



The Rules of ESCNI (as revised at June 2009)

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THE CLUB

1. The Club shall be called the *Everton Supporters Club Northern Ireland (ESCNI)*.
2. The object of the Club shall be to provide an association for persons wishing to give support to, or show favour towards Everton Football Club.
3. The Club shall be affiliated to the *Official Everton Supporters Club* and all members will be registered with the *Official Everton Supporters Club* as required by Everton FC.
4. A banking account shall be opened in the name of the *Everton Supporters Club Northern Ireland* and all aspects of the financial business of the Club shall be recorded through this account. All payments made by cheque from the Club account shall be signed by the Treasurer and either the Chairman or the Secretary.

CLUB MEETINGS

5. The *Annual General Meeting (AGM)* shall be held on the last Tuesday in June each year, at which meeting the Secretary and Treasurer shall each submit their reports.
6. Members shall receive by post, at least seven days prior to the *AGM*, an official notice convening the meeting. Accompanying each notice shall be a list of the names of those members nominated for the principal offices of the Club.
7. An *Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)* of members shall be convened by the Secretary when directed by the Committee or on receiving a requisition signed by at least 33% of the members. A notice convening the meeting shall be delivered by post to each member at least seven days prior to the date of the meeting.
8. No business shall be transacted at the *AGM* or an *EGM* other than that specified in the notice convening the meeting.
9. Postal votes in respect of business to be transacted at the *AGM* or an *EGM* must be received by the Secretary prior to the meeting and must be submitted at the meeting to be valid.
10. A *Notice of Motion* relating to any addition, omission or change to Club rules must be submitted in

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writing to the Secretary at least fourteen days prior to the date of the meeting. Such a *Notice of Motion* must be included by the Secretary in the official notice convening the meeting.

11. A *Resolution* can only be passed with the support of at least 75% of the total of votes cast by members present at the meeting and postal votes received.
12. Two members of the Club, excluding principal office bearers, shall be elected during the *AGM* to act as auditors in respect of the financial report presented at the *AGM*.
13. The Secretary shall keep a Club minute book and shall enter therein a record of the proceedings during Club meetings. This record, when signed by the Chairman, shall be deemed to be a true record of the related matters.
14. Club members are entitled to nominate their *Everton Player of the Season*, the number of votes cast for each player being announced at the *AGM*.

MEMBERSHIP

15. Membership of the Club is only open to those persons who reside in Northern Ireland, or those who were born or resided in Northern Ireland but now live elsewhere, or those who reside in the Republic of Ireland but who travel to games through Northern Ireland.
16. Club membership shall be within the categories of *Adult*, *Junior* or *Senior*. A *Junior Member* shall be **under 16 years** and a *Senior* shall have **reached state retirement age** before **31st December**.
17. The annual membership fee for each category of membership will be determined by the members of the Club at the *AGM*.
18. Membership cards shall be issued after the receipt of the annual membership fee.
19. Existing members must renew their membership to continue to avail of the Club's facilities.
20. Only persons holding membership in the categories of *Adult* or *Senior Member* shall be entitled to vote at the *AGM*.
21. Candidates for membership shall complete a membership application form and submit this form, together with the appropriate fee, to the Membership Secretary. In the event of a candidate's suitability being questioned, the decision of the Committee shall be final.
22. A roll of the members, together with their addresses, shall be kept by the Secretary and Membership Secretary. Members should notify the Membership Secretary or Secretary of any change of address in writing and any communications sent to the last known address shall be deemed sufficient.
23. Decisions concerning Club membership shall be made by the Committee on a majority vote basis.

PRINCIPAL OFFICES OF THE CLUB: ESCNI COMMITTEE

24. The principal offices of the Club shall be those of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Match Ticket Secretary, Treasurer and Committee Member.
25. The names of nominees for the principal offices shall be presented by a proposer and seconder by written submission to the Secretary at least one month prior to that meeting the *AGM*. All nominees, proposers and seconders must be bona-fide members of the Club. Seven of the nominees shall be elected by a ballot of the Club membership during the *AGM* to serve in the principal offices of the Club for a period of one year. Elected nominees shall assume immediate office.
26. Members holding office may be considered for re-election.
27. The seven principal office bearers shall meet as a Committee when required to discuss any particular aspect of Club business; four to form a quorum. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman shall deputise; and in the absence of both the Chairman and the Vice Chairman, one of the other Committee members shall be nominated by those present to deputise. Any Decision of the Committee shall be by simple majority with the Chairman (or acting Chairman) having no vote except where a casting vote is required. No proxy votes shall be admissible.

