

# **BROOKLYN CRICKET LEAGUE, INC.**

***FOUNDED, 1936***



## **CONSTITUTION**

**Amended - 2004**

**Accepted and Finalized 3/21/2004**

## TABLE OF CONTENT

1. ARTICLE I  
NAME
2. ARTICLE II  
AIMS & OBJECTIVES
3. ARTICLE III  
MEMBERSHIP, CESSATION, SUBSCRIPTION AND VOTING RIGHTS
4. ARTICLE IV  
VOTING
5. ARTICLE V  
MANAGEMENT (COMPOSITION, DUTIES, AND MEETINGS)
6. ARTICLE VI  
THE LEGISLATIVE BODY
7. ARTICLE VII  
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
8. ARTICLE VIII  
REPRESENTATION
9. ARTICLE IX  
MEETINGS
10. ARTICLE X  
REMOVAL, RESIGNATION AND REPLACEMENT OF OFFICERS
11. ARTICLE XI  
AFFILIATION
12. ARTICLE XII  
FINANCE AND AUDIT
13. ARTICLE XIII  
AMENDMENT AND INTERPRETATION OF THE CONSTITUTION
14. ARTICLE XIV  
FISCAL YEAR
15. ARTICLE XV  
DISSOLUTION AND SURPLUS PROPERTY
16. ARTICLE XVI  
TROPHIES
17. ARTICLE XVII  
MEMBERSHIP OF CLUBS
18. ARTICLE XVIII  
HONORARIUM
19. ARTICLE XIX  
DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE
20. ARTICLE XX  
RIGHT OF APPEAL
21. ARTICLE XXI  
AMENDMENT
22. ARTICLE XXII  
OFFICERS

## ARTICLE I

### NAME

The name of the Organization shall be "THE BROOKLYN CRICKET LEAGUE, INC." (Herein after, "The League")

## ARTICLE II

### AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- Sec. 1 The goals and objectives of the Brooklyn League, Inc., shall be to promote the game of cricket throughout the Continental United States of America.
- Sec. 2 To plan, promote, organize, manage, and control the Organization, its business and facilities for the benefit of the Brooklyn Cricket League, affiliates, and member of the community.
- Sec. 3 To be affiliated with the accredited national Controlling Cricket Body, that is, the USCA in its efforts towards the promotion of cricket throughout the United States specifically, and throughout the world, generally.
- Sec. 4 To join, associate with, consult with, or secure closer working relationships with any other legitimate or widely reorganized body, local, national, or international, whose objectives are, the promotion or management of cricket.
- Sec. 5 To foster and promote among members of the League, their families and the community, generally, principles of good citizenship, civic pride, self-respect, and a sense of responsibility towards the League and its program/activities.

## ARTICLE III

### MEMBERSHIP, CESSATION, SUBSCRIPTION, AND VOTING RIGHTS

- Sec. 1 The league shall comprise **of at least eight (8)** or any number of clubs that can be adequately accommodated and managed by its Management Committee.
- Sec. 2 All annual dues **MUST** be paid in full, prior to the commencement of cricket season, or in conformity with the guidelines established by the Management Committee.
- Sec. 3 a) Any club that is more than three (3) months in arrears with respect to its annual dues will be considered, a Club not in good standing, and its members will not be permitted to vote, hold office or represent the League in any activities. A delinquent club can only be reinstated to a condition of good standing, by paying, IN FULL, all its indebtedness, and, provided such club's re-admission is supported by a vote at a general meeting of 50% of the financial members.
- b) Any club that misses three (3) or more consecutive meetings will be fined a sum that is equal to 1/5 or **(20%)** of the Annual dues.
- Sec. 4 Any Club seeking membership in the League must do so in writing to the Secretary. The MUST be accompanied by sponsorship by at least two (2) existing member-clubs of the Brooklyn League in good standing, plus an application fee of **\$175.00**, which must be in the form of a money order or certified check, this application fee is non-refundable. The Acceptance or Non-Acceptance process will involve an assessment of the said Club's past history, its affiliation with other Leagues and the Management Committee's evaluation of the Club's ability and willingness to contribute and subscribe to the League's policies, principles and practices.
- Sec. 5 **Membership of the League ceases when**  
**(a) A Club resigns his/her membership by evidence, no longer supports the aims and objectives of the League.**

