



West Oxfordshire Riding Club
Affiliated to British Riding Club of Great Britain
Officers of the club:
Chairman: Abi Whelan
Secretary: Sarah Cotton
Treasurer: Sarah Cotton

CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF WEST OXFORDSHIRE RIDING CLUB

1. TITLE

The Club (herein after called The Club) shall be known as The West Oxfordshire Riding Club

2. OBJECTS

The objects of The Club shall be:

- (a) To encourage riding as a sport and recreation, to promote good sportsmanship amongst riders and to improve and maintain the standard of riding and horsemanship.
- (b) To organise instructional meetings lectures and competitive events and other such 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 concern itself with any object which will benefit the horse and horse user in the district of The Club.
- (e) To support local and national charities as selected annually at each AGM by the members attending the same.

3 MEMBERSHIP

Shall consist of persons who have attained the age of eighteen years on the first of January in the year that they join (and persons aged eighteen and under if a junior section is formed) and having been accepted by the Committee and 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 The Club. However The Club may appoint a Junior Committee to discuss matters relevant to junior membership.** This Junior Committee through the Chairman of the said committee may make recommendations to the Adult Committee for its consideration.

The annual subscription shall become payable on the first day of the Club's financial year. Any member who is more than one month in arrears shall have his or her name removed from the Membership List after written notice has been sent to him or her. Any member joining The Club on or after 1st November in any year shall be deemed to have paid his or her subscription for the ensuing year.

The Committee may expel from the 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 of or prejudicial to the interest of The Club provided that before expelling him or her the Committee shall call upon him or her to provide an explanation of his or her conduct. The Committee shall provide a proper opportunity for him or her to provide such explanation.

ADMINISTRATION**(1) The Committee**

- (a) All powers of management shall be vested in the Adult Committee which shall consist of Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and seven other Committee members. It shall require six members to form a quorum.
- (b) The Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall be elected annually by The Committee from amongst their number.
- (c) The decisions of The Committee shall in all cases 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 all matters relating to The Club not provided therein and the decision of The Committee shall be final and binding on all members.
- (e) The Committee shall have the power to fill any casual vacancy arising amongst members of The Committee but any person so co-opted shall retain office only until the next following AGM and shall be eligible for re-election.
- (f) The Committee shall in the name of The Club (if not already opened) open and maintain an account at a major high street bank or/and building society (hereinafter referred to as The Bank) for the purposes of administering the funds of The Club. On the approval of The Bank, The Committee will hold ONE debit card for the purposes of administering the funds of The Club. This card will be held by the Chairman or such other Committee member as the Chairman may nominate from time to time. The account will require ONE of the following Authorised Signatories - Chairman, Honorary Secretary or Honorary Treasurer. The Committee shall set up an account with a recognised electronic payment management system which shall be administered and maintained for the benefit of The Club.
- (g) The Committee may appoint annually a President. They shall not by virtue only of such appointment become members of The Committee.
- (h) In the event of The Club being disbanded any funds remaining after the payment of creditors shall be evenly distributed between the charities that are being supported by The Club at the time of such disbandment.

(2) The financial year of The Club shall commence on 1st January in each year.

(3) Annual subscriptions shall be as follows:

£20 for riding seniors

£18 for riding juniors

£10 for non-riders

£40 for families of no more than four persons

These fees take into account that members are receiving their newsletter via email, should they wish to receive it via post there will be an additional charge of £5.00 per Membership

In joining The Club members are agreeing to provide help at an event on one day as a minimum during the membership year and in the event that the membership is for a family the provision will be required to be fulfilled by one family member only. The aforementioned help will be for a minimum of 5 hours.

- (4) The AGM shall be held in November/December in 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 preceding 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 to the members and to receive suggestions from the members for consideration by The Committee. Notice convening the AGM shall be sent to the members not less than 30 days before the meeting and shall specify the matters to be dealt with.
- (5) 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 Honorary Secretary shall give all members 10 days notice of the date of such meeting and shall specify in such notice matters to be dealt with at the said General Meeting.
- (6) The Accounts of The Club shall be audited each year by the person or company appointed at the previous AGM. The person or company should be experienced in accounting matters and not a member of The Club.
- (7) Notice may be given to any member by sending it by electronic mail or post to him or her at the United Kingdom address registered in the records of The Club. If the 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 proceedings of the meeting.
- (8) These rules may be added to repealed or amended by resolution at any Annual or other General Meeting provided that no such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless carried by a majority of two thirds of the members present and voting thereon and provided also that prior notice has been sent to all members stating the proposed amendment.
- (9) Members shall be correctly turned out at all mounted club events. Hard hats must be worn at all times when mounted and must comply with British Riding Clubs standards as may be amended from time to time. Skull caps only are to be worn on all cross country events whether training or competitive.
- (10) Body protectors must be worn when participating in any form of cross country such body protectors must comply with British Riding Club standards as may be amended from time to time.
- (11) In the event of any member applying for competitions and or training organised by The Committee money will not be refunded unless a vet or doctors certificate is issued no more than seven days prior to the event or seven days notice of withdrawal is given.
- (12) If a horse competes as HC in any discipline at any one event then that horse remains HC for that discipline throughout the day.

ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE