

- a) The election of the Committee and voting on such motions shall be by show of hands unless one or more objections are received from the floor, in which case a secret ballot will be held.
- b) Any motion which the Branch Committee considers may affect the Constitution of the Branch shall be passed only by a two to one majority of votes cast by a quorum of at least 25 members present.
- c) Postal / Email / Proxy Voting

To facilitate the need for members who wish to express their vote at Branch Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings, members may cast their vote based on Motions and Nominations that have been included in the General Meeting notification, either by casting their vote as indicated on the form and submitting it by post or email to the designated Branch Officer, to arrive by the time and date notified on the form, or by appointing a proxy to vote in person at an AGM or EGM on their behalf. Notification of intention of a Proxy Vote or delivery of Postal Votes must be received by the Thursday before the AGM.

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## 10 COMMITTEE

- a) The Committee may appoint and dismiss sub-committees and prescribe rules for the conduct thereof, may co-opt members for any special purpose, provided that such members shall not be entitled to vote in deliberation of the Committee.  
The Committee may fill from its own members any vacancy in the Officers and from the voting membership of the branch any vacancy in other positions which occurs in its term of office.
- b) The Committee shall meet at least once in each month except August, but a meeting can be called on seven days' notice by the Secretary to all committee members.
- c) Any committee meeting must consist of Five (5) members to form a quorum, one at least to be Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson or Secretary.
- d) The Committee shall arrange activities for the Branch, in accordance with the objectives, and to raise funds therefore, and defray expenses thereof, may charge such fees for participation and incur such liabilities as it may deem proper, provided that the Committee may not, without prior approval of an AGM/EGM incur liabilities in excess of the assets, including therein the reasonably expected income.
- e) The Committee shall hold and administer, for the general benefit of all members, all funds, property and equipment in the general membership of the Branch.



f The Committee shall insure the premises and equipment of the Branch against all the usual property risks and the Branch and the members thereof against Third Party Liability incurred thereby within the United Kingdom whilst engaged in authorised activities of the Branch.

g The Committee may, from time to time, make, repeal and amend all such Rules (not inconsistent with this Constitution) as they may think expedient for the internal management and wellbeing of the Branch. All Rules made by the Committee under this Constitution shall be binding on all members until repealed by a resolution of a General Meeting of the Branch.

h The Committee may award to any member such honorarium as it shall deem proper for the necessary technical or professional service to the Branch which would otherwise have required the employment of an independent contractor, may reimburse out-of-pocket expenses incurred by a member in the conduct of the affairs of the Branch, as a result of any direction by the Committee.

I The Committee may at any time require any member to appear before the committee and provide an oral or written explanation concerning any act alleged to have been done or omitted by that person which in the opinion of the Committee constitutes a breach of that person's obligations under this Constitution or is calculated to be prejudicial to the interests of the Branch or its members collectively.

Where such or explanations are required in writing the Committee shall permit that person to call any witnesses in their defence to appear before the Committee. Any request under this article shall be made in writing accompanied by a copy of this and the following Rule to the member in question and shall specify the date on which the member is required to attend before the committee or by explanation in writing as the case may be.

j) Any member may be excluded from the Branch by resolution of the Committee by a two-thirds majority provided that no member shall be excluded from the Branch unless the member in question has first been required by the Committee to give particulars and explanations of any acts alleged to have been done or omitted by that person in accordance with the provisions of the last foregoing Article. Any Officer or committee member so excluded or required to resign from Committee shall if they so wish would be permitted to address the next Annual General Meeting.

K) The Committee shall be responsible for appointing a member to act on their behalf for the purchase and supply of intoxicating liquor by the Branch to the members and other persons on Branch premises. The Committee shall ensure the due observance of the current licensing act and all acts relating thereto and of any conditions attached to any license held by or on behalf of the Branch, for the supply of intoxicating liquor or to the registration certificate granted in respect of the Branch premises.

