

# Constitution

## Rules and constitution of the Vale of Usk Riding Club

1. TITLE: The club shall be known as The Vale of Usk Riding Club (the **Club**).
2. OBJECTS – The objectives 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 Horse Society and cooperate 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 opening those that have been closed and maintaining and more clearly defining those that are in existence.
  - (e) To concern itself with any object that will benefit the horse and horse user in the district.
3. MEMBERSHIP  
This shall consist of persons who have attained the age of eighteen years and having paid the due subscription for the current period. Honorary membership may be conferred by the Committee upon any persons deemed to them to have rendered notable service to the Club.
4. A member shall complete the application form as prescribed by the Committee. Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport on application regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs. The Committee may refuse membership only for good cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or the sport into disrepute. Appeal against refusal may be made to the members. However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.
5. The annual subscription shall be payable on the first of January of each calendar year. Any member whose subscription is more than three months in arrears shall have his or her name removed from the membership list after written notice to the effect has been sent to him or her.
6. 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 him/her, the Committee shall call upon him/her for an explanation of his/her conduct and shall hear what he/she may wish to urge in her/his defence.
7. ADMINISTRATION – the Committee

- (a) All powers of management shall be vested in the committee, consisting of the Chairman, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer and ten other committee members (the **Committee**). Four shall form a quorum.
  - (b) A committee member may retire at any time upon written notice to the Committee.
  - (c) The Chairman, Hon Secretary and Hon Treasurer shall be elected annually by the Committee from among their number.
  - (d) The decision of the Committee shall be final unless over-ruled at a General Meeting.
  - (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 members.
  - (f) 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.
  - (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 until the next following Annual General Meeting and then shall be eligible for re-election.
8. The financial year of the club shall commence on 1<sup>st</sup> October each year.
9. The annual subscription shall be £30 for full membership (£15 Social Membership and £25 for family membership (2 people at same address)) or such other sum as from time to time be determined by the Committee. Membership runs from 1<sup>st</sup> January – 31 December. A half year subscription running from 1 July to 31 December shall be £15 for full membership. The Club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.
10. The Committee may appoint annually a President and Vice-President. These shall not by virtue only of such appointment become members of the Committee.
11. The AGM shall be held in the month of November 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 the members for consideration by the Committee. Notice convening the General Meeting shall be sent to members not less than 10 days before the meeting and shall specify the matters to be dealt with.
12. 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 10 days' notice of the date of such a meeting and shall specify in such notice matters to be dealt with at such meeting.
13. The Accounts of the Club shall be audited each year by the person appointed at the previous AGM.

14. Notice may be given to any member by sending it by email to him/her to his/her email address or if specifically requested by post to any postal address in the UK registered in the records of the Club. If any member has no address in the UK such member shall not be entitled to receive any notice by post. 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.
15. 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 of the members present and voting thereon and provided that prior notice has been sent to all members stating the proposed amendment.
16. Members shall be correctly turned out at all Club events. Any protective clothing required by current British Riding Clubs rules must be worn. (See current BRC Rulebook)
17. All surplus income or profits are to be reinvested in the Club. No surpluses or assets will be distributed to members or third parties.
18. In the event that dissolution of the Club shall occur, the assets of the Club shall be used first to discharge all liabilities of the Club and the remaining assets shall be given or transferred to another registered CASC, a registered charity or the sport's governing body for use by them in related community sports.