



Hull City Disabled Supporters Association (Hull City DSA) Constitution.

Mission Statement:

- 1) To act as a Disabled People's User Led Organisation (DPULO) being representative of disabled people using the Social Model of Disability (<https://www.disabilityrightsuk.org/social-model-disability-language>) as its starting point.
- 2) To enable its members to share a common interest in Hull City Football Club (from now on referred to as Hull City) and any matter concerning Hull City Disabled supporters / Personal Assistant (PA's). and wherever possible, enhance the provision and enjoyment of disabled supporters and their carers visiting the MKM Stadium.
- 3) To assist Hull City in all aspects of the provision and the maintenance of suitable facilities for disabled people attending games at the MKM Stadium.
- 4) To combat loneliness and exclusion often felt by disabled people and to provide a listening ear to disabled people in need.
- 5) To promote the welfare of Hull City supporters, and particularly Hull City disabled supporters.
- 6) To promote and encourage the sharing of information and good practice with the club, other interested organizations and other

interested parties, in relation to disabled people attending football matches and by representing and promoting the views of members to appropriate individuals and bodies to influence in a positive way.

- 7) To promote and advance future developments, awareness and access for disabled people.
- 8) To remain independent in order to represent disabled supporters.

Aims:

1. To focus specifically on matters that affect disabled people.
2. To ensure that the facilities at the MKM stadium continue to be accessible for all and look to make improvements where possible.
3. We aim to achieve the best possible inclusive match day experience for all our supporters.
4. Give a direct and unified voice for all our members, at both club and national level for home and away matches.
5. Provide an independent representative team dealing with inclusivity issues.
6. Building an inclusive community of Hull City supporters.
7. To work alongside other supporters' groups to bring together our global One Family.
8. Engage with fans on social media to provide a safe and fun environment, with competitions and information from relevant sources.

Membership:

- 1) Membership is open to anybody with a disability or long-term health condition, their carers/PAs, and relatives who are over 18 and will be split into categories. There will be a special membership category for under 18s.
- 2) Membership is split into the following categories:

A – Full membership
B – Associate membership
C- Supporter
YP – Young disabled person

- 3) Applications for membership to the Hull City DSA will be considered by the Hull City DSA board and has the right to refuse applications if the applicant does not agree to abide by the principles and rules of the Hull City DSA or is deemed not to be suitable as far as the interests of the Hull City DSA are concerned.
- 4) Membership fees are set by the board and agreed by a General Meeting. The membership year runs from 1st April until the 31st Match.
- 5) Members of the Board may be subject to disciplinary action or have their membership terminated if it is deemed that he or she has brought the Hull City DSA into disrepute or that their continued membership is not in the interests of the Hull City DSA. Disciplinary action and any termination of membership will be dealt with by the Board. A member will have the right to be heard, to appeal the decision or to call an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) to challenge any such decision and an independent arbitrator may be called upon to advise in difficult cases.

Categories in Full:

- Category A (Full): Open to all disabled people or people with long-term health condition aged 18 and over. (subject to a conflict-of-interest test see below*)
- Category B (Associate): Open to all carers and family who are over 18, and those who are restricted from Category A due to conflict of interest.
- Category C (Supporter): Open to all who want to support the DSA
- Category YP (Young Person) – Open to any disabled person who is under 18

The annual cost of a Full Membership is £10 for full (Cat A), £5 for Associate membership (Cat B) and will allow the member access to the following:

- Personalized Membership Card
- Personal copy of the regular Newsletter
- Opinion canvassed and reflected with the club
- Attend future DSA Open Meetings
- Propose resolutions for change at an AGM or EGM
- Receive special pricing for select DSA events
- Have access to member only partner offers
- Have access to member only competitions
- Opportunity to feed into meetings with the club

In addition, Full members can vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and at any Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM) to help steer the strategy and direction of the DSA and can also stand for election to the board.

Category YP has access to all of the above but is non-voting (and therefore cannot be a board member) and is Free.

Category C (Supporters) is Free at this time but will increase to a token payment of £2.50 per year from April 2026.

Supporters will:

- Receive a personal copy of the regular Newsletter
- Opinion canvassed and reflected with the club
- Attend future DSA Open Meetings
- Receive special pricing for select DSA events

All existing memberships will be transferred to the applicable membership above.

* Conflict of Interest, this applies to any member who works for Hull City AFC, sponsors or associates who could affect the independence of the DSA to represent disabled fans.

Board:

- 1) The Board shall comprise of a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 10 members who will be elected to the committee at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and where possible include the following office bearers and posts:

- Chairperson
- Vice-Chairperson

- Secretary
 - Treasurer
- 2) To be elected to the Board, candidates shall be proposed and seconded by either ordinary or Board members and elected by a majority vote of the Full members. In the event of a split vote, the Chair / Vice Chair will hold an additional casting vote.
 - 3) The term of office for each post will be three (3) years however any member of the Board may seek re-election at the AGM.
 - 4) The Board reserves the right to bring in a specialist expertise to give independent advice at any time and to appoint non-voting officers.
 - 5) The Board shall have the authority to co-opt replacements onto the Board if needs arise before the next AGM. This will be by a majority vote of the Board and such co-opted members will have the same voting rights as those elected at the AGM. Co-opted members remain in post until the next AGM where they can stand for election or leave the committee. The number of co-opted committee members shall not exceed the number of voting committee members. These Co-opted members must be Category A (Full) members.
 - 6) The Board can co-opt members with no voting rights.

