

Rules & Constitution of Rockingham Forest Riding Club

The club shall be known as Rockingham Forest Riding Club or RFRC.

1. OBJECTS -

The Objects of the club shall be:

- a) To encourage riding as a sport and recreation, to promote good fellowship amongst riders and to improve and maintain the standards of riding and horsemanship.
- b) To organise instructional meetings, 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 horses 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.

2. MEMBERSHIP -

This shall consist of persons who have attained the age of eighteen years on 1st January in the current year and juniors under eighteen on 1st January in the current year and having paid the due subscription for the current period. 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. This committee, through the chairman of said committee, may make recommendations to the adult committee for their consideration. Honorary membership may be conferred by the committee upon any persons deemed by them to have rendered notable service to the club.

The annual subscription shall be payable on the first day of the clubs financial year. Any members whose subscriptions is more than three months in arrears shall have their name removed from the membership list after written notice to the effect has been sent by either letter or email. Any member joining the club on or after 1st January shall be deemed to have paid their subscription for the ensuing year. Any member joining between 1st November – 31st December shall be deemed to have paid for the forthcoming year.

The committee may expel from membership of the club any member who has wilfully disobeyed 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 interests of the club, provided that before expelling them the committee shall call upon them for an explanation of their conduct and shall hear what they may wish to urge in their defence.

3. ADMINISTRATION -

- a) All powers of management shall be vested in a committee consisting of the Chairman, Honorary secretary, Honorary Treasurer and up to thirteen other committee members, five shall for a quorum.
- b) At the Annual General Meeting each year, one third of the members of the committee shall retire, the members to retire being those who have been longest in office and as between those who have been in office for the same length of time the members to retire shall be determined by lot. Retiring members shall be eligible for re-election.
- c) The decision of the committee shall be final unless overruled at a General Meeting.
- d) The committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of the rules or for anything relating to the club not provided therein and their decision shall be final and binding on the members.
- e) The committee may formulate by-laws for the detailed running of the club and elect sub-committees for any special activities of the club which the committee may authorise.
- f) The committee shall have the power to fill any casual vacancy arising among the members of the committee, but any person so co-opted shall retain office only until the next following Annual General Meeting and shall then be eligible for re-election.

- g) Any member standing down should arrange a handover meeting with the new appropriate committee member.

The financial year of the club shall commence on 01 November in each year.

The annual subscription shall be £25 or such other sum as shall from time to time be determined by the committee.

The committee may appoint a President and Vice-President. These shall not by virtue only of such appointment become members of the committee.

The annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of November or December in each year to transact the following business:

- a) To receive and if approved, to adopt a statement of the clubs accounts to the end of the proceeding year.
- b) To fill vacancies on the committee.
- c) To appoint an Auditor.
- d) To deal with any special matter which the committee may desire to bring before the members and to receive suggestions from the members for consideration by the committee. Notice convening the General Meeting shall be sent to the members not less than thirty one days before the meeting 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 business to be discussed. The secretary shall give all members ten days notice of the date of such meeting and shall specify in such notice matters to be dealt with at such meeting.

The accounts of the club shall be audited each year by the person appointed at the previous annual general meeting. The person should be experienced in accounting matters and not a member of the club.

Notice may be given to any members by sending it by post or email, to their address in the UK registered in the records of the club. If any member has no address, 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 proceedings of that meeting.

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 2/3rds of the members present and voting thereon and provided that prior notice has been sent to all members stating the proposed amendment.

Members shall be correctly turned out at all mounted club events. Hard hats must be worn to at least the minimum standard with harness properly adjusted and fastened. Hats marked EN1384, PAS015:1998, ASTM F1163, BSEN14572:2005 or SEI. American standard SNELL E2001, ASTM 95, SNZ838 1998. Skullcap has must be worn with a silk.

The club, its committee or persons acting on their behalf shall not be held responsible for any accident or injury to any person or property howsoever caused.

The maximum term of any chairman shall be 2 years.

Each member must help or provide a helper for at least one competition per year.

In the event of the club being disbanded any funds will be divided between the Air Ambulance and Riding for the disabled.