L) The Committee shall embed the BSAC Safeguarding Policy into the Branch's own Constitution

## 11 EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

- a) Any other general meeting shall be known as an Extraordinary General Meeting and may be called at any time by the Committee on receipt of a request to do so by
- i) Any member supported by the signatures of 25 voting members or one third of all voting members whichever is the less.
- ii) The full Committee.
- b) Within one month of receipt thereof, an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened by the Committee after giving fourteen days' notice to the voting members.
- c) The business of the Extraordinary General Meeting shall be that for which it was called and no other.
- d) The procedure applicable to an Annual General Meeting shall otherwise apply to an Extraordinary General Meeting.

## 12 CHAIRPERSON

The Chairperson shall be Spokesperson for the branch and shall further its interests to the best of their ability. **In particular, the Chairperson is expected to provide the strategic lead and direction of travel of the Branch during their tenure, including major expenditure, community engagement and negotiations with other agencies.** They shall address the Annual General Meeting, Extraordinary General Meeting, and meetings of the Committee. The Chairperson must maintain order at all meetings and have a good knowledge of procedure. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson shall preside, and, in their absence, the relevant meeting shall elect one of the Committee members to preside.

## 13 SECRETARY

The Secretary shall keep the minute book of the Branch and the Committee. The secretary shall summon meetings, prepare agenda, record transactions at Meetings, deal with Branch correspondence, maintain in good order and safekeeping, records, documents, insurance, and books of the Branch and present a report to the Annual General Meeting. Any notice required in accordance with this Constitution, to be given to voting members by the Secretary, shall be duly given, on or before the commencement of the relevant period. The Secretary will issue job descriptions to any new appointments after the AGM.

The Secretary will start to fill out the list of those Committee members wishing to stay in their posts, change roles and list any vacant positions at the July Committee meeting. The list to be discussed and approved by the Committee at the September meeting. The Notice and documents could then go out giving 8-weeks' Notice but if there are any unforeseen problems, they will go out with at least 6-weeks' notice.

The notice to all the membership will include:

- a) Notice letter with the date of the AGM
- b) Nominations form (AB) for key positions (list A) Branch officers and Training Officer  
Chairperson, Diving Officer, Treasurer, Secretary and Training Officer
- c) Nominations form for other Committee positions (List B)
- d) AGM minutes from previous AGM and any EGM
- e) Any Motions to be proposed at the AGM from the Committee.

- f) Proxy Forms for each motion and for voting, which can be copied so that they can be used multiple times for Committee positions.

#### 14 TREASURER

The Treasurer shall keep proper books of account of all funds received or paid on behalf of the Branch, shall affect in the name of the Branch, and keep records of all investments by the Committee. The Treasurer shall arrange for all such funds and securities to be deposited at such branch of such bank, as the Committee may direct to the credit of an account in the name of the Branch on which cheques or other orders shall be signed by not less than two (2) of the Officers. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the calling in and collection of debts, capitation subscription from members and for the due discharge of all liabilities of the Branch out of Branch funds as the Committee may direct. The Treasurer shall prepare a statement of income and expenditure and a balance sheet to the 30th September of each year, which The Treasurer shall cause to be audited by auditors, approved by the Branch Committee, and presented to the Committee for submission to the Annual General Meeting and may be assisted in their work by such person or persons as the Committee may approve. The auditors, at the discretion of the Committee, may be two competent/qualified members of the Branch. The Treasurer is to make a formal presentation of the accounts at the AGM to highlight key points or issues.

#### 15 DIVING OFFICER

The Diving Officer shall be the advisor to the Committee on all aspects of diving and shall be responsible for diving arrangements in connection with Branch activities. The Diving Officer shall prepare Diving Regulations & Recommendations for the approval and publication by the Committee. The Diving Officer shall award certificates of qualification to be issued to those who attain the required standard in such examinations. The Diving Officer is responsible for co-ordinating the resources of those listed in Rule 16.

