

# TOWY VALLEY RIDING CLUB

## CLUB RULES AND CONSTITUTION

### **1. Name.**

The club is called "Towy Valley Riding Club".

### **2. The Objectives.**

The objects of the club are:-

- 2a. 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
- 2b. To organise instructional meetings, lectures, competitive events and other activities deemed to further the objectives.
- 2c. 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.
- 2d. To concern itself with any objectives which will benefit members within the area.

### **3. Qualifications For Membership.**

- 3a. Anyone who is not less than 18 years of age is eligible for Adult membership.
- 3b. Those aged 17 years and under are eligible for Junior membership as long as they have either a parent or guardian as an Adult member.
- 3c. The committee may adjust the lower entry limit for the Junior section but only with written warning to those members it affects.
- 3d. The committee may cap the number of members Junior or Senior members within the club at a certain number but will be reviewed at the following AGM.

### **4. Admission of members.**

- 4a. Until a candidate becomes a member he or she is not entitled to any of the privileges of the club.

### **5. Honorary Members.**

- 5a. The committee may invite any person deemed by them to have rendered notable service to the Club to become an Honorary Member.
- 5b. Members may send to the Secretary names of people suggested for invitation.
- 5c. Honorary Members do not pay any membership fees.
- 5d. Honorary members are entitled to all the benefits and privileges of membership.

### **6. Membership Fees.**

- 6a. The annual subscription shall be whatever sum the Committee determines from time to time.
- 6b. A joining fee may be payable if the committee so determines.

## **7. Payment of Membership Fees.**

Membership fees are payable on the first day of the Club's financial year.

## **8. Membership Fees in Arrears.**

- 8a. If any member fails to pay his or her annual subscription within 2 months of being due, notice must be sent to him or her calling his or her attention to the failure to pay.
- 8b. If the member does not pay the amount within the 2 months his or her name shall be removed from the membership list.
- 8c. If at any time the member gives the committee a satisfactory explanation, he or she may, at the discretion of the committee and on payment of the arrears, be re-admitted to the membership without payment of any joining fee.

## **9. Expulsion of Members.**

- 9a. If at any time the Committee considers that the interests of the Club require it, they may expel any member (including a Committee member) from membership.
- 9b. Before any member is Expelled the Secretary must give him or her 7 days written notice to attend a meeting of the Disciplinary Panel consisting of the Chairman, Secretary & 2 other club members. He or she must be informed of the complaints made against him or reasons for expulsion.
- 9c. No member may be expelled unless they are first given an opportunity of appearing before the panel and answering complaints made against them, or making representations on the reasons for expulsion. At least two thirds of the Panel must then vote in favour of his or her expulsion.
- 9d. The Committee may, given all the relevant information, bar someone from re-joining the Club.

## **10. Effect of Ceasing to be a member.**

On ceasing to be a member of the Club (including expulsion therefrom) a person forfeits all rights to and claim upon the Club and its property and funds. If a committee member he or she retires immediately from the Committee.

## **11. The Committee.**

The management of the Club (except as otherwise provided by these rules) shall be vested in the Committee for the time being. The Committee shall consist of the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and a maximum of nine other committee members. No member of the Committee shall be entitled to receive any remuneration for services as such a member.

## **12. Election of members of the Committee.**

- 12a. At each Annual General Meeting 25% of the Committee must retire. Retiring members shall be eligible for re-election. The Committee members to retire shall be those who have been longest in office. In the case of Committee members being equal in length of time in office the members to retire shall be determined by lot.
- 12b. Every member of the Club is entitled, but not obliged, to vote for as many candidates as there are vacancies to be filled and no more.
- 12c. Up to the number of vacancies, the candidates who receive most votes must be declared elected, and in the case of two or more candidates receiving an equal number of votes, the Chairman of the meeting may determine the matter by lot.

