

MEON RIDING CLUB

CONSTITUTION

The Club shall be known as 'The Meon Riding Club'

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

1. OBJECTIVES

- a. The Club shall be a non-profit making organisation. Any surplus income or gains shall be reinvested in the Club.
- b. To promote riding as a sport and recreation; to encourage good fellowship amongst riders; to improve and maintain the standard of riding and horsemanship.
- c. To organise training at suitable local facilities, lectures and competitive events and other activities deemed to further the objectives.
- d. To be affiliated to the British Horse Society through British Riding Clubs and to support and co-operate with recognised equine organisations.
- e. To investigate the subject of bridle tracks and rights-of-way, with a view to opening those that have been closed, and maintaining and more closely defining those that are in existence.
- f. To concern itself with any objectives which will benefit the horse and horse user in the district.

2. MEMBERSHIP

- a. Full members shall be persons who have attained the age of 18 years, have been accepted by the committee and have paid the subscription for the current year.
- b. Non-riding membership shall be based on full membership, but these members will not be entitled to take advantage of training provided by the Club or to reduced entry fees at Club competitions. These members shall not be eligible to represent the Club in any riding competitions.
- c. Honorary membership may be conferred by the Committee upon any persons deemed by them to have rendered notable service to the Club.
- d. Temporary membership may be granted at the discretion of the Committee.
- e. Anyone wishing to become a member shall complete an application form, to be forwarded to the Honorary Secretary of the Club.
- f. The Committee may expel from membership of the Club any member who has wilfully disobeyed any regulations 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.
- g. Any person who is refused membership or has their membership terminated by the Committee shall have the right of appeal.

3. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- a. The financial year of the Club shall commence on 1 April each year.
- b. The annual subscription shall be payable on the first day of the Club's financial year
- c. The annual subscription for full membership shall be £27.50. Non-riding members shall pay £12.50. These subscription rates shall be reviewed annually and agreed at the AGM.
- d. When two or more full members live at the same address, the second and subsequent subscriptions may be reduced by an amount decided by the Committee.

4. THE COMMITTEE

- a. All powers of management shall be vested in a Committee consisting of the Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and eight committee members. Six shall form a quorum.
- b. At the Annual General Meeting each year, the members of the Club will elect the Committee. Retiring members shall be eligible for re-election.
- c. The Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall be elected annually by the Committee from amongst their number.
- d. The decision of the Committee shall be final, unless over-ruled by a General Meeting.

- e. The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of the Constitution and Regulations, or of anything relating to the Club not provided herein, and its decision shall be final and binding on the members.
- f. The Committee may formulate bye-laws for the detailed running of the Club, and appoint sub-committees for any special activities of the Club which it authorises.
- g. The Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy occurring on the Committee. Any person so co-opted shall retain office only until the next Annual General Meeting, and shall then be eligible for election.
- h. The Committee may appoint annually a President and Vice-President. These shall not by virtue only of these appointments become members of the Committee.

5. GENERAL MEETINGS (ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS/SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS)

- a. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of October in each year to transact the following business:
 - i. To receive and, if approved, to adopt a Statement of the Club's Accounts to the end of the preceding financial year. If the Statement of Accounts fails to be adopted at an AGM, or if required by members present voting at an AGM, the accounts will be submitted for inspection by an Independent Examiner.
 - ii. To fill the vacancies on the Committee.
 - iii. To deal with any matter which the Committee may desire to bring before the members, and to receive suggestions from members for consideration by the Committee. Notice convening the General Meeting shall be sent to members not less than fourteen days before the meeting, and shall specify the matters to be dealt with.
- b. 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 a meeting and shall specify in such notice matters to be dealt with at such meeting. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of a notice by any member shall not invalidate the proceeding of that meeting.
- c. This Constitution may be added to, or amended by resolutions at any Annual or Special General Meeting, providing 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 amendment.
- d. If the Committee fails to maintain the usual activities of the Club over a six month period, a Special General Meeting shall be called to decide the future of the Club. If this is not done by the Committee, or the membership acting under Section 5b, a suitable person may be appointed by the Area 17 Liaison Committee or the British Riding Clubs' Head Office to act on their behalf.

6. DISSOLUTION

- a. A resolution to dissolve the Club shall only be proposed at a General Meeting and shall be carried by a majority of at least three-quarters of the members present and entitled to vote. A specific date for the dissolution shall be included in the resolution.
- b. The dissolution shall take effect from the date specified in the resolution and the members of the Committee shall be responsible for the winding-up of the assets and liabilities of the Club.
- c. Any property remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the Club will be given to another registered Community Amateur Sports Club, a registered charity or Area 17 within British Riding Clubs for use by them for related community sports.

Club Constitution amended and agreed at the AGM on 23 October 2014.

Amendment made 11 January 2017 –removed option under 3b for 15 months' membership to be offered to those joining from 1 January.