

Rules and Constitution

Title

The club shall be known as 'Carleton Riding Club.'

Objectives

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 objectives.
- c) 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.
- d) To concern itself with any objective which will benefit the horse and horse user in the district.

Membership

This shall consist of those persons who have paid the due subscription for the current period, irrespective of age, gender, ability, race, religion, ethnic origin, creed, colour, social status or sexual orientation.

Senior Members are persons who have attained the age of 18 years and Junior Members are persons aged between 0 – 17 on 1st January of the current membership year.

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.

Honorary membership may be conferred upon any persons deemed by the committee to have rendered notable service to the Club.

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 his defence.

The Committee

- a) All powers of management shall be vested in the senior committee consisting of the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and a minimum of 3 other committee members. Five shall form a quorum.
- b) At the Annual General Meeting one third of the members of the committee shall retire. The members to retire being those who have been longest in office and 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 Chair, Secretary and 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 the members.
- f) The committee may formulate byelaws 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 persons so co-opted shall retain office only until the next Annual General Meeting and then shall be eligible for re-election.

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

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

Meetings

The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of November to transact the following business:

- a) To receive and, if approved, 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 the committee may desire to bring before the members and to receive suggestions from the members for consideration by the committee.

A notice convening the general meeting shall be sent to the members not less than 21 days before the meeting or alternatively, if that member so elects, by e-mail, and also posted on the Club website and Facebook page and shall specify the matters to be dealt with.

The Accounts of the Club shall be audited each year by the person appointed at the preceding Annual General Meeting.

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 specifying the matters to be dealt with.

Notice may be given to any member by post to the member's address, in the UK, registered in the records of the Club, or alternatively, if that member so elects, by e-mail. If any member has no address in the UK such member shall be entitled to receive any notice by e-mail. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting or the non-receipt of a notice of a meeting by a member shall not invalidate the proceedings of that meeting.

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 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.

Funds

In the event of the Club folding, such funds as are to hand should be divided equally between the Brooke Animal Hospital, Animal Health Trust and the East Anglian Air Ambulance.