

**FOUNDATION RULES, RULES AND
BYE-LAWS OF THE
JOHN DILLON BRANCH**

**Irish Democratic
League Club**

**CHURCHFIELD STREET
BATLEY**

2002

FOUNDATION RULES, RULES AND BYE-LAWS

THE FOUNDATION RULES of the CLUB are final and cannot under any circumstances be amended, altered or rescinded.

THE PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARIES, TRUSTEES and COM-MITTEE must be Irishmen or of Irish descent and a Catholic.

1 That this club be called "The John Dillion Branch Irish Democratic League" Churchfield Street, Batley.

OBJECTS

2 Its objects shall be: To bring about the more general intercourse of Irish Society, to improve the social position of Irishmen, to encourage an interest in Irish general literature and music: to establish discussion on questions of special and general importance to Irish people and to improve and provide interesting recreation for its members.

GOVERNMENT

3 The Club Management shall consist of President, Vice-President, Financial Secretary, Bar Secretary (Treasurer), Correspondence Secretary and Committee of 10 members, who shall serve a term of 12 months, and shall be elected at the Half-Yearly General Meeting to be held on the first Thursday in February and August. The Committee shall meet in the Club rooms at 8.00 p.m. on the Monday of each week. Five to form a quorum and be competent to transact business at any such meeting: and in the absence of the President and Vice-President a chairman shall be elected for the time being from the members present.

The President, Vice-President or the Chairman presiding at such meeting, shall have a second or casting vote in all cases of equal division of votes, and the minutes and resolutions of every such meeting shall at or after such meeting be entered upon the books of the Club, and shall be read and signed by the Chairman at the next meeting prior to any business being entered upon. All members of the Committee are only entitled to one vote, except as before provided for in the case of an equal division. The Committee shall have management and control of the affairs of the funds of the Club, of the members and of the appointment: payment: and discharge of all officers, agents and servants, or it may also if it be deemed desirable, appoint special or sub-committees for the more efficient conduct or supervision of the various departments of the Club business, and to make by-laws and Standing Orders, but, not conflicting with the spirit and object of these rules. That the Committee have power to give permission for the use of the meeting room for any business which they may deem conducive to the interest of the Club.

MEMBERSHIP

4 All respectable people over the age of 18 years, and not more than 60 years at entrance shall be eligible for full membership of the Club.

Each candidate for admission to membership shall require to be proposed and seconded by a member and his name shall be posted in the Club seven clear days previous to being admitted for election.

Cards of membership shall be supplied to all members, who on being required shall show their card to the officer in charge or to any member of the Committee. Copy of rules shall also be supplied to the members.

Every member so elected will pay a subscription levied annually by the Management Committee.

ARREARS

5 - All members two months in arrears will be called upon to pay up, and failing to do so, they will cease to be members, and the custodian shall allow them no privileges in the Club rooms until their subscription is renewed.

A register shall be kept by the Secretary in which shall be kept so entered in columns the Christian and Surname, place of residence, and date of entrance of each member.

No member shall be eligible for office, until his name shall have been on the register of members for one year. No member shall be eligible to propose or second a member for office unless he has been a member one year and is fully paid up to date.

No member shall be eligible to vote who is not fully paid up at date of election and shall have been a member at least three months.

Any person who has been a member for 12 months will be eligible to stand for any office subject to Foundation Rules.

A member changing his address shall within 14 days afterwards, give notice in writing to the Secretary, of his new place of abode in order that the same may be duly entered on the register book. All notices shall be deemed duly given by putting same into the Post Office, addressed to the member, according to the last address on the register.

6 That there will be weekly meetings in the Club for the transaction of the ordinary business of the Club and they shall be held at such place or time as the Committee may from time to time appoint.

