

## Birmingham IVC - Club Constitution and Rules

Birmingham IVC is in fact a limited company called Birmingham Inter-Varsity Club Limited ("the Club"). Like most such companies it is 'limited by guarantee' so there are no share certificates to worry about. What this means is that in principle everyone that is a member of the Club is liable for the debts of the Club but the maximum liability is only £10 each.

Limited companies are legal individuals and are run according to a set of rules known as the Articles of Association in pursuit of the aims defined in the Memorandum of Association

The Memorandum of Association is a note signed by the original people who wanted to form the company and in effect they say 'lets form a company with the intention of it being a social club' and it sets out the objects of the company

The most important clause in the Memorandum is clause 3(a) which defines the principle aim of the club as being:-

*To provide opportunities for social, cultural and recreational activities among young graduates, professional people and others of similar interests and/or like mind in the West Midlands;*

This can be broken down into three aims which are.

1. To provide opportunities for social, cultural and recreational activities
2. among young graduates, professional people and others of similar interests and/or like mind
3. in the West Midlands

The Articles of Association are the rules for how the company will be run, who the directors will be, who can be a member and what members have to do, etc. Our Club's Articles largely follow the standard set of these Articles in force at the time the company was set up.

In addition to this we have the 'legacy' club rules, the 'Standing Orders'.

The Executive Committee is elected each year to run the day to day operation of the Club in accordance with the rules mentioned above.

All of these rules are capable of being amended and they set out the machinery for doing this and the number of members who have to vote in favour of a change in order to bring it about. Usually such changes are made at the Annual General Meeting of the company each year, but meetings can be convened at other times if enough members want this.

We also have a Code of Conduct which does not form part of the rules but is a policy adopted by the committee to guide people as to what they can expect and what is expected from them.