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28. Vacancies occurring within the Committee during the period of office shall be filled by the remaining Committee members co-opting a Club member to the vacant post. Such an appointment shall be ratified by the Club members at the following monthly meeting.
29. The Committee shall have power to caution, suspend or expel any member willfully in breach of the Club rules, or who has been guilty of discreditable conduct or has acted in a manner injurious to the character and interests of the Club.

TRAVEL: OFFICIAL CLUB TRIPS

29. All persons (members and non-members) travelling on Club Trips must pay the full cost of travel, accommodation, match ticket and any other related expenses to the Match Ticket Secretary, Treasurer or Secretary at least seven days before departure.
30. It is the sole responsibility of those travelling on a Club Trip to ensure that their money has reached the Match Ticket Secretary, Treasurer or Secretary at least seven days before departure. If payment is not received before the due date, no travel or match ticket will be ordered.
31. Non-members travelling on a Club Trip shall be subject to a levy, the value of which shall be determined by the Committee in advance of the trip.
32. Non-members may travel on Club Trips if they are accompanied by a Club member on the understanding that the Club member will guarantee the behaviour of a non-member on the trip.
33. Where a non-member is seeking to travel on a Club Trip, and is not accompanied by a Club member, the non-member must be sponsored by a Club member before he/she is allocated a place on the trip. This means that the Club member will be responsible for the behaviour of the non-member on the trip.
34. If a non-member misbehaves, the Club member who sponsored them will receive one warning and the non-member will be barred from all future trips. If, on a future trip, that same Club member sponsors a different non-member who subsequently misbehaves, the Club member will have his/her membership terminated with immediate effect and will not be allowed to rejoin the Club.
35. No sporting regalia other than Everton's, or their opponent's, shall be worn on any official club trip by members or non-members.
36. Drivers of private cars used on Club Trips shall be reimbursed a wear and tear allowance in a manner and at a level determined by the Committee.
37. A presentation shall be made to the *Everton Player of the Season* during one of the official Club Trips to be arranged the following season.

MATCH TICKETS

38. Only club members shall be permitted to book match tickets. Members shall normally be limited to booking two non-member match tickets, but that this number may be varied at the discretion of the Committee.
39. In the event of the supply of match tickets received by the Club failing to meet the demand by Club members, the allocation of tickets shall be prioritised by the number of senior matches (home or away) attended by the member (using tickets obtained via *ESCNI*) within the preceding twelve months preceding the date that the tickets go on sale to *ESCNI*. In the event of there being a tie (ie an equal number of qualifying games), a ballot shall be held amongst those members in order to allocate the remaining tickets.

In order to acknowledge the hard work incumbent with both posts, the *Match Ticket Secretary* and the *Secretary* are automatically placed at the top of the attendance record list.

Only those members in good standing and who propose to attend the game shall be eligible for inclusion in the process. Should any successful member subsequently be unable to attend the game, the match ticket must first be offered back to the Club before being disposed of in some

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manner by the member in question.

40. Members ordering match tickets for games other than official Club Trips should ensure that payment (cash or cheque) is with the Treasurer or Match Ticket Secretary at least three weeks before the date of the match. This is to allow sufficient time to clear any cheques and pay for the match tickets. Match tickets will only be handed over to members after the full payment has been received.
41. Where *ESCNI* obtains tickets for non-members who are not travelling on a Club Trip, there will be a surcharge set at the discretion of the Committee.

OTHER MATTERS

42. It is expressly understood that all members are strictly bound by the provisions of these rules. Should any matter arise which is not provided for in these rules, then it should be dealt with by the Committee until such time as it can reasonably be addressed in accordance with Rule 10.

The above rules were approved and adopted by the members at the Annual General Meetings of the Club on 24th June 1996, 30th June 1997, 29th June 1998, 25th June 2001, 29th June 2004, 28th June 2005, 28th June 2006, 26th June 2007, 24th June 2008 and 23rd June 2009.

John Welsh
ESCNI Chairman

Peter Cross
ESCNI Secretary

ESCNI

**Everton Supporters Club
Northern Ireland**