That Half-Yearly meetings be held on the 1st Thursday in February and August in each year, for the purposing of receiving a statement of the receipts, payments, funds and accounts of the Club for the past six months, such statement to be previously audited as hereinafter mentioned. At the Half-Yearly General Meeting of the members in addition to the ordinary business, the election of officers shall take place by ballot on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday (noon session) following any such meeting, and any other business transacted of which due notice has been given.

That a Special Meeting of the members may be held on a requisition to the President to convene such meeting: such requisition shall be signed by at least five of the Committee or by the President upon the requisition of 20 members: which requisition shall state the objects for which such general meeting is required. Seven days notice at least of such meeting shall be given by circular to every member, stating hour, place, and object of such meeting. That at such general meeting no business shall be transacted which is not mentioned in the requisition for calling such meeting.

That all elections and questions at any meeting shall be decided by show of hand (or by ballot if demanded) by a majority of the members present: in all cases of equality of votes, the Chairman shall have any additional or casting vote.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

7 Of the President: The President shall keep order at the meetings at which he shall preside, and shall put every proposition which has been moved and seconded to the vote, and the decision of the majority of the members present shall in all cases be deemed to be the decision of the whole meeting: The President having a casting vote in the case of an equality of votes. He shall enter or cause to be entered in the proper minute book kept for the purpose, all proceedings which it shall be desirable to record and shall sign the same.

8 Of the Secretary: The Secretary shall keep the accounts of the Club, and shall enter in the books of the Club, all minutes, proceedings and transactions thereof required to be entered and shall attend with the Accounts, Account book of the Club in the club rooms at every meeting of the Committee. If the Secretary shall be absent at any meeting, the President shall appoint some person present to serve for him. The Secretary shall sign and transmit all circular notes and notices that may be required: and shall at the end of every half-year, make up the accounts of the Club, and prepare the report which shall be audited and duly attested by the Auditors and countersigned by the Secretary, such account and report to be exhibited in the club room. The Secretary shall attend all meetings where his presence may be necessary, or when he shall be required to attend by the Committee.

A register shall be kept by the Secretary in which shall be entered in columns, the Christian names and Surname, place of residence and date of entry of each member.

AUDITOR

9 - An Accountant shall be chosen by the Committee for the purpose of auditing the books of the Club.

STEWARD

10 - The Committee shall at their first meeting proceed to the appointment of a Steward whose duty will consist in keeping the Club warm and clean, and serving out refreshments to the members, a clear statement of which he must together with all monies received, hand over to the Treasurer every Monday. All refreshments must be paid for on being ordered, and the Steward is strictly prohibited from giving credit to any member. The Steward shall also be the guardian of order in the Club. He shall report to the executive any breach of rules and bye-laws that may come under his notice. He shall receive such remuneration for his services as the Committee from time to time determine.

The Committee to elect officials to take subscriptions as the time arises.

VACANCIES

11 If any officer or member of the Committee shall resign, die, or become incapable or disqualified from acting, or absent himself from 3 successive meetings of the Committee duly summoned, it shall be in the power of the remainder of the Committee to supply the vacancy by election at the next or subsequent meeting which may precede the next Half-Yearly meeting, if good cause be not shown for absentsing himself.

TRUSTEES

12 There shall be Three Trustees elected at a General Meeting every 12 months in whom shall be vested all property, purchased by or given to the Club who shall be responsible for, and assist in the carrying out of the objects of the Club as before mentioned. The Trustees shall be admitted to all meetings of the Committee and shall be at liberty to take part in the proceedings thereof, and vote on any question under discussion. All monies over £2.00 (two pounds) to be paid by cheque.

13 - Bar Opening Hours:

BAR OPENING TIMES

Sunday: 12 noon - 4pm and 7.30pm - 10.30pm

Monday: 11am - 4pm and 6pm - 11pm

Tuesday: 11am - 3pm and 6pm - 11pm

Wednesday: 11am - 3pm and 7pm - 11pm

Thursday: 11am - 3pm and 6pm - 11pm

Friday: 11am - 4pm and 7pm - 11pm

Saturday: 11am - 4pm and 7pm - 11pm

Bank Holidays

Times will be displayed in Club Rooms.