The Diving Officer shall report to the Annual General Meeting on all matters which fall within their responsibility.

#### 16 ASSISTANT DIVING OFFICER, TRAINING OFFICER, ASSISTANT TRAINING OFFICER, EQUIPMENT OFFICER, ASSISTANT EQUIPMENT OFFICER, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY, WELFARE OFFICER AND COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

The above Committee members are to assist the Diving Officer in all aspects of all Branch diving, training, and equipment activities and the keeping of proper records.

#### 17 MEMBERSHIP

The membership secretary and Branch Secretary should retain an up-to-date list of the Branch membership for use as needed for managing renewals and new members, and for sending out emails to the membership. Details of new members may be used by training officers to update their training records. The list to be securely held to comply with GDPR rules. Records of the qualifications held by each member are to be maintained by and will be available from the DO and Training Officer.

#### 18 ACTIVITIES

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- a) Members of any other branch of BSAC may participate in the activities of this Branch as 'guests', on application to the Diving Officer or Dive Manager, if able and willing to accept him. The definition of 'guest' is as defined in the Combined Diving Association's publication 'Guidance for the Safe Operation of Member Club Dive Boats' (i.e. Six days in any calendar year).
- b) No activity of the Branch shall be undertaken unless it has been authorised by the relevant Committee member. The Diving Officer shall appoint a person as Dive Manager, who shall control and supervise that activity to secure safety and discipline are maintained on diving expeditions.
- c) To secure safety and discipline on diving expeditions the Dive Manager may suspend for the duration of the expedition any member who fails to obey instructions given by such leader for the said purpose. All such suspensions shall be promptly reported to the Branch Committee in writing.
- d) Every member of the Branch shall be bound to further to the best of his ability, the Objectives, interests, and influence of the Branch. Members shall undertake not to bring, or join in bringing any action, claim or other proceeding against the Branch, its Officers or members, whose bona fide actions are not contrary to this Constitution and are carried out in furthering the Objectives of the Branch.
- e) Any administration of therapeutic oxygen must only be given to divers suffering from diving related conditions, administered by suitably qualified persons. Following such incidents, a written report must be submitted to the Branch Diving Officer and a BSAC Incident Report completed and submitted.
- f) No member may take part in any aqua-lung open water activity without first submitting a valid medical certificate. This can be either a self-declaration form as laid down by BSAC Council or a valid medical certificate from a BSAC Medical Referee.
- g) All Branch boats used for Branch activities must be insured for Third Party risks with a minimum indemnity limit of an amount stipulated by BSAC Council. Members wishing to use their own boats on expeditions must lodge proof of current insurance with the Diving Officer, prior to use on Branch activities.
- h) Members suitably qualified to use rebreathers (closed or semi-closed) and mixed gas may use such technical diving techniques on branch dives at the discretion of the Diving Officer, to within the limits specific to their current qualification.
- i) The Branch compressor and filling facilities must only be operated by Branch members suitably qualified to do so, or under direct supervision of a qualified Branch member, to comply with the equipment insurance requirements.

j) Nitrox and Mixed Gas blending must only be carried out by those Branch members who are qualified in those skills, or under direct supervision of a qualified Branch member.

## 19 INTERPRETATION

The Committee shall determine any question as to the interpretation of this Constitution and may rule for any occurrence not provided within it.

## 20 DISSOLUTION

If a resolution is passed at an AGM or EGM for the dissolution of the Branch, an EGM will be called for one month after the resolution was passed. Confirmation of a dissolution of the Branch at this meeting can only be by a two-thirds majority of the voting members. If passed, the committee would plan to realise the Branch property, discharge all liabilities and hand over the net assets to local BSAC branches.

## 21 AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Constitution may only be done at an AGM or EGM with a two-thirds majority of the voting members.

