

# **BROMYARD & DISTRICT RIDING CLUB**

## **RULES AND CONSTITUTION**

### **1 TITLE**

“The Bromyard and District Riding Club” (hereinafter referred to as “the Club”).

### **2 OBJECTIVES**

The Objectives of the Club are:

- (i) To encourage riding horses as a sport and recreation, to promote good fellowship amongst riders and to improve and maintain the standard of riding and horsemanship.
- (ii) To organise instructional meetings, lectures and competitive events and other activities deemed to further the objectives.
- (iii) To be affiliated to the British Horse Society and to support and co-operate with recognised organisations, interests in the breeding and use of all breeds and types of horses and ponies.
- (iv) To investigate the subject of bridle tracks and rights of way with a view to opening those that have been closed and maintaining the more clearly defining those that are in existence.
- (v) To concern itself with anything which may benefit the horse, or the horse user, in the district.

### **3 MEMBERSHIP**

(i) To be or become a Senior Member a person shall have attained the age of at least eighteen years on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the respective year. Any person who has not attained that age may become a Junior Member. Additionally and in either case applications for Membership must be approved by the Committee and be accompanied by the membership subscription relevant to the calendar year in question.

(ii) Honorary Membership may be conferred by the Committee upon any person deemed by it to have rendered notable service to the Club.

(iii) 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, been guilty of any conduct likely to bring the Club into disrepute or to be prejudicial to best its interests provided always that before such expulsion the Committee shall provide that Member with a full and proper opportunity to answer the allegation or allegations made.

### **4 MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION**

The annual subscription shall be payable on the first day of the Club's accounting period, which is 1<sup>st</sup> January in any year or, in the case of those applying for membership, when making the membership application.

## 5 ADMINISTRATION

### (i) The Committee

a/ All powers of management shall be vested in the Committee which shall consist of at least eight members, being a Chairman, an Honorary Secretary, an Honorary Treasurer and five other Members. Subject to this the Committee may co-opt additional persons to its membership. The maximum permissible size of the Committee is eleven members.

b/ The Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall be elected annually and at the beginning of the year by the Committee and from among its number.

c/ At the Annual General Meeting each year the three longest serving members on the Committee will retire. Retiring members shall be eligible to stand for re-election.

d/ The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of these Rules and for anything else relating to the Club not provided for within them and its decision is final and binding upon Members unless otherwise resolved by the Club in general meeting.

e/ The Committee may delegate its authority to a sub-committee of its choosing and in respect of any activity of the Club.

f/ The Committee may formulate and apply additional rules for the detailed running of the Club. Such rules must be approved at the next General Meeting by not less than two thirds of those voting thereat either in person or by proxy.

g/ The Committee shall have the power to fill any casual vacancy arising but any person so co-opted shall retain office only until the next following Annual General Meeting and then shall be required to stand for election. This Rule is without prejudice to Rule 5(i)c.

h/ The Committee shall consider and, if thought fit, approve the annual financial statements of the Club.

i/ Any Member wishing to become a Committee member must be proposed by another Member and seconded by another one and his or her name and address must be forwarded to the Honorary Secretary of the Club on the appropriate Nomination Form not less than two days before the date of the next following General Meeting.

j/ The Committee may appoint annually a President or Vice-Presidents. Neither shall by virtue only of such appointment become members of the Committee.

### (ii) Subscriptions, and accounting

a/ The annual subscription shall be determined by the Committee and confirmed by the Club in General Meeting

b/ The Accounting Period of the Club shall run from 1<sup>st</sup> January to and including 31<sup>st</sup> December in each year.

c/ The Financial Statements of the Club shall be examined each year by the person appointed at the previous Annual General Meeting to act as reporting accountant.

## **6 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

(i) The Annual General Meeting shall be held in each year and not later than 31<sup>st</sup> March in the year to transact the following business:

- (a) To receive the Club's Financial Statements for the preceding year.
- (b) To elect or re-elect, as appropriate, Members of the Committee.
- (c) To appoint a reporting accountant, who may not be a Member of the Club.
- (d) To agree the amount of the annual subscription.
- (e) To deal with any special matter which the Committee may desire to bring to the attention of the Members and to receive suggestions from the Members for consideration by the Committee.
- (f) At the Annual General Meeting there must be at least one-third of the membership in attendance either in person or by proxy to pass resolutions.

(ii) Notice convening the Annual General Meeting shall be sent to the Members not less than 21 clear days before the date of it and shall specify matters to be dealt with.

(iii) A Special General Meeting may be called by the Committee, and the Committee shall be required to call one upon receipt of a requisition signed by not less than five Members which notice must specify the matter to be discussed.

(iv) Notice convening a Special General Meeting shall be sent to the Members not less than 10 clear days before the date of it and shall specify matters to be dealt with.

(v) Notice may be given to any Member by sending it by post to his or her address in the United Kingdom or by email disclosed 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 non-receipt of a notice of a meeting by any Member shall not invalidate the proceedings of that meeting.

(vi) Without prejudice to the provisions of Rule 7(i) a resolution shall not be approved unless it is so by at least one half of the Members voting thereat either in person or by proxy.

(vii) A Member may appoint a proxy to attend an Annual General Meeting and to vote thereat on his or her behalf. A proxy must be a Member of the Club. Written notice appointing a proxy must be delivered to the Honorary Secretary not less than forty eight hours before the meeting concerned. The appointment of a proxy does not prevent a Member attending the meeting and voting thereat instead of the proxy.

**7 GENERAL**

(i) These rules may be added to, replaced or amended by resolution at any Annual or Special General Meeting provided that no such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless approved by at least two-thirds of the Members present and voting thereat either in person or by proxy and provided that prior notice has been sent to all Members stating the proposed amendment and the reason for it.

(ii) The Club, its Committee or persons acting on their behalf shall not be held responsible for any accident or injury to any Member, in connection with the activities of the Club.

(iii) Members should be correctly turned out at all Club events. Hard hats must be worn when mounted and must be to the minimum standard, with a harness properly adjusted and fastened. Hats must be marked with at least one of the following: PAS015 (2011), VG1 01.040 (2014-12), ASTM F1163 (2004a or 04a onwards), SNELL E2016, AS/NZS 3838 (2006 onwards), EN1384: 2023. Skullcap hats must be worn with a silk. These hat standards must also have other marks included (BSI Kitemark, SEI mark etc). Members must check the latest standards on the British Riding Clubs website.

**8 DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB**

If, at a General Meeting of the Club, it is decided, by a ballot of two thirds of those voting either in person or by proxy that the Club should be disbanded, then its assets, such as jumps, should be sold and the monies so realised be paid into the Club's bank account. Such balance as may remain after the payment of all due debts shall then be placed on Deposit for a period of three years and the Manager of the Club's bank shall act as Trustee of those funds. If during the three years, it is decided to re-form the Club, the new Committee formed as a result shall be entitled to appropriate these funds. If, at the end of the three years, the Club has not reformed then two of the three people who were Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer at the time of dissolution shall reclaim the monies from the Bank and donate it to the Charity known as the Brook Hospital for Sick Horses in Cairo. Under no circumstances may the assets of the Club be distributed otherwise.

Signed ..... dated .....  
CHAIRMAN

Signed ..... dated .....  
CLUB SECRETARY