Christmas Opening Hours

These will be dependent on the Licensing Magistrates and will also be displayed at the appropriate time in the Club Rooms.

FEDERATION

14 The Club shall be federated to the Yorkshire Federation of Irish League Clubs.

VISITORS

15 That a guest may be introduced once a month by a member. Such guests will not be allowed to buy or pay anything. A member introducing any stranger shall on every occasion enter his name and place of residence in the visitors' book provided for that purpose.

DISSOLUTION

16 That this Club cannot be dissolved unless at a Special General Meeting either called by two-thirds of the Committee or on the requisition of 20 members, or President and Secretary, who subscriptions are paid and who have been members 12 months. One month's notice in writing, to be given of such meeting to every member who is clear on the Books.

ALTERATIONS

17 That no addition, alteration, or amend-ment, shall be made to these rules unless at the General Meeting (Half-Yearly) or a special general meeting called for that purpose. Six months' notice in writing to be given of any alteration of the rules.

18 Members persisting in using indecent language, cursing, swearing, persisting in staying after closing time or being drunk in the Club Rooms shall be suspended if such offence to be proved satisfactorily. If it should appear to the Committee undesirable that any such member of the Club should continue to be such, they shall have power to pass a resolution recommending that he shall cease to be a member. If such recommendation is adopted by the Committee meeting, the person named therein shall immediately cease to be a member.

Betting strictly prohibited. Whoever damages any part of the furniture of the club shall make the same good.

HONORARY MEMBERS

19 Any member at age 65 years with 25 years membership will be eligible to become a Honorary Member and any other person the Committee desire to do so elect.

LADY MEMBERS

20 Lady members shall be entitled to membership when the Committee may open the Membership Book for Ladies. Such is an annual subscription and is subject to the same methods of administration and admission as male members.

Members of Irish League and other federated clubs visiting this club may, the Committee willing, be made Honorary Members, provided they are fully paid up to date members of their own club.

ORDERS

21 The Committee or any officer authorised by them, shall have the power to give orders for such goods to be supplied and work to be done as may be necessary for carrying out the purpose of the Club, but nothing in this rule shall empower the Committee to incur expenditure, except such as is consistent with the purpose for which the Club is established.

No Officer of the Club shall by virtue of his appointment, have power to order goods or dispose of the funds of the club. No goods shall be supplied, nor any contract for work to be done for the club entered into, nor any office of salary profit or remuneration be held by any member of the Committee.

22 All monies received on account of Contributions, Donations, Admission or otherwise, shall be applied towards carrying out the objects of the club according to the rules thereof. Any officer mis-applying the funds shall repay the same and be expelled, without prejudice to his liability to prosecution for such mis-application.

23 No member shall injure or destroy, or take away from the Club any newspaper, book or periodical or other articles of property of the Club, under penalty of suspension or expulsion.

24 No new rules shall be made, nor any of the other rules herein contained or hereafter to be made, shall be amended, altered or rescinded, unless with the consent of a two-thirds majority of the members present at a General Meeting of the Club, specially called for that purpose according to the rules.

25 The following shall not be admitted as visitors: (a) former members who have been expelled; (b) persons who have been nominated for membership who have been rejected.

RIGHT OF APPEAL

26 A member suspended or expelled shall not be heard unless he appeals in writing (not within six months), addressed to -
The Secretary, Batley I.D.L.C.,
Churchfield Street, Batley.

27 *Ground Trustees:*

In the event of the three Trustees elected at a General Meeting every twelve months, resigning his Trusteeship or having died or become incapable or disqualified from acting as a Trustee, the President of the club at the appropriate time shall have vested in him the power of appointment of a new Trustee to be nominated by the Chairman in accordance with the provisions of Rule 11 of the Club Rule Book.

That anything not provided for in these Rules shall be dealt with by the Committee whose decision shall be binding.