

Constitution of The Early Ford Car Club of South Africa.

1. NAME.

The name of the club is "**EARLY FORD CAR CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA**" (incorporating Model "A" and Post Vintage V8 Club)

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.

The aims and objectives for which the club is founded are: -

- 2.1.** The restoration, preservation and operation of Ford cars or any other vehicle which they deem worthy of preservation, and the promotion of competitions, exhibitions or any activities in furtherance of these aims.
- 2.2.** To encourage road courtesy and good driving.
- 2.3.** To hold talks lectures and similar ventures of interest to motorists.
- 2.4.** To co-operate by affiliation or otherwise with all or any other bodies, institutions or clubs concerned directly or indirectly with motoring in any of its many phases.

3. MEMBERSHIP OF CLUB.

- 3.1.** Membership shall be open to any person accepted by the committee, whether they own a vehicle or not, but deemed by the committee to be in sympathy with the aims of the club.
- 3.2.** Application for membership must be made on the prescribed form, which shall be signed by a proposer and a seconder, both of whom must be members of good standing. Complete forms must be forwarded to the secretary with the membership fees.
- 3.3.** Applications shall be tabled at the next committee meeting following the nominations, but will only be considered at a subsequent committee meeting. The committee may accept or reject any application without giving any reasons.
- 3.4.** A copy of the constitution will be issued to each member when he is notified of the acceptance of his application.

4. CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

4.1. FOUNDER MEMBER.

Those members present and instrumental in the founding of the club as at 31 July 1967.

4.2. ORDINARY MEMBERS.

Those members accepted as in section 3 of the constitution.

4.3. SPOUSE/PARTNER OF ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The spouse or partner of ordinary members shall enjoy all the privileges of members other than the right to vote at meetings and a right to receive separate communication. Should a spouse/partner wish to become an Ordinary Member in their own right, they must make application in the normal way, but will pay only twenty per cent of the Ordinary Members fee, provided that their spouse/partner is an Ordinary Member in good standing.

4.4. FAMILY MEMBERS.

Member's sons and daughters under the age of 18 years shall be admitted to the club as Family Members and will have all the privileges of membership except that, they will have no vote and receive no separate communication. On attaining the age of 18 years, member's sons and daughters may apply for Ordinary Membership, the entrance fee being waived at the discretion of the committee. However, should a family member own a vehicle in his own right, the member must apply for Ordinary Membership on attaining the age of 18 years.

4.5. COUNTRY MEMBERS.

A Country Member is a member who lives more than 100 km from the centre of Cape Town. This member will pay a percentage, as decided by the committee, of the membership fees. Any region of more than 10 members may form a sub-committee to control affairs of that region.

4.6. HONORARY MEMBERS.

The committee is empowered to confer this membership, in deserving cases, provided that this class of membership shall not exceed two per cent of the total of Ordinary Members. Honorary membership will be conferred for one year, at an Annual General Meeting, and may be renewed at the sole and entire discretion of the committee.

4.6.1 LIFE MEMBERS

The committee is entitled to recommend, after a full investigation into his/her contribution to the club, that a member can be given Life Membership, which will entitle him/her to free membership for life. This proposal must be presented to the members of the Annual General Meeting for approval and will be accepted if they obtain 70% of the vote.

4.7. HONORARY PRESIDENT.

4.7.1 The Honorary President is elected by the Committee of the Early Ford Car Club and will serve for a period of three (3) years and may make him/herself available for re-election.

4.7.2 The Honorary President should be a member in good standing and have been a club member for at least the previous eight (8) years.

4.7.3 The Honorary President is to be regarded as the custodian of the Club, designated to see that the Constitution of the club is adhered to at all times. He may offer guidance and advice to the Committee to resolve issues of ethics and principles relating to the well being and smooth running of the club.

4.7.4 The Honorary President is expected to attend all formal events of the club.

4.7.5 The Honorary President may attend Committee meetings of the club but shall not have voting rights at these meetings.

4.7.6 The Honorary President does not have a casting vote at any formal meeting of the club.

5. EXPULSION.

The committee shall have the power to request any member of the club to tender his resignation should he be found guilty of conduct deemed unbecoming or detrimental to the welfare of the club or the comfort of its members, provided that the member in question shall have been invited to the inquiry, and shall have the right to appeal to a Special General Meeting of the club, whose decision by majority vote shall be final.

6. CLUB PROPERTY.

Any person shall, on ceasing to be a member of the club, forfeit all right to and claim upon the club and its property, which may be in his possession. Any car badges shall be returned to the club forthwith for refund.

7. SUBSCRIPTIONS.

7.1. An entrance fee, as specified on the application form, shall be payable by Ordinary Members (as 3.2) and family members (the latter at the discretion of the committee).

7.2. Membership fees, as determined by the committee from time to time, become due on the 1st July of every year. These apply to classes 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 and 4.5 above.

7.3. Any member being one month in arrears with membership fees shall be liable to have his membership cancelled by the committee. The financial year shall be from 1 July to 30 June.

7.4. Should any person join the club after the first of March but before 30 June in any club year, his/her subscription payment will be regarded as payment for the current club year as well as the subsequent club year.