## **13. Vacancies on Committee.**

- 13a. The Committee may appoint a member to fill any casual vacancy on Committee until the next Annual General Meeting.
- 13b. Any member so appointed must retire at the next Annual General Meeting but may be elected as a member of the Committee at that meeting.

## **14. Officers of the club.**

At the first meeting of the Committee following each Annual General Meeting the Committee must elect from among their number a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer to remain in office until the Committee meeting following the next Annual General Meeting.

## **15. Meetings of the Committee.**

- 15a. The Committee must meet at least once every 3 months to examine the accounts and arrange the affairs of the Club and may meet at such other times as it determines.
- 15b. At all meetings of the Committee 4 members shall form a quorum.
- 15c. Minutes of all the proceedings of the Committee must be taken and must be open to inspection by any member of the Club on application to the Secretary.

## **16. Sub-Committees.**

- 16a. The Committee may appoint such sub-committee as it deems necessary or expedient but each sub-committee must include one main committee member.
- 16b. The Committee may give a sub-committee power to co-opt from among non-committee members. All sub-committee co-opted members shall have a right to vote at subcommittee. Only elected Committee members shall have a right to vote at main Committee meetings.
- 16c. All sub-committees must report to the Committee and conduct their business in accordance with the Committee directions.
- 16d. The quorum of any such sub-committee shall be 3.

## **17. Rules.**

- 17a The Committee may from time to time make rules as it thinks expedient for the management and running of the Club. All rules made by the Committee under this clause are binding on the members until repealed by the Committee or set aside by a resolution of a general meeting of the Club, provided that the Committee may not make any rule which conflict with anything herein or with policies adopted by the British Horse Society.
- 17b. 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 members.

## **18. Annual General Meeting.**

The Annual General Meeting of the Club must be held in October in each year on a date and time to be fixed by the Committee and must:-

- 18a. receive and if approved adopt a statement of the Club's accounts to the end of the preceding financial year.
- 18b. fill the vacancies in the Committee.
- 18c. decide whether to appoint an auditor.
- 18d. deal with any special matter which the Committee may desire to bring before the members, and receive suggestions from the members for consideration by the Committee.

## **19. Special General Meetings.**

The Committee may call a Special General Meeting at any time for any purpose and must do so immediately upon a requisition in writing, stating the purposes for which a meeting is required and signed by not less than 5 members.

## **20. Notice of Meetings.**

Notice convening the Annual General and Special General Meetings shall be sent to members not less than 10 days before the meeting and shall specify the date, time and place of the meeting, and the matters to be dealt with.

## **21. Financial Year.**

The Financial Year of the Club ends on 31<sup>st</sup> August in each year and the accounts of the Club must be balanced to that day.

## **22. Borrowing Powers.**

There is no power enabling the Committee to borrow money.

### **23. Notice.**

Notice may be given to any member by sending it to their address in the United Kingdom registered in the records of the Club. 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.

### **24. Amendment of Constitution/Rules.**

These rules may be added to, repealed or amended by a resolution passed at any Annual or Special General Meeting by a majority of at least two-thirds of the members present and voting thereon.

### **25. Responsibility.**

The Club, its Committee or persons acting on their behalf shall not be held responsible for any accident or injury to any person or property howsoever caused.

### **26. Dissolution of Club.**

If at any General Meeting a resolution for the dissolution of the Club is passed by a majority of the members present and at a Special General Meeting held not less than 4 weeks later (of which not less than 3 weeks written notice has been given to each member) that resolution is confirmed by a resolution passed by a majority of two-thirds of the members voting on it, the Committee must immediately, or at such future date as is specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the property of the Club, and, after discharge of all liabilities must:

- 26a divide such property equally among the members, and/or
- 26b vest the whole or part of the monies of the Club in the British Horse Society to be held in trust until such time as the Club may wish to re-form, and/or
- 26c donate material assets to the Area Liaison Committee.

### **27. Headings.**

The headings to these rules are for ease of reference only and are not to be taken into account in their interpretation.