- (b) A Club may be expelled by resolution of a General or Special Meeting of the group through due process including evidence on actions contrary to the aims and objectives of the League.
- (c) A Club ceases to be functional/support the League for a continuous period of one (1) year.
- Sec. 6 New Clubs are eligible to vote in a General Election, after three (3) months and members if that (those) Club(s) can seek office after one (1) year.
- (a) After initial membership is established or
- (b) Lapsed membership is renewed
- Sec. 7 Each Club shall be deemed a voting member only when membership dues and subscriptions are paid promptly and regularly.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### VOTING

- Sec. 1 At all meetings, except for the election of officers all voting shall be done by voice or a show of hands. For the election of officers, ballots shall be provided. There should not appear any place on such ballot any mark or indication that may reveal the identity of the person casting such a ballot. Ballots with such marking may be considered VOID.
- Sec. 2 At regular or special meetings and, depending on the sensitivity of the issues at hand, the President may in his/her discretion utilize any method of voting that may best serve the League's interests.
- Sec. 3 At all voting by ballot, the Chairman of such meeting shall, immediately prior to the commencement of balloting, appoint a committee of three (3) who shall act as inspectors of elections and who shall, at the conclusion of such balloting, certify that the results are fair and free from any irregularities.
- Sec. 4 Under this article, the Legislative Body shall be empowered to make byelaws and rules, from time to time, for the proper running of the League.
- Sec. 5 All procedures not covered by the foregoing Articles of this Constitution shall be governed by conventional practices and procedures of Parliamentary order.

#### ARTICLE V

##### MANAGEMENT (COMPOSITION DUTIES AND MEETINGS)

- Sec. 1 The Officers of the League shall be:
- President
  - Vice-President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
  - Assistant Secretary/Treasurer
  - **Public Relations Officer**
  - Three (3) Trustees
  - Floor Representative
- Sec. 2 All Officers shall be elected by the use of secret ballot at the League's Annual General Meeting.
- Sec. 3 No more than one member from a club shall be eligible to hold office as a Trustee.
- Sec. 4 Individuals seeking positions on the Executive Committee should be a member of a Club/Organization for at least one (1) year and in good standing.**

#### ARTICLE VI

##### THE LEGISLATIVE BODY

Sec. 1 the Legislative body shall comprise four (4) delegates from each member club that is in good standing in the League, Names, addresses and telephone numbers of each delegate shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the League prior to the annual general meeting.

## ARTICLE VII

### MANAGEMENT (COMMITTEE)

Sec. 1 The Management structure of the league shall be as follows:

- (a) The Governing Body of the League shall be its General Meetings.
- (b) The Executive Committee elected by a secret ballot of voting members present at the group's Annual General Meeting, or at any other Special general meeting as deemed necessary shall manage the League.
- (c) The League shall be governed by a set of internal rules and regulations. Drawn up by the Constitution Committee, and approved and implemented after the General Body has ratified them. Thereafter, these rules and regulations may be amended and must be subsequently ratified the Annual General or Special Meeting.
- (d) The League Executive shall set the rules of play for all cricket played in the League competitions.**

Sec. 2 The composition of the Executive Committee shall be as follows: President, Vice President, General Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer (Recording Secretary), Public Relations Officer, Three (3) Trustees and any other functional officer(s) as deemed appropriate and necessary by the Organization.