Board Meetings, AGMs and EGMs:

- 1) Hull City DSA will hold Board meetings at least bi-monthly, either face to face or online via a suitable platform but can hold more regular ones as necessary.
- 2) The AGM of the Hull City DSA will be held in July/August each year at a date and time to be set by the Board. Notification of the AGM will be sent to members 21 days prior to the meeting.

The Secretary will set the agenda in conjunction with the Chairperson which will be distributed to members at least 14 days in advance along with a copy of the previous year's accounts and minutes of the last AGM.

At the AGM, the Chairperson will ask the members to approve the previous year's minutes.

The Chairperson will also present an annual report to the members summarising the activities for the previous year and proposing the future direction and development of the Hull City DSA.

The Treasurer will present the accounts for the previous financial year from April 1st – March 31st at the AGM with a statement from the elected auditor as to whether the accounts were found to be in good order or otherwise.

The Chairperson will ask the members to approve the audited accounts.

- 3) The quorum for Board meetings of the Hull City DSA will be at least 3 or 50% of elected Board members (whichever is the greater). For AGMs and EGMs and including the Board quorum at least 10 full members must be present.
- 4) A decision on any matter arising will be based on members proposals to the meeting which must be seconded with any subsequent vote decided by a simple majority.
- 5) At all AGMs every Full member is entitled to one vote with The Chairperson or Acting Chairperson having a casting vote only in the event of the number of votes cast being tied.
- 6) An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called at any time upon a written signed request by at least ten DSA members or 75% of Board members and sent to the Secretary stating the nature of the business to be discussed.
- 7) The Secretary shall ensure that minutes are kept of every meeting which will be available and distributed as soon as possible after the meeting to the Board by email. The Board will ensure that accessible formats are available on request and within the limitations of Hull City DSA resources.

Members may have sight of the accounts, or any business transaction carried out by the Hull City DSA upon written request to the Secretary.

The Board at its discretion may elect to keep certain sensitive information discussed at Board meetings confidential and not include within the Hull City DSA minutes.

Finances:

- 1) The Treasurer shall ensure that detailed financial records are kept in accordance with FSA Guidance.
- 2) The DSA Bank Account will have 3 signatories and require 2 of these to carry out any financial transactions.
- 3) An updated Hull City DSA statement of accounts should be available for review by any member upon written request with regular updates made to the Board.

Records:

- 1) The Secretary, Treasurer and Secretary shall make records and retain all records and correspondence.
- 2) In the case of non-financial those records will be kept for a minimum of 3 years with financial documents kept for a minimum of 5 years.
- 3) Hull City DSA will treat any such reports in a confidential and sensitive manner.

Working Groups:

- 1) The Board may appoint one or more Working-Groups from members of the Hull City DSA to deal with specific issues concerning the Hull City DSA from time to time.
- 2) These said Working-Groups will be directly accountable to the Board and any such decision of such sub-group shall be subject to ratification by the Board.

Safeguarding:

- 1) Hull City DSA will abide by all safeguarding legislation and guidance to protect vulnerable disabled adults and children.
- 2) Hull City DSA reserves the right to inform Police, social services or other external bodies if any incident of abuse against a DSA

member or any disabled adult or child supporter is made known to the DSA by any supporter without delay.

Alteration to the Constitution:

- 1) Constitution alterations can be proposed at an AGM or EGM. This will then be put to the membership for comments to be submitted within 14 days. Following this a vote of Full (Category A) members will require the approval of a two thirds majority of all Full (Category A) members before being implemented.
- 2) An individual member's proposal to alter the constitution must be seconded and delivered in writing to the Secretary of the Hull City DSA not less than 7 days before the date of the AGM so they can be distributed to the whole membership prior to the AGM.

Alternatively, an Extraordinary General Meeting may be requested to consider an alteration to the Constitution.

Dissolution:

- 1) If the Board decides at any time that on the grounds of expense or otherwise it is necessary or advisable to dissolve the Hull City DSA, it shall call an EGM of all Hull City DSA member giving not less than twenty-eight days' notice. Such a decision must be confirmed by a two thirds majority of all voting members.
- 2) Any property or funds belonging to the Hull City DSA will be distributed based on the most appropriate method as decided at the dissolution meeting.

Review:

- 1) The Board will review this constitution annually to ensure that it confirms with up-to-date legal changes.

The following policies will be written by the board and distributed to the membership on completion:

- Disciplinary/Complaints procedure
- Fundraising Policy
- External communication Policy (includes social media)
- Confidentiality and Data Protection
- Safeguarding Policy

