

Constitution of The 1921 Club

Article I: Name

The official name of the society shall be **The 1921 Club**

Article II: Aims and Objectives

The committee aims to:

1. **Foster a lifelong community** among Somerville college alumni who have rowed and been involved in rowing at Oxford, promoting camaraderie, networking, and continued friendship.
 2. **Preserve and celebrate the rowing heritage** of Somerville College by organising reunions, events, and other activities that engage both alumni and current rowers.
 3. **Support and promote rowing** at Somerville College, providing assistance to the current Somerville College Boat Club (hereinafter "SCBC") through financial, advisory, and mentorship opportunities. Specifically supporting the SCBC committee with financial management, long-term goal planning, asset management, equipment purchases and sponsorship.
 4. **Generate funds** to ensure the long-term future of the committee and to provide SCBC with the resources to achieve it's rowing goals and to support in the purchase of the necessary equipment to achieve these goals.
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Article III: Membership

1. **Eligibility:** Membership shall be open to all former students of Somerville College who have rowed for SCBC, or former students who rowed for one of the Oxford University boats, or former students who were involved in OURCs or individuals who weren't at Somerville College but made a significant contribution to SCBC.
2. **Types of Membership:**
 - **Ordinary Members:** All former rowers from Somerville College who represented SCBC or one of the Oxford University crews.
 - **Honorary Members:** Persons who have made significant contributions to SCBC or The 1921 Club or Oxford Rowing whether a member of the college or not. Honorary Members must be nominated and seconded by an Ordinary Member and then will be accepted by way of a Committee vote. Honorary Members have equal rights as Ordinary Members.
3. **Membership:** All Members must submit a membership form to the Secretary identifying their eligibility for membership and, once confirmed, will be eligible to become Members upon payment of Fees.

4. **Fees:** Membership will be contingent on paying an admission fees and annual subscriptions as set by the Committee. The Members, by way of a vote at the AGM, shall fix the annual subscriptions to be paid by Members.
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Article IV: Governance and Structure

The 1921 Club shall be governed by a **Committee**, which will oversee the functioning and management of The 1921 Club. The Committee shall consist of:

1. **Chairperson:**

- Presides over meetings.
- Ensures the effective management of The 1921 Club.
- Acts as the primary point of contact between The 1921 Club, SCBC, and Somerville College.
- Provides assistance to SCBC with a specific focus on long-term goal planning.

2. **Secretary:**

- Manages correspondence, record-keeping, and communication with Members.
- Maintain a register of paid-up Members.
- Prepares agendas and takes minutes for all meetings.
- Assists in the organisation of events.

3. **Treasurer:**

- Manages the financial affairs of The 1921 Club, including budgeting and reporting.
- Provides assistance to SCBC with financial management, reporting, banking, asset management and equipment purchases.

4. **Events Coordinator:**

- Organises alumni events such as dinners, regattas, and reunions.
- Liaises with SCBC and Somerville College for event planning and logistics.

5. **Fundraising Officer:**

- Manages all aspects of fundraising for The 1921 Club.
- Provides assistance to SCBC in identifying, securing, and managing the relationship with sponsors.

6. **Communications Officer**

- Manages social media, newsletters, and other communications.
- Ensures effective outreach to Members.

7. Up to Two General Members:

- May be appointed to assist with various tasks and represent the broader membership.

Article V: Elections and Terms of Office

1. Elections:

- Elections for the Committee positions shall be held at The 1921 Club's Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- Any Member in good standing may nominate themselves or be nominated for a Committee position.
- Voting shall be conducted by a show of hands or secret ballot, depending on the preference of the AGM attendees.

2. Terms of Office:

- Each Committee Member shall serve for a term of two years.
- Committee Members may stand for re-election at the end of their term.

3. Resignation or Vacant Seat

- Should a Committee Member resign or should a Committee position be vacant at any time for whatever means then the Committee can vote in a Member to fulfil this role until the next AGM when nominations will then be taken to elect the Committee position.

Article VI: Meetings

1. Annual General Meeting (AGM):

- The AGM shall be held once per year in September, either in person or virtually, to discuss the activities of The 1921 Club, approve the Treasurer's report, and conduct elections.
- All Members shall be given at least 30 days' notice of the AGM.

2. Committee Meetings:

- The Committee shall meet at least three times a year in Somerville College (those unable to attend in person can join virtually).
- Quorum for a Committee meeting shall be at least three Committee Members.
- Members of SCBC committee will be invited to the meetings to provide continuity and communication between the organisations.

3. Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM):

- EGMs may be called if necessary by the Committee or at the request of at least 10% of the membership.
 - At least 14 days' notice must be given for an EGM.
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Article VII: Voting Procedures

1. **Eligibility:** All Members in good standing shall have one vote at AGMs and EGMs.
 2. **Decision Making:**
 - Decisions at meetings shall be made by a simple majority of those present and voting.
 - In the event of a tie, the Chairperson shall have the casting vote.
 3. **Voting Method:**
 - Votes may be conducted via a show of hands, secret ballot, or electronically for virtual meetings.
 - Members may designate the Chairperson to vote on their behalf by submitting a written proxy authorization to the Secretary at least 48 hours before the meeting.
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Article VIII: Financial Management

1. **Accounts:**
 - The 1921 Clubs' financial year shall run from 1st September to 31st August.
 - The Treasurer shall maintain accurate accounts and present a financial report and a set of independently reviewed accounts at the AGM.
 2. **Funding:**
 - The 1921 Club may raise funds through member donations, event fees, and other fundraising activities.
 - Any disbursements in excess of £100 must be approved by the Committee.
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Article IX: Amendments to the Constitution

1. **Proposal of Amendments:**
 - Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any Member of The 1921 Club.
 - Proposed amendments must be submitted to the Secretary at least 14 days before the AGM or EGM.
2. **Adoption of Amendments:**

- Amendments shall be adopted if approved by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting at the AGM or EGM.
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Article X: Dissolution

1. Dissolution of The 1921 Club:

- The 1921 Club may be dissolved by a two-thirds majority vote at an AGM or EGM.
 - Upon dissolution, any remaining funds shall be transferred to the Somerville College Boat Club or another charitable cause related to rowing, as decided by the membership.
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Article XI: General Provisions

1. Interpretation:

- The Committee shall have the power to resolve any issues related to the interpretation of this Constitution.
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This Constitution was adopted by The 1921 Club on 26th March 2025.