

Wittering Academy Riding Club

Constitution

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the club shall be:

- To promote participation in and provide facilities for the amateur sport of riding in the local area.
- To organise training, instructional meetings, competitive events and other activities to further the objectives.
- To be affiliated to the British Horse Society via British Riding Clubs and to support its aims
- To concern itself with any matters which benefit horses and riders in the district.

MEMBERSHIP

This shall consist of persons who have attained the age of 18 years on the 1st January of the current year (and for persons 17 years and younger for the junior section) and, having been admitted by the Committee, having duly paid the annual subscription due 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. However, junior representatives may be appointed to discuss matters relevant to them.

A member shall complete the application process as prescribed by the Committee. Membership of the club shall be open to anyone regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation or religion or other beliefs. The Committee may only refuse membership for good cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club into disrepute. Appeal against refusal may be made to the Club's committee. However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory and fair basis.

Annual membership can commence at any time during the year. Any member whose subscription is more than 3 months in arrears shall have his/her name removed or archived from the Membership list.

The Committee may refuse or remove membership of the Club any member who has breached any of the rules of the Club or who has, in the opinion of the Committee, 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 allow the member to appeal the decision to the members and provide an explanation of his/her conduct and allow a proper opportunity of answering the allegations against him/her.

ADMINISTRATION

All powers of management shall be vested in the adult Committee consisting of the Club chair, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and at least five other Committee members. Five shall form a quorum.

At the AGM each year members may elect or re-elect Committee members. Committee members who wish to retire must give the Committee one month's notice before the AGM to allow the Committee to communicate this with the members so a replacement can be elected at the AGM.

Resignation from the Committee due to work/personal reasons will be accepted at any time with one month's notice.

New Committee members may be co-opted onto the Committee to fill vacancies, to be formally proposed and elected at the following AGM.

The Club Chair, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall be elected annually by the Committee from amongst their number.

The decision of the Committee shall be final unless over-ruled at a General Meeting.

The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of the rules and for anything relating to the club.

The Committee may formulate byelaws for the detailed running of the Club and elect sub-committees for any special activities of the Club.

The financial year of the Club shall commence on 1st January each year.

The subscription shall be set annually by the Committee. The Club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.

The AGM shall be held each year to transact the following business:

1. To receive and approve a statement of the Club's accounts to the end of the preceding year.
2. To fill vacancies on the Committee.
3. To appoint an independent examiner.
4. To deal with any special matter which the Committee may desire to bring to the members and to receive suggestions from the members for consideration by the Committee. A minimum of fourteen days notice will be given to members of the date of the AGM and shall specify the matters to be dealt with.

A special General Meeting may be called by the Committee or by a request signed by not less than five members specifying the matters to be discussed. The Secretary will give all members ten days notice of the date of such a meeting and shall specify the matters to be dealt with.

The accounts of the Club shall be independently examined each year by the person appointed at the previous AGM. The person should be experienced in accounting matters and not a member of the Club.

These rules may be added to, amended or repealed by resolution at any Annual or Special General Meeting.

All surplus income or profits are to be reinvested in the Club. No surpluses or assets will be distributed to members or third parties.

In the event that dissolution of the Club should occur, the assets of the Club shall be first used to discharge all liabilities of the Club. Any remaining assets shall be given or transferred to another riding club , locally or nationally or should one not be found then BRC directly.

To be reviewed in 2024