Sec. 3 The duties of the Officers of the League shall include the following:

(A) **The President** shall:

- (i) Preside at all General, Special and Executive Meetings and sign minutes after their confirmation after the President & Secretary have signed them.
- (ii) Oversee and ensure the smooth running of the League at conferences, seminars, and meetings of other organizations as and when mandated.
- (iii) Represent, in conjunction, or together with other Executive Committee members, the League at conferences seminars, and meetings of other organizations as and when mandated.
- (iv) Ensure, in conjunction, or together with the PRO that all press releases and conferences reflect the policy of the group.
- (v) Delegate, where appropriate, specific responsibility to other members of the Executive Committee.
- (vi) Shall be ex-officio to all committees.

(B) **The Vice-President** shall:

Perform all of the above in the absence of the President.

(C) **The General Secretary** shall:

- (i) Conduct all correspondence of the League and prepare annual reports.
- (ii) Maintain in conjunction, or together with the Treasurer, an up-to-date registry of **all** financial members.
- (iii) Coordinate all meetings of the League relevant to venue bookings, catering, agenda, documentation preparation, and distribution, and any other facilitation.
- (iv) Ensure an adequate filing system and/or database of the records of the organization.
- (v) Shall chair meetings and act in the absence of the President and Vice-President.**

(D) **The Treasurer** shall:

- (i) Ensure an adequate accounting system including full details of all receipts and expenditures relating to the activities of the League.

- (ii) Ensure that all monies due to the League collected and received and that all authorized payments are made.
- (iii) Maintain, in conjunction, or together with the General Secretary an up-to-date registry of all financial members.
- (iv) Prepare the Group's Annual Audited Accounts for presentation at the Bi-Annual General Meeting.
- (v) Advise the League on all financial matters at each General Meeting.
- (vi) Shall chair meetings and act in the absence of the President, Vice President, and General Secretary.**

(E) **The Secretary-Treasurer (Recording Secretary)** shall:

- (i) Record, produce, and keep on file, the minutes of all meetings of the Group.
- (ii) Secure the President's signature for all approved minutes.

(F) **The Public Relations Officer (P.R.O.)** shall:

- (i) Coordinate the preparation and distribution of the League's newsletter.
- (ii) Promote all activities undertaken by the League.
- (iii) Organize press releases and conferences as mandated by the League and with the consultation of the President.

(G) **The Trustees (Three-3)** shall:

- (i) Examine all accounts, vouchers, receipts, reports and any document of the League as deemed necessary.
- (ii) Conduct audits at regular intervals of not more than fifteen (15) months (???)
- (iii) Act in conjunction with the President and/or Treasurer to collect, spend, withdraw, and generally safeguard the funds and/or assets of the organization according to the rules and regulations of the constitution and By-Law herein stated.
- (iv) **Not be** a member or closely related to a member of the Finance Committee.

## ARTICLE VIII

### REPRESENTATION

Sec. 1 All delegates elected to office shall continue to represent their respective clubs as delegates, except the President, who shall not continue to represent his/her club during his/her term in office.

## ARTICLE IX

### MEETINGS

Sec. 1 The meetings of the League shall be conducted as follows:

- (a) The Annual General Meeting shall be held the last Sunday of January, bi annually, or no later than four (4) weeks thereafter.

For financial purposes, the League shall continue to meet twice annually at a date ascribed by the By-Laws to update the members of the financial standings of the League and to plan fundraisers for the upcoming season (suggest that the reports by written) **and other annual activities.**

- (b) General meetings shall be held at least twice a month and may be of the Executive Committee of the General Body of the League **to be held on the third Friday of the month.**

(c) Notice of each Bi-Annual General Meeting shall be communicated in writing to each member four (4) weeks; and for General and Special meetings, seven (7) days preceding each said meeting. Valid notices may be issued by means of post, telephone, facsimile, and e-mail.

(d) In the event of urgent business, the President shall call either a Special General Meeting, or a Special Meeting.

