## **Club Constitution**

What happens when something goes wrong at the club? Everything may run smoothly and well for years and then, all of a sudden, there is a dispute. What happens then? Your club and its members should be protected by having fair and written rules. If a club has a sound constitution and procedures in place to deal with matters such as the election of officers, disciplinary procedures, and so on, then any issues arising can usually swiftly be resolved by reference to the Club's Constitution. All too frequently the EBU Laws and Ethics Committee has to deal with matters that have escalated out of all proportion, but which could have easily been dealt with if the club concerned had had a proper constitution in place to begin with. Although not compulsory, it cannot be stressed enough that a sensible constitution and schedule of disciplinary procedures should be adopted by every club.

Bear in mind also that times and circumstances change, and you may find that if your club has had a constitution for a long time, it no longer meets the needs of today's world and should be updated.

In order to help its affiliated clubs in this regard, the EBU provides a Model Club Constitution. They are available as downloads from the EBU website (follow the links above) in MS Word format, so that they can be easily edited and adapted to suit local club conditions.