8. MANAGEMENT.

- 8.1.** The management and control of the club shall be vested in the committee consisting of a Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and four additional members, elected once a year by members of the club at the Annual General Meeting, and who shall hold office until the conclusion of the General Meeting to be held the following year. No member shall hold office of Chairman for a period in excess of two years unless he is re-elected by a majority of seventy five per cent or more of the members present at the Annual General Meeting. Proxy or postal votes are not valid for this re-election. Nominations for committee members shall be handed to the Secretary no less than half an hour before the A.G.M. and must be signed by the nominee and proposer.
- 8.2.** Should any vacancy occur during the year of office, the remaining members of the Committee shall be entitled to co-opt a member of the club on to the committee.
- 8.3.** The committee shall nominate one of the committee as Vice Chairman.
- 8.4.** A quorum of the committee shall be four members.
- 8.5.** The committee shall meet at least ten times a year and, should any committee member fail to attend three consecutive meetings during a year without leave of absence, he shall automatically cease to hold office.
- 8.6.** The resolution and business of any formal General Committee Meetings shall be recorded by the Secretary in a Minute Book, which shall be signed by the Chairman as correct, after adoption by the next ensuing meeting.
- 8.7.** The Treasurer shall keep true and correct books of account of the affairs of the club, which he shall submit to all committee members and for their report before the Annual General Meeting, or upon the demand of any member. His books shall be audited for the Annual General Meeting.
- 8.8.** All monies received by the club from membership fees and any other revenue producing sources, shall be paid into a banking or savings account of the club, and such account shall be operated by two of the following members. The Chairman, Honorary Secretary or Honorary Treasurer provided that the club shall not make any purchase on credit or incur any expenditure that has not been approved by the committee.
- 8.9.** The committee shall invest surplus funds at its discretion but without being personally responsible for losses incurred through investments made.
- 8.10.** The committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of this Constitution and the decision of the committee upon any question of interpretation or upon any matter affecting the club shall be final and binding upon the members.

9. GENERAL MEETINGS.

9.1. The Chairman of the committee shall be entitled to take the chair at General Meetings.

If such officer is not present within ten minutes of the appointed time of the meeting, the Vice-Chairman or another Committee Member shall take the chair.

9.2. The Annual General Meeting shall be held within sixty days of the club's financial year and the Secretary shall give fourteen days' notice in writing of the date, time and venue of the meeting. The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be to receive, and consider the statement of income and expenditure, the balance sheet, the report of the committee and any other business arising therefrom and the Chairman shall relinquish his chair to an appointed officer for election of the new committee for the ensuing year.

9.3. A special General Meeting may be called by the committee at any time upon the receipt of a written application stating the objective of the meeting and signed by not less than ten members in good standing with the club. Such a meeting shall be called within twenty-one days after the request and seven days' notice shall be given to every member of the club in writing.

9.4. Every Founder and Ordinary Member shall have one vote at any of the aforementioned meetings except, in the case of an equality of votes, when the chairman shall be allowed an extra or casting vote. A member may use postal voting or may appoint a proxy in writing.

9.5. Twenty per cent of the total of Foundation and Ordinary Membership shall form a quorum for each General Meeting. If no quorum of members present at any meeting, then such meeting shall stand adjourned to the same time and time in the following week at such a place as the committee may determine and, notwithstanding anything herein before contained, the number of members present at such adjourned meeting shall constitute a quorum for such meeting, but only the business of the original meeting shall be discussed. Any resolution passed by a majority of members personally present at any General Meeting shall be binding on all members of the club.

10. INDEMNIFICATION OF COMMITTEE AND OFFICIALS.

The committee members and any other officials shall be indemnified by the members of the club in respect of all reasonable contracts taken on for the benefit of the club, made by such persons with the sanction of the committee.

11. NON-RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGE.

The club shall in no way be liable for the recovery of damages in respect of injuries sustained by members.

12. MASCULINE/FEMININE AND SINGULAR! PLURAL.

In this constitution, save where inconsistent with the context, the masculine shall include feminine and the singular shall include plural and vice versa.

13. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Members may alter, repeal, vary or amend the Constitution of the club in whatever manner they think fit, by a majority of two-thirds of the members present at a General Meeting of the club, provided that fourteen days' notice of the intended amendments is given.

14. LEGAL STANDING.

The club shall be a separate persona in law having an existence distinct from that of its members and accordingly:

14.1. The club shall be a body corporate at law with perpetual succession.

14.2. The club shall have the capacity in its own name to own property as distinct from its members.

14.3. The club is not formed for profit or gain; all assets shall be used for the objectives of the club and no assets shall be used for the profit or gain of individual members.

14.4. The liability of members for debts of the club shall be limited to the extent of their unpaid subscriptions.

14.5. The club may sue or be sued in its own name.

14.6. Transfer of Assets on Dissolution of Club. In the event of the club being wound up or liquidated, the total remaining assets, after the satisfaction of liabilities, shall be transferred to another organisation with similar objectives, as decided by the Committee at the time.

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