(e) Executive Meeting. The decision to convene a Special Executive Meeting may be challenged by any member who may with the support of a petition signed by ten (10???) voting members or a two-thirds (2/3) membership, demand a Special General Meeting. Notices of such meetings shall be sent to all delegates, at least, but not more than seven (7) days before the scheduled date set for such meetings.

(f) All Annual General Meetings shall be deemed quorate when one-third (1/3) of all voting members are present and must include no less than three (3???) members of the Executives.

(g) In the event of an established quorum and the President or Vice-President is not present within fifteen (15) to twenty (20) minutes of the appointed time for the commencement of the meeting, an interim chairperson may be elected by a simple majority of the established voting quorum.

**(h) If a meeting is not quorated, the Executives shall make the appropriate decisions, which shall be binding on the League.**

(i) In the event of an equally divided vote either on a motion, or election of an officer, the President may exercise his/her casting vote in addition to his/her vote as an ordinary member.

Sec. 2 All newly elected officers of the League shall be promptly installed at the conclusion of elections in order that their responsibilities can be assumed forthwith.

Sec. 3 The Management Committee will meet once a month or as regularly as the business of the League necessitates.

Sec. 4 the League shall **create Disciplinary, Education, Entertainment, and Finance/Fundraising Committees** and/or any other committee it deems necessary to aid in the furtherance of its stated aims and objectives.

#### ARTICLE X

##### REMOVAL, RESIGNATION, AND REPLACEMENT OF OFFICERS

Sec. 1 Any officer may be removed from office for causes deemed, detrimental to the League by the Management Committee and League members at any meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, providing that the offending officer was duly notified of the complaint, and by providing such officer at least fifteen (15) days to prepare a defense which may be done orally or in writing.

Sec. 2 Officers absent from three (3) consecutive meetings of the Management Committee without an acceptable excuse shall have their office(s) declared vacant. The President/Vice-President shall appoint a member, pro-tem to this office until an election is held to fill such vacancy, on a permanent basis, as provided for in Article.

#### ARTICLE XI

##### AFFILIATION

The League shall by resolution of the general body, seek affiliation to any organization as deemed appropriate by the General Body.

#### ARTICLE XII

##### FINANCE AND AUDIT

Income of the League shall be derived from fees, subscriptions, fundraising activities, and donations subject to any resolution passed by the general body from such and other sources as the Finance Committee deems appropriate.

All monies received by the League shall be deposited at the earliest possible date to the credit of a Bank Account as determined by the receipts from monies received shall also be issued promptly; All payments

in excess of \$100.00 shall be paid by check signed by the President, General/Secretary Treasurer and/or at least one of three (3) Trustee(s).

#### ARTICLE XIII

##### AMENDMENT AND INTERPRETATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

- Sec. 1 Any amendment to the Constitution of the organization may be affected at either the Bi-Annual Meeting called for such purpose and must be passed by a two-thirds majority of voting members present.
- Sec. 2 In the event of a dispute relating to the interpretation of the regulations and rules contained in the Constitution, the President's interpretation shall take precedence, unless the President is:
- (a) Directly or indirectly involved in the matter at hand, or,
  - (b) Challenged by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the eligible voting members present.

#### ARTICLE XIV

##### FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the League shall begin on the first day of January of each calendar year and end on the 31st day of December of the same year.

#### ARTICLE XV

##### DISSOLUTION AND SURPLUS PROPERTY

- Sec. 1 The league shall be wound up or dissolved in the event that there are no Active League members in the New York City Area.
- Sec. 2 In the event that the League shall be wound or dissolved and there remains after the satisfaction of its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members, but shall subject to any trust affecting the property or part of it, vest in the West Indies Cricket Board of Control.

