



Ayr Rugby Football Club Limited

(Notes to accompany application form for Director/Trustee)

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(1) Charity Objectives

(1) to advance public participation in sport, particularly the sport of Rugby Union Football, so as to promote and advance the health and wellbeing of a wide and diverse range of participants

(2) to provide, develop, manage and promote sporting, recreational and social facilities and related sporting, recreational and social activities to the public generally

(3) to provide education, coaching and training in relation to sport, particularly the sport of Rugby Union Football, fitness and related skills to broaden the development of individual sporting talents and capabilities of children, youths, young adults and adults

(4) to promote a diverse and inclusive environment for participation in sport, recreation and social activities, particularly those associated with the sport of Rugby Union Football

(5) to work with those involved in sport, particularly the sport of Rugby Union Football, in relation to all or any of the objects set out in this article 4

(2) What is a Director/Trustee?

In large charities the company structure is often a management team run by a paid Board of Directors who are overseen by an unpaid Board of Trustees. In small charities such as Ayr Rugby Football Club, it is common for the unpaid Board of Directors to also act as the Trustees.

What do the Directors/Trustees do?

The Directors/Trustees role is to provide checks and balances and oversee the organisation's performance, ethics, finances and risks. They also ensure that the charity complies with all relevant laws and regulations and that it is well-run, in good financial shape, and importantly delivering its charitable objectives to the best of its ability.

The Directors support and direct the employees of the charity on strategy and decision-making so they can deliver the charity's objectives effectively.

How can I contribute as Director/Trustee?

Ayr Rugby Football Club requires a range of skills in areas such rugby development, community, event management, law, finance, fundraising, grant applications, IT, digital marketing, public relations, human resources, commerce and facility management.

Is this a voluntary role?

Unlike non-executive directors of a company, the Directors/Trustees of Ayr Rugby Football Club do not receive remuneration.

How often do Trustees meet?

The Board meets on the third Tuesday of each month. Generally, the meeting takes place between 2pm and 6.30pm. In addition to this, ongoing matters are dealt with by regular email and telephone correspondence.

What is expected of Directors/Trustees between Board meetings?

You will be expected to read the minutes of the previous meetings and action points relating to your area of responsibility. This may include working with sub-groups working on specific projects and reporting progress back to the Board in a timely manner (e.g. Rugby forum, Events forum, Volunteer forum). You will be able to contribute more to the role if you attend games/events, offer introductions to the charity and drive/support particular projects.

The Director/Trustee role can be demanding in terms of time, skills, knowledge and abilities. We estimate that the commitment will be a minimum of 20-40 hours per month depending on the role.

How long will I be Director/Trustee for?

The articles of association dictate that, after the first term of office, at each AGM the Directors/Trustees must retire from office – but shall then be eligible for re-election if they wish to stand. This will take place no later than 30th September 2024.

Could I incur personal liability as a Director/Trustee?

It is extremely rare, but not impossible, for Directors/Trustees to be held personally liable either to the charity for a financial loss caused by them acting improperly or to a third party. OSCR expects Directors/Trustees to take their role seriously while also recognising when Directors/Trustees are volunteers. Charity Law generally protects Directors/Trustees who have acted honestly and reasonably.

(3) The roles and description of the current Board of Directors

Brian Williamson – Chairman

Brian has been involved at Ayr for over 40 years, playing in the mini/midi set up. Brian is the Managing Director of EKKO Waste Solutions, ABC4D Ltd and WMA Group. Brian has been heavily involved with the development of commercial income streams for the club for the last 6 years and negotiated the purchase of the land for the new road into Millbrae and the Dam Park sports pavilion. Brian is also project lead for the new development works at Millbrae.

Drew Young – President

Drew has been actively involved with Ayr RFC for over 30 years serving his time as a youth coach, and has been on the committee since 2004. Drew runs an extensive farming operation around Girvan and for the last 20 years he has also been the Chairman and General Manager of Girvan Early Growers. Drew was instrumental in securing Albert Bartletts as Ayr Rugby Club's main sponsor.

Dave Wilkinson – Marketing/Website/Social Media/Design/PR

Dave is the Managing Director of Launch Digital who have been engaged with Ayr RFC for over a decade. Dave has overseen the development of our website, online shop, social media channels and design with great success. Ayr RFC is recognised as having the best online presence within Scottish rugby and beyond.

Neil Reid – Finance/Accounting/Charity

Neil is a Partner at Dains (Scotland) where he oversees the firm's audit team in addition to jointly heading up their charity department. Neil is a former youth player at Ayr RFC and spent a lot of time at the club with his brother Andy and late father, Phil Reid. Neil has proven to be a great asset to the Board assisting with the set-up of our charity accounts and preparing for audit.

David Beattie – Commercial/Sport

David is retired having been a serial entrepreneur and former Chairman of Partick Thistle Football Club where he transformed the club leading it out of debt and into the 2013-14 Premiership. David has a wealth of business and sporting experience having started and sold a number of companies in the food & drink sector and negotiating Glasgow Warriors to Firhill Park in 2007.

(4) Election of Directors/Trustees

- The articles of association allow for Directors/Trustees to be elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting
- At the AGM the existing Directors/Trustees must retire from office but shall then be eligible for re-election (providing he/she is willing to act)
- The members may elect any member to be a Director/Trustee (providing he/she is willing to act)
- The elected Directors/Trustees may, at any time, appoint any member to be a Director as long as they do not exceed the maximum number of Directors/Trustees
- The Directors shall elect amongst themselves the office bearers they consider appropriate: currently this is the Chair and President
- It is proposed to add 2 seats to the Board, increasing the number from 5 to 7 Directors/Trustees
- The current Board have identified 2 roles which would benefit the existing structure, namely, Rugby and Community.

(5) How do I apply?

We welcome applications from within the existing membership at Ayr Rugby Club and from the wider community. You do require to be a member of Ayr Rugby Football Club to be considered. Having reviewed the notes on this document if you wish to apply to be a Director/Trustee you should complete the application form.

Applications must be submitted by Wednesday, 11th September 2024 at 12 noon by emailing your completed application to: trustees@ayrrugbyclub.co.uk

Your application will be abbreviated and made available to the membership for consideration no later than 2 weeks before the AGM.