

WELLINGTON RIDING CLUB CONSTITUTION

The Club shall be known as '**The Wellington 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, lectures and competitive events and other activities within the Wellington Riding facilities 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.
- g. Wellington Riding, a Division of Wellington Country Park Limited, offers its support to The Wellington Riding Club. Wellington Riding provides, to the newly formed Wellington Riding Club, use of its facilities enabling the promotion and running of events, its instantly recognizable brand, its honoured reputation as a Centre of Excellence with its many years of promoting the welfare of horses and enjoyment of horse riding, across all disciplines, at all levels.

In accepting this support, an agreed undertaking is made by the Committee and its Members, to act at all times, only in the best interests of Wellington Country Park Limited and all of its associates and divisions namely, but not limited to, Wellington Riding, Stratfield Saye Estate and the Wellesley Family. No actions or decisions must be undertaken which would, in any way, damage their reputations or business interests.

The Committee agrees, during the course of the Riding Club's business of organizing events, clinics and training sessions, being held at Wellington Riding, to obtain final authorisation from Wellington Riding's Chief Instructor/Operations Manager. Each nominated Committee member agrees to this without right of recourse.

As with all points within our Constitutions, any members' adverse actions which may incite damage or disrepute will be dealt with under item 2(g) of our Constitution.

2. MEMBERSHIP

- a. Full Adult 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. Full Junior Members shall be persons who are under the age of 18 years, have been accepted by the Committee and have paid the subscription for the current year.
- c. Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport of application regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other benefits.
- d. 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.
- e. Honorary membership may be conferred by the Committee upon any persons deemed by them to have rendered notable service to the Club.

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- f. Anyone wishing to become a member shall complete an application form, to be forwarded to the Honorary Secretary of the Club.
- g. 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 or that of Wellington Riding.
- h. Any person who is refused membership or has their membership terminated by the Committee shall have the right of appeal.
- i. Members shall be correctly turned out at all mounted club events. Hard hats must be worn to at least the minimum standard with harness property adjusted and fastened.
- j. Members should acquaint themselves with Wellington Riding's Codes of Conduct which are readily available.

3. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- a. The financial year of the Club will be a calendar year with year one being a shorter accounting year.
- b. The annual subscription shall be payable on the first day of the Club's financial year.
- c. The annual subscription for Full Adult or Full Junior Membership shall be £25.00 per year. Non-riding members shall pay £12.50 per year. These subscription rates shall be reviewed annually and agreed at the AGM.

4. NON-DISTRIBUTION TO MEMBERS

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

5. THE COMMITTEE

- a. All powers of management shall be vested in a Committee consisting of the Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and eleven committee members. Eight 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. Wellington Riding Club's Recruitment Policy is readily available.
- 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.
- i. Everyone's role should include attending social events, where possible, and at those events be part of the organisation team. Committee members should also volunteer to attend at least one event throughout the calendar.
- j. Where possible all Committee Members should have equal roles in terms of time.
- k. Wellington Riding Club's Codes of Conduct are readily available for Participants, Volunteers, Officials and Coaches.

6. EXPENSES

- a. All expenses should be agreed through the committee.
- b. No spend decision should be made without the permission of the Treasurer.
- b. Committee Members that are signatories are:-

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- i. Treasurer
- ii. Chair
- iii. Secretary

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

- a. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of January / February 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 6 Liaison Committee or the British Riding Clubs' Head Office to act on their behalf.

8. CLUB MEMBERS WELFARE

a. First Aid/Child Protection

- (i) There must be a qualified 1st Aider at all training/events. This maybe the instructor if a 1st aid certificate is held.
- (ii) A set of accident forms must be in attendance at each WRC event including all training. These must be completed in the event of an accident or fall. These forms are then to be submitted to the Welfare Officer at each committee meeting where they will then be held centrally.
- (iii) Any trainings where juniors are in attendance should, where possible, have a committee member/instructor with a current child protection certificate.
- (iii) At Welfare Officer must be appointed at the beginning of each year. This person must have their details submitted to HQ and is responsible for the co-ordination of the above.

9. 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.

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- c. Upon dissolution of the Club any remaining assets shall be given or transferred to another CASC, a registered Charity or sport's governing body for use by them in related community sport as is agreed by the Members in General Meeting.