

STANDARD RULES AND CONSTITUTION OF WITTERING ACADEMY

1. TITLE

The Club shall be known as the Wittering Academy Riding Club.

2. OBJECTS

The objects of the Club shall be:

- a) To support its member's in the pursuit and achievement of their equestrian ambitions. The Club shall commit to making training at all levels more accessible. Experienced and well respected trainers across a variety of disciplines will be engaged to ensure the needs of all member's are met. A structured annual training programme will be established for each member in order from them to progress against their stated goals which can be monitored and recorded.
- b) To organise instructional meeting, lectures and competitive events and other activities to further the objects.
- c) To be affiliated to the British Horse Society and to support and co-operate with recognised organisations interested in the breeding and use of all breeds and types of horse and ponies.
- d) To investigate the subject of bridle tracks and rights of way with a view to opposing those that have been closed and maintaining and more clearly defining those that are in existence.
- e) To concern itself with any object which will benefit the horse and horse user in the district.

3. MEMBERSHIP

This shall consist of persons who have attained the age of seventeen years (and persons aged sixteen years and under if a junior section is formed) and, having been accepted by the Committee, having paid the due subscription for the current period. Honorary membership may be conferred by the Committee upon any person deemed by them to have rendered notable service to the Club. **No junior member may be a voting member of any Riding Club. However, Clubs with a junior membership may appoint a Junior Committee to discuss matters relevant to the junior membership.** The Committee, through the Chairperson of said Committee, may make recommendations to the Adult Committee for their consideration.

4. Anyone desirous of becoming a member of Wittering Academy Riding Club should complete a membership form and forward to the Membership Secretary with the correct Membership fee.
5. The annual subscription shall be payable on the 1st April of each year, which is the first day of the Club's financial year. Any member whose subscription is more than two months in arrears shall have his or her name removed from the Membership List after written notice to the effect has been sent to him or her. All members who pay their membership late will have their membership back dated to the 1st April. New members who join Wittering Academy Riding Club part way through the year will pay a reduced membership fee which will be set by the committee and will vary from time to time.
6. The Committee may expel from membership of the Club any member who has in the opinion of the Committee have been guilty of any conduct derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interest of the Club provided that before expelling him or her the Committee shall call upon him for an explanation of his conduct and provide opportunity of answering the allegations against him..

ADMINISTRATION

7. The committee
 - a) All powers of management shall be vested in the adult Committee consisting of the Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and 7 other committee members. 5 shall form a quorum.
 - b) At the Annual General Meeting in July of each year the members of Wittering Academy Riding Club will elect or re-elect the committee. Committee members who wish to retire must give the committee one months notice before the AGM to allow the committee to communicate this to our members, so a replacement can be elected at the AGM.
 - c) The decision of the Committee shall be final unless over ruled at a General Meeting.
 - d) The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of the rules and for anything relating to the club not provided therein and their decision shall be final and binding on the members.
 - f) The Committee may formulate bye-laws for the detailed running of the Club and elect sub-committees for any special activities of the Club which the Committee may authorise.
 - g) The Committee shall have the power to fill any casual vacancy arising amongst members of the Committee but any so co-opted shall retain office until the next following Annual General Meeting and then shall be eligible for re-election.
8. The financial year of the Club shall commence on the 1st April in each year.
9. The annual subscription shall be set by the committee and will be reviewed from time to time.
10. The Committee may appoint annually a President and Vice-Presidents. They shall not by virtue only of such appointment become members of the Committee.
11. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in July of each year to transact the following business:
 - a) To receive and if approved to adopt a Statement of the Club's Accounts to the end of the proceeding year.
 - b) To fill vacancies on the Committee.
 - c) To appoint an independent external financial examiner
 - d) To deal with any special matter which the Committee may desire to bring to the members and to receive suggestions from the members of consideration by the Committee. Notice convening the General Meeting shall be sent to the members not less than 10 days before the meeting and shall specify the matters to be dealt with.
12. A special General Meeting may be called by the Committee, or by a request signed by not less than five members specifying the business to be discussed. The Secretary shall give all members 21 days notice of the date of such a meeting and shall specify in such notice matters to be dealt with at the meeting.
13. The Accounts of the Club shall be independently examined each year by the person appointed by the committee. The person should be experienced in accounting matters and not a member of the club.
14. Notice may be given to any member by sending it by post / email / fax to him at his address in the United Kingdom registered in the records of the Wittering Academy. If any member has no address in the United Kingdom such member shall not be entitled to receive any notice. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to or the non-receipt of a notice of a meeting by any member shall not invalidate the proceeding of the meeting.
15. These rules may be added to, repealed or amended by resolution at any Annual or Special General Meeting provided that no such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless carried by a majority of at least two-thirds of the members present and voting thereon, and provided that prior notice has been sent to all members stating the proposed amendments.