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**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 oversight of 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 charities 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 renumeration. This is a voluntary role.

**How often to Trustees meet?**

The board meet 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 attending to specific projects and reporting progress back to the board in a timely manner. (eg. 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 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 the 30th of September each year.

**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 Managing Director of ABC4D Ltd, WMA Group Ltd & Cambusdoon Ltd. Brian has been heavily involved with the commercial development of the club for the last 7 years including serving as Vice President in the previous club set-up. 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.

**Billy McHarg – Rugby Development Director**

Billy is well known in Scottish Rugby and has previously served as Club Treasurer for 25 years and Club President for 13 years. Billy has operated his own accountancy practise for nearly 40 years. Billy has extensive contacts in the game and is passionate about developing Ayr RFC’s rugby offering and performance at all levels.

**Graham Duncan – Secretary/Director**

Graham is a retired Inspector at Police Scotland with extensive experience in leadership roles, heading projects and chairing multi agency meetings. Graham played rugby for 23 years while simultaneously holding captaincy and committee roles. Graham coached his son from P1 to U18s attaining his level 2 coaching badge in the process.

**Neil Howie – Community Director**

Neil is retired having been Company Director of Howie of Dunlop which was involved in quarrying, construction, fencing, transport and sawmills. Having coached his son’s age group from P6 to U18s, Neil formed the Ayr Community Rugby Trust and ran it for 10 years with initial fundraising coming from “The Oval Ball” which evolved into the Long Lunch. Neil recently organised an AM/AM golf tournament which raised £19,000 for the club’s Legacy Fund.

**Richard Longmuir – Marketing/Website/Social Media/Design/PR**

Richard is Creative Director at Launch Digital who have been engaged with Ayr RFC for over a decade. Richard 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.

**Andrew McMorland – Financial Director**

Andrew has been an accountant for over 35 years and has been a partner at Smith & Wallace for 17 years. Andrew has experience in business management, finance and fundraising and has also been involved in various 3rd sector organisations including charities, voluntary groups and member led clubs. Andrew leads on reviewing the clubs trading position, setting of budgets and assisting with project management.

**Brian Calder – Commercial Director**

Brian has many years of top level experience in retail, wholesale and distribution including Wallaces of Ayr Ltd, Wallaces Express Ltd, Tennents Brewery and Inverarity Morton. As a youth Brian captained Ayr Academy 1st XV and attended Millbrae from the age of 14 playing in the senior teams from 1975-1986. With vast commercial experience from the shopfloor to the boardroom, Brian is dedicated to improving Ayr RFC’s commercial operation.

**(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 club member to be a Director/Trustee (providing he/she is willing to act)
* The elected Directors/Trustees may at any time appoint any club member to be a Director as long the maximum number of Directors/Trustees is not exceeded.
* The Directors shall elect amongst themselves the office bearers they consider appropriate. Currently this is the Chair, President and Secretary

**(5) How do I apply?**

The charity welcome applications from within the existing membership at Ayr Rugby Football Club and from the wider community. You do require to be a member of Ayr Rugby Football Club to be considered. Having considered 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 10th September at 12 noon by emailing your completed application to: trustees@ayrrugbyclub.co.uk

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

Form updated August 2025

Ayr Rugby Football Club Limited, Millbrae, Alloway, Ayr, KA74PJ, Registered charity, SC051905