

RULES AND CONSTITUTION OF ORKNEY RIDING CLUB

1. TITLE

The Club shall be known as 'The Orkney Riding Club'.

2. 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 standard of riding and horsemanship.
- b) To organise instructional meetings, lectures and competitive events and other activities deemed to further the Objects.
- c) To be affiliated to the British Riding Clubs and to support and cooperate with recognised organisations interested in the breeding and use of all breeds and types of horse and ponies.
- d) 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 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.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- a) This shall consist of persons who have attained the age of eighteen in the current year and have a current Orkney Riding Club membership, having paid the due subscription through the British Riding Club online portal. Honorary membership may be conferred by the Committee upon any persons deemed by them to have rendered notable service to the Club.
- b) Anyone wishing to become a member shall join online through the British Riding Club online portal. This can be found at <https://britishridingclubs.sport80.com/>. The membership portal will collect the member's information and the membership fee, which will be sent on automatically to the Orkney Riding Club. Any member who is not able to access the online portal should contact the Secretary to obtain assistance.
- c) The annual subscription shall be due on the 12 month anniversary of commencing membership through the online portal. The British Riding Club portal will mark a member's membership as 'lapsed' if payment is not received at the renewal date.
- d) 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 hear what they may wish to urge in their defence.

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4. ADMINISTRATION - The Committee

- a) All powers of management shall be vested in the adult Committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and eight other Committee members. Five shall form 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 the 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 Chairman, Vice Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall be elected annually by the Committee from among their number.
- d) The decision of the Committee shall be final.
- e) 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.
- f) The Committee may formulate bye-laws for the detailed running of the Club and elect sub-committees for any special activities of the Club which the Committee may authorise.
- g) The Committee shall have the power to fill any casual vacancy arising among members of the Committee, but any person co-opted shall retain office only until the next following Annual General Meeting and then shall be eligible for re-election.
- h) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt additional members onto the Club Committee if they deem it necessary to help with the business or activities of the Club, but any person co-opted shall retain office only until the next following Annual General Meeting and then shall be eligible for re-election.

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

6. The annual subscription shall be £30 or other such sum as shall from time to time be determined by the Committee. The Committee may agree to a discounted membership to those members on the committee who do not participate in any ridden activities provided by the club, but do however regularly help on the ground at club events.

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

8. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of January or February 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 before the members and to receive suggestions from members for consideration by the Committee. Notice convening the Annual General Meeting shall be sent to the members not less than 14 days before the meeting and shall specify the matters to be dealt with.

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9. A Special General Meeting may be called by the Committee, or by a request signed by not less than 5 members specifying the business to be discussed. The Secretary shall give all members 10 days' notice of the date of such a meeting and shall specify in such notice the matters to be dealt with at such meeting.
10. The Accounts of the Club shall be audited each year by the person appointed at the previous Annual General Meeting.
11. Notice may be given to any member by electronic communication, sent to the member using the details registered in the records of the Club. 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.
12. 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 two-thirds of the members present and voting thereon, and provided that prior notice has been sent to all members stating the proposed amendment.
13. 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.
14. Members should be correctly turned out at all Club events. Current standard hard hats must be worn.

Adopted and Approved at AGM on 12/12/19

To be Amended and Approved at AGM on 12/02/24