



STANDARD RULES AND CONSTITUTION OF MID SUSSEX RIDING CLUB

1. TITLE

The Club shall be known as the Mid Sussex Riding Club

2. OBJECTS

The objects of the Club shall be:

- (a) To promote participation in and provide facilities for the amateur sport of riding in Mid Sussex
- (b) 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.
- (c) To organise instructional meetings, lectures and competitive events and other activities to further the objects.
- (d) 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.
- (e) To investigate the subject of bridle tracks and rights of way with a view to opposing those that have been closed and maintaining and more clearly defining those that are in existence.
- (f) To concern itself with any object which 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 persons aged seventeen years and under if a junior section is formed) and, having been accepted by the Committee, have 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 any Riding Club. However, Clubs with a junior membership may appoint a Junior Committee to discuss matters relevant to the junior membership. This Committee, through the Chairman of said Committee, may make recommendations to the Adult Committee for their consideration.

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.

The annual subscription shall be payable on the first day of the Club's financial 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. Any member joining the club on or after 1st November shall be deemed to have paid his or her subscription for the ensuing year.

The Committee may expel from 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 have been guilty of any conduct derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interest of the Club, provided that before expelling him or her the Committee shall allow the member to appeal the decision to the members and provide an explanation of his/her conduct and allow a proper opportunity of answering the allegations against him/her.

4. SPORTS EQUITY

a. The club is committed to ensuring that equity is incorporated across all aspects of its development. In doing so it acknowledges and adopts the following Sport England definition of sports equity:

Sports equity is about fairness in sport, equality of access, recognising inequalities and taking steps to address them. It is about changing the culture and structure of sport to ensure it becomes equally accessible to everyone in society.

- b. The club respects the rights, dignity and worth of every person and will treat everyone equally within the context of their sport, regardless of age, ability, gender, race, ethnicity, religious belief, sexuality or social/economic status.
- c. The club is committed to everyone having the right to enjoy their sport in an environment free from threat of intimidation, harassment and abuse.
- d. All club members have a responsibility to oppose discriminatory behaviour and promote equality of opportunity.
- e. The club will deal with any incidence of discriminatory behaviour seriously, according to club disciplinary procedures.

5. 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 other Committee members. Three 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 office. Those who have been in office for the same length of time shall determine retiring members by lot. 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 at a General Meeting.
 - (e) The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of the rules and 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 subcommittees 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 amongst members of the Committee, but any person so co-opted shall retain office only until the next following Annual General Meeting and then shall be eligible for re-election.
- 6.** The financial year of the Club shall commence on the 1st of January each year.
- 7.** The annual subscription shall be £29.00 (twenty nine) or such other sum as shall from time to time be determined by the Committee. The Club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.
- 8.** The Committee may appoint annually a President and Vice-Presidents. They shall not by virtue only of such appointment become members of the Committee.
- 9.** The Annual General Meeting shall be held in February/March of 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 a financial representative for ratification of Club accounts
 - (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 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.
- 10.** A special General Meeting may be called by the Committee, or by a request signed by not less than three 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 the meeting.
- 11.** The Accounts of the Club shall be verified each year by the person appointed at the previous Annual General Meeting. Accounts must be verified by an independent professional.
- 12.** Notice may be given to any member by sending it by post to him at his address in the United Kingdom registered in the records of the Club. If any 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.
- 13.** 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.
- 14.** 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)

15. All surplus income or profits are to be reinvested in the Club. No surpluses or assets will be distributed to members or third parties.

16. 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.

DECLARATION

Mid Sussex Riding Club hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members.

Name _____ Position. Chairperson

Sign _____ Date. _____

Name _____ Position. Committee Member

Sign _____ Date. _____