#### ARTICLE XVI

##### TROPHIES

- Sec. 1 At the conclusion of each season's competitions, a perpetual trophy (i.e. a trophy that shall be the property of the League) shall be presented to the champion club whose name shall be inscribed on the said trophy. This trophy shall remain in the possession of the recipient club who shall be responsible for its safekeeping until the week preceding the conclusion of the succeeding season, when it must be returned to the League. In the event that the perpetual trophy has been presented to a member club for three (3) consecutive years, the said trophy shall then become the property of that club and a new perpetual trophy shall be procured for future competitions.
- Sec. 2 The knockout trophy shall be competed for on the basis the perpetual trophy and shall be awarded to the winning clubs(s) utilizing the same terms that applies to the perpetual trophy.
- Sec. 3 Individual prizes/awards shall be allocated at the conclusion of each regular season's competitions, as follows:

**Except for centuries and 7 wickets in an inning, this is for all games**

- Replicas - to the top four (4) teams in the regular competition
- Best batting average
- Runner-up
- Highest batting aggregate
- Runner-up

- Highest number of wickets
- Runner-up
- Best bowling average (**per wicket & best per over**)
- Runner-up
- Most catches taken (**fielder**)
- Runner-up
- Most dismissals (**wicket-keeper**)
- For each century scored
- Any bowler securing seven (7) or more in wickets in any one innings

Sec. 4 Other awards and/or modifications to those awards state in Sec. 3 may be made by the Management Committee, as is deemed appropriate.

## ARTICLE XVII

### MEMBERSHIP OF CLUBS

- Sec. 1 The secretary of each member shall furnish the League with a full and complete list of names of the membership of its respective club, at least two weeks prior to the commencement of each prospective season and shall appraise the League of any suspension, expulsions or resignations.
- Sec. 2 The League, in keeping with the principles of reciprocity with other Leagues in the Metropolitan New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut areas, shall reserve the right to deny participation in competitions sponsored by the Brooklyn League, by any individual member of any club. The particular member club may appeal this decision and the said issue may be raised at a regular meeting.
- Sec. 3 **Anyone who has played for a Club/Team in the Brooklyn League in any one season, may ask for a transfer to another team within the League with a release letter from the team they are vacating and with the approval of the League's Management Committee up to and including the second weekend of June of that season.**  
**Anyone who has played in another League may request a permanent transfer to a Brooklyn League team, but from there on in can only play for that Club/Team in any one year. A release letter is required and the approval of the Leagues' Management Committee must be given.**

## ARTICLE XVIII

### HONORARIUM

- The Management Committee, in its discretion and in response to need, may allocate an honorarium to any officer of the league.
- These will be awarded for achievements in any League sponsored games.

## ARTICLE XIX

### DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

- Sec. 1 The President will appoint from among the standing Committees a Disciplinary Committee from among all members of the League. This Committee whose only purpose will be to adjudicate and administer decisions on all matters affecting a breach of the rules of this League and its competitions. This committee shall determine the penalties for all infractions of the League rules.

## ARTICLE XX

### RIGHT OF APPEAL

All member clubs and individual member will have the right to appeal of all decision or sanctions by Committees, observing the following progression;

- First, to the Management Committee
- Secondly, to the General Body a reversal of any previously determined action would require a majority vote of the General Body.

#### ARTICLE XXI

##### AMENDMENT

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Member Clubs as presented by their delegates, at any of its meetings of the Legislative Body, **at a specially convened meeting**, provided the propose amendment or amendments have been stated in the call for the meeting and the member Clubs receive the full text thereof at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the meeting at which the amendment or amendments are to be considered.

#### ARTICLE XXII

##### OFFICERS

Sec. 1 Individuals seeking positions on the Executive Committee should be a member of a Club/Organization of the Brooklyn Cricket League, Inc., for at least two (2) years and in good standing and recommended by said Club.

P.S. This constitution was amended and discussed on Friday, March 6th, 2004 and finalized and accepted as the legal constitution on Sunday, March 21st, 2004.

**Chairman of the Amendment Committee: Mr. Carlton Samuels**