### RULES FOR THE REGULATION OF THE CLUBHOUSE

#### 1, RIVERVIEW ROAD, WALLASEY

#### 1... OPENING HOURS OF THE CLUBHOUSE

The clubhouse may be open for the sale of intoxicants throughout the week, in line with current licensing laws, which will be published in the clubhouse.

#### 2... CLUBHOUSE MANAGEMENT

The Committee may appoint a Bar Steward following the AGM, who will be willing to take responsibility for the management, security, and upkeep of the Clubhouse. The Bar Steward shall enforce the maintenance of the Clubhouse Rules and Byelaws by all members when on Clubhouse premises and shall manage the Clubhouse, in accordance with these Rules to the benefit of all members.

Any breach of the clubhouse Rules or byelaws is to be reported to the next Committee meeting. The Bar Steward is responsible for arranging volunteer helpers to assist him during opening hours to ensure adequate cover. The Bar Steward is responsible for stock purchase and sales, maintaining agreed margins and providing monthly reports and invoices to the Branch Treasurer.

#### 3... USE OF FACILITIES & GUESTS

The use of the facilities shall be by members and their guests only, members are responsible for their guest at all times. Visitors enquiring about diving are welcomed and should be introduced to a committee member, or members and taken around the facilities and looked after. Since the 2003 Licencing Law, it is only an option if the club decides in future, to use a visitor book to sign in guests.

#### 4... REFUSAL OF ENTRY

The Committee or its representative reserves the right to refuse entry and to evict any person whose conduct may be deemed to be disorderly.

#### 5... PETS

No dogs or other such pets shall be allowed in the Clubhouse except for guide dogs

#### 6... UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES

The Clubhouse shall not be used for the purpose of unlawful gambling or the playing of unlawful games or unlawful activities

#### 7... SALES CONDITIONS

All sales to members should be strictly on a cash basis and no accounts being opened. Members must clear expenses before leaving the Clubhouse.

#### 8... OTHER USES OF CLUBHOUSE

No theological or political meetings shall be held in the Clubhouse.

#### 9... ADVERTISEMENTS

Advertisements shall only be displayed on notice boards provided.

#### 10... BRANCH ITEMS & TROPHIES

- a) No member shall remove from the Clubhouse or damage any article belonging to or in the custody of the Branch.
- b) Items loaned or trophies awarded to members must be returned on request of the committee.
- c) Any item belonging to or in the charge of the Branch shall only be removed from the premises upon the express permission of the Equipment Officer or their delegate.
- d) Diving equipment belonging to the Branch shall only be removed from the premises on the express permission of the Equipment Officer or their delegate.
- e) Any damage done to Branch property by a member, or their guest shall be made good by the member, unless the Committee is satisfied that such damage was accidental.

#### 11... PROVISIONS & EXCISABLE ARTICLES

All provisions and excisable articles in the Clubhouse shall be under the absolute control of the Committee and be for the benefit of the Branch.

#### 12... REFRESHMENT TARIFFS

A tariff of charges for refreshments will be on display in the Clubhouse. All charges for refreshments shall be accounted for and registered through the point of sale system.

### 13... COMPLAINTS

Any complaints in relation to the Clubhouse, arrangements, conduct of members, rules, or regulations, should be forwarded in writing or verbally to the Chairperson, Branch Secretary or to the Branch email, [merseydivers@gmail.com](mailto:merseydivers@gmail.com) for submitting at the next Committee meeting.

### 14...PARKING

Members and guests visiting the Clubhouse should endeavour to park their cars in a manner and position where they will cause least interference to residents.

### 15...CLUBHOUSE RULES

- a) These rules shall be posted in a prominent position in the Clubhouse.
- b) Amendments and alterations to these Clubhouse Rules can be affected only by the Branch Committee from time to time in accordance with Rule 4 of the Constitution.
- c) Each member will be entitled to a copy of these Clubhouse Rules.
- d) Breach of Rules complaints may be sent to the Club email address [\*\*merseydivers@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:merseydivers@gmail.com)