



## Club Constitution

### 1. Club Name

The Club will be called Edinburgh Giants WhRL and will be affiliated with Scotland Rugby League (SRL) & The Rugby Football League (RFL)

### 2. Aims & Objectives

The Aims & Objectives of the Club will be to:

<b>Participation</b>	Provide Wheelchair Rugby League playing & volunteering opportunities for people throughout Edinburgh & surrounding areas.
<b>Promotion</b>	To promote the sport of Wheelchair Rugby League in a positive manner to attract new Members, Supporters, Sponsors and Partners.
<b>Talent</b>	<p>To provide competitive playing opportunities for the athletes that have aspirations to play the sport at the highest level.</p> <p>To ensure the club is aligned to the International pathways for our high performing athletes and staff so that they can progress and achieve success.</p>
<b>Community</b>	Support the wider community on initiatives related to health, fitness and wellbeing.

### **3. Club colours**

The club's colours will be Navy Blue, Yellow and White for home kits and Green, White and Navy Blue for away kits.

### **4. Membership**

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 Governing bodies of the sport the club engages in.

### **5. Membership fees**

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

Membership fees will be payable by subscription which could see an annual or monthly plan put in place, but this is at the discretion of the Management and can be changed at any time.

The membership will be split into playing and non-playing and will entitle the member to the benefits of the Edinburgh Giants WhRL membership scheme.

All members both playing and non-playing can opt to become a patron of the Edinburgh Giants WhRL and will be required to sign up to the relevant membership plan to pay the required monthly fee. Patrons automatically qualify for the Giants 250 club in which there will be monthly prize draws which offers members the opportunity to win cash and other prizes.

The membership fee incorporates the match fees that will be incurred by the club, but this could be subject to change as the club grows and the playing opportunities could become more national based. Any amendments to the match fees would need to be agreed at the AGM and communicated to members.

### **6. Safeguarding**

The Club is committed to Safeguarding, child protection and the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults in our sport. All children and young people can develop valuable qualities and skills within our sport and have the right to do so in a safe and enjoyable environment.

The Club has a robust Safeguarding policy in place and the Safeguarding & Welfare Officer will take responsibility for the protection and welfare of the children, young people and vulnerable adults within the club.

Officers, Committee members and Coaching staff will all be expected to have an enhanced PVG check in place as they are deemed to be people of trust within the Club.

Safeguarding and welfare issues will be taken seriously and will be dealt with as per the process set out in the Safeguarding policy.

## **7. Officers at the club**

The Officers at the club will be:

- Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer

## **8. Committee**

The entire management of the club shall be placed at the hands of the Committee elected by the club at the Annual General Meeting consisting of:

### ***Management Committee***

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Safeguarding & Welfare Officer
- Club Captain

### ***General Committee includes Management Committee plus:***

- Match Officials & Fixtures Secretary
- Media Manager
- IT / Website Coordinator

The Committee shall form sub-committees as required to focus on the operational functions of the club.

The Committee shall meet quarterly as standard but this can be flexed up as required to deal with operational or urgent matters.

The quorum for business to be agreed at a Committee meeting will be; three members of the Committee, two of which must be Officers of the club.

The Committee shall be responsible for adopting new policy, Codes of Conduct, and rules that affect the organisation of the club.

The Committee will be responsible for disciplinary hearings of members who infringe the Clubs rules / regulations / Constitution. The Committee will be responsible for suspension or discipline following such hearings.

The Management Committee shall have the right for refusing admittance to or expelling from the Club anyone that they may consider unfit for membership, subject to appeal at the general meetings of the club.

## **9. Finance**

All Club monies will be banked in an account in the name of the club.

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

The Financial year end of the Club will be the 31st August annually.

A statement of the annual accounts will be presented by the Treasurer at the AGM.

Any cheques drawn against Club funds should hold the signature of one Officer.

## **10. Annual General Meetings**

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the first week of September annually at which the Officers and Club Captain will be elected and the business of the Club discussed.

Notice of the next AGM will be agreed during Any Other Business (AOB) of the current AGM. The notice will be published on the Club's website. Should the date need to be changed the Secretary will re-arrange with no less than 21 days notice.

Nominations for all posts will be sent to the Secretary prior to the AGM.

The AGM will receive a report from the Secretary and a Statement of Accounts from the Treasurer.

In the event that there is more than one nomination for each post, the candidates will be asked to leave the room whilst the remaining members vote.

Only fully paid members will be eligible to vote.

The quorum for AGM will be six including at least three Committee members of which two must be Officers and three Playing / Non-Playing members.

The Management Committee has the right to call an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) outside of the AGM. Procedures for an EGM will be the same as an AGM.

An EGM can be called at the Management Committees discretion or by the Secretary receiving a written requisition signed by at least twenty five percent of members of the Club to call such a meeting. Twenty one days notice must be given.

## **11. Discipline & Appeals**

All complaints regarding the conduct or behaviour of members on or off of the pitch should be submitted in writing to the Secretary. The Club will investigate all allegations of misconduct and where the severity of the misdemeanor and weight of factual evidence (not hearsay) dictate the miscreant will be required to attend a meeting of the Disciplinary Committee.

In accordance with the SRL and RFL guidelines the Club adopts a 'Zero Tolerance' policy for the use of banned substances and the use of illegal recreational drugs by Members and guests. Any person found using, possessing or supplying any such substance will be immediately banned from Edinburgh Giants WhRL and will not be allowed on the premises.

The Committee will meet to hear complaints within 14 days of a complaint being lodged and will revert to the complainant with their decision immediately thereafter. Should the Committee feel it fit they will arrange the appropriate Disciplinary Committee and agree a Hearing date. That Disciplinary Committee has the power to take appropriate action including the termination of membership and banning the individual(s) concerned from Edinburgh Giants WhRL our premises and any event.

In the event of a sending off the appropriate Disciplinary Committee will sit to discuss the offence with the player(s) concerned and will arrange representation to attend the resultant Constituent Body's Hearing.

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 5 days of the Hearing.

There will be the Right of Appeal to the Committee following disciplinary action being announced. The appeal should be lodged within 14 days of the formal notification to the Secretary. The Appeal will be heard by the three Officers of the Club not involved in the initial Disciplinary Hearing and their decision will be final.

## **12. 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 nominated Trustees who will distribute them to a club or charitable organisation who would have a similar use of them, i.e another Wheelchair sports club.

### **13. Amendments to the Constitution**

Once the club is fully operational from March 2023 this Constitution will only be changed through agreement by majority vote at an AGM or EGM.

Whilst the club is still forming during the period of Dec 2022 to Feb 2023 this Constitution can be amended and changed by a majority vote from the Management Committee.

#### **Declaration**

Edinburgh Giants WhRL hereby adopts and accepts this Constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members.

**SIGNED:** *M Gill*

**NAME:** Martyn Gill

**POSITION:** Club Chair

**SIGNED:** *H Douglas*

**NAME:** Hamish Douglas

**POSITION:** Club Secretary

**SIGNED:** *Mark Charlton*

**NAME:** Mark Charlton

**POSITION:** Treasurer