

WIMBORNE & DISTRICT RIDING CLUB

CONSTITUTION, RULES & REGULATIONS

1. The Club shall be known as the Wimborne & District Riding Club
 2. The aims of the Club shall be to encourage riding for sport & recreation; to promote good fellowship amongst riders & non-riders; and to improve & maintain the standard of horsemanship
 3. To concern itself with the benefit of horses and horse users in the district
 4. To organise competitive and non-competitive riding events, instructional meetings, lectures and other activities
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5. **MEMBERSHIP.** ADULT membership is open to persons who have attained the age of sixteen years and have paid the subscription for the current year. JUNIOR membership is open to children aged between three and fifteen years, whose parent/guardian is an adult member of the Club. HONORARY membership may be conferred by a unanimous vote of the Committee on an adult member for outstanding service to the Club. JUNIOR members shall not be voting members of the Club.
 6. **SUBSCRIPTIONS.** The annual subscription shall be payable on the first day of January each year. Any member whose subscription renewal has not been received by the membership secretary by February 28th shall have his/her name removed from the membership list. Any member joining the Club on/after September 1st in any year shall be deemed to have paid his/her subscription for the ensuing year
 7. The Committee shall have full powers to expel, from the membership of the Club, any member who has wilfully disobeyed any of the rules of the Club or been guilty of any conduct prejudicial to the interests of the Club, provided that before expelling him/her, the Committee shall call upon the member for an explanation of the unsatisfactory conduct, and shall hear what the member may wish to say in defence
 8. The Committee shall have the power to accept or reject any application for membership without giving a reason
 9. **MEMBERSHIP FEES.** The membership fee shall be determined annually by the Committee prior to the AGM. The classes available will be SINGLE ADULT, JOINT ADULT (two persons from the same family living at the same address) and JUNIOR (children of adult members).
 10. All powers of management shall be vested in the Committee, the number of which to be determined by the Committee and proportionate to the Club membership. The Committee shall not consist of less than 4 members – including the Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer and shall have the power to co-opt extra members, should they deem it necessary – provided that any person so co-opted shall retain office only until the following AGM and shall then be eligible for re-election by Club members
 11. The chairman shall be elected annually by the members of the Club at the AGM. The Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall be elected annually and may stand indefinitely
 12. The Committee will be elected each year at the AGM and retiring members shall be eligible for re-election. No member may serve longer than 5 consecutive years provided that there is a full Committee
 13. The decision of the Committee shall be final unless overruled at a General Meeting

14. The committee may elect Sub-Committees for any special activities of the Club which the committee may authorise
15. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of November each year, the date to be advertised in the newsletter.
16. A Special General Meeting may be called by the committee, or by the request in writing by not less than 5 members, specifying the business to be discussed. Such notice to be given to the Chairman and to be convened at the earliest possible date ensuring that due notice has been given to all members. The non-receipt of notice of a meeting by a member shall not invalidate the proceedings of that meeting
17. The accounts of the Club shall be audited each year by an approved accountant
18. The Club, its Committee or any person acting on its behalf shall not be held responsible for any accident, loss or illness to any horse, owner, rider, spectator or any other person or property whatsoever, whether caused by their negligence, breach of contract or in any way whatsoever, except only in the case of death or personal injury caused by the negligence of the Club, its Committee or any person for whom they are responsible
19. No horse/pony under 4 years of age to ridden at any Club event
20. Hard hats to currently approved safety standard (presently BSI Standard EN1384/BSEN1384 or PAS 015) with harnesses correctly fastened to be worn at all ridden Club activities. Suitable footwear specifically designed for riding to be worn at all mounted club activities
21. All cups and challenge trophies are Club assets and may not be won outright. Failure to return trophies by the date specified will result in that competitor being disqualified from holding any further trophies awarded by the Club
22. The rules and format of the Club may be added to, appealed 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 those members present and voting thereon, and provided that prior notice has been sent to all members stating the proposed amendment
23. The organiser of any event may in his/her absolute discretion require any competitor to leave the event and no refund of entry fee shall be payable
24. The Club may only be wound up by a resolution passed at a 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 those members present and voting thereon, and provided that prior notice has been sent to all members stating the proposed and giving not less than two weeks notice of the said General Meeting
25. In the event of a resolution being passed to wind up the Club in accordance with rule 24, the Committee members for the time being shall forthwith make suitable arrangements for the disposal of all the Club's assets and proceeds there from, less any legal costs of disposal, shall be vested in a Charity approved by the said Committee.