

Wessex TREC Club Constitution

1. Title

1.1 The Club shall be known as the Wessex TREC Club, also known as Wessex TREC and WTC, and hereinafter referred to as the Club.

2. Aims and Objectives

2.1 To promote TREC as a competitive sport and a recreational activity.

2.2 To organize training, competitions and TREC-related activities such as are deemed compatible with the above aim and its furtherance.

2.3 To promote good fellowship amongst riders.

2.4 To maintain and improve standards of horsemanship and horse welfare.

2.5 To be affiliated to TREC GB, the governing body of TREC.

3. Membership

3.1 Membership is open to anyone over the age of 18 years, regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, religion, or sexual orientation.

3.2 Junior membership may be applied for by anyone aged less than 18 years, provided this is supported by a parental consent form or letter.

3.3 Junior members will not have voting rights.

3.4 Members may be riding members or non-riding supporter members.

3.5 Supporter members will pay no membership subscription, but will have full voting rights.

3.6 The membership subscription is payable on application to join, and renewable annually on 1st October.

3.7 The name of any member who has not renewed his/her membership by 31st December will be removed from the membership register.

3.8 Honorary membership may be conferred by the Committee upon any person deemed by it to have rendered notable service to the Club.

3.9 Temporary membership may be granted at the discretion of the Committee.

3.10 The Committee has the right to refuse or withdraw membership only for good cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or the sport of TREC into disrepute; and the reasons for it must be given in writing within 14 days.

3.11 Appeal against refusal or withdrawal may be made to the membership.

3.12 However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.

4. Administration and the Committee

4.1 All powers of management of the Club and its property shall be vested in a Committee of adult members, elected each year at the Annual General Meeting.

4.2 All committee members shall stand down at the AGM, but are eligible for re-election.

4.3 The committee shall comprise at least four members, who shall elect from amongst themselves a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer, and if possible a Vice Chair, Membership Secretary, and Webmaster, all posts being honorary.

4.4 All Committee members are free to resign at any time.

4.5 The Committee may co-opt additional members during the year at its discretion.

4.6 All members elected or co-opted to serve on the Committee shall make a declaration of acceptance and willingness to act in the interest of the Club, and to support its aims.

4.7 Three shall form a quorum, but no decision involving finance shall be taken without the consent of a majority of Committee members.

4.8 The decisions of the Committee shall be final unless over-ruled at a General Meeting.

4.9 The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of the rules and for anything relating to the Club not provided therein, and its decision shall be final and binding on the members, unless overruled at a General Meeting.

4.10 The Committee may formulate bye-laws for the detailed running of the Club

4.11 The Committee may elect subcommittees, or form working groups from the ordinary members, which may be mentored by the Committee, for any special activities of the Club which the Committee may authorise.

4.12 A subcommittee or working group is answerable to the Committee.

4.13 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.

5. Finances

5.1 The financial year shall run from 1st October.

5.2 The annual membership subscription will be decided by the committee and notified to the members at the Annual General Meeting.

5.3 The subscription for 2014 - 2015 is set at £10.00 per riding member.

5.4 The Committee will keep subscriptions at levels that should not pose a significant barrier to people participating.

5.5 All types of funds raised or acquired by the Club will be paid into a bank account held under the name of Wessex TREC Club.

5.6 This account will be set up so that withdrawals may only be made by two signatories from of the bank's record of three Committee members.

5.7 Legitimate expenses incurred on the Club's behalf will be reimbursed on production of an appropriate receipt or similar record.

5.8 Members who support the Club's aims by organizing fund-raising events, training, competitions or related activities must keep an accurate record of any income and outgoings, to be lodged with the Treasurer.

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

5.9 The Accounts of the Club shall be audited each year by the person appointed at the previous Annual General Meeting; this person should be experienced in accounting matters and not a member of the club.

5.10 In the event of the dissolution of the Club any net assets will be donated to TREC GB; or in the event of TREC GB having dissolved, to the current governing body of TREC; or, in the event of there being no TREC governing body in existence, to an equine charity (or charities) as decided by the majority at a General Meeting.

6. General Meetings

6.1 The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held each year, on a date as near as possible to the 1st October, to transact the following business:

6.1.1 To elect the Committee.

6.1.2 To receive and, if approved, to adopt a Statement of the Club's Accounts to the end of the Club's year.

6.1.3 To fill vacancies on the Committee

6.1.4 To appoint an independent financial examiner to audit the Club's accounts.

6.1.5 To deal with any special matter which the Committee may desire to bring before the members.

6.1.6 To receive, for consideration by the Committee, suggestions from the members.

6.2 Notice convening the AGM shall be sent to members not less than 14 days before the meeting, and shall specify the matters to be dealt with.

6.3 Notice may be sent by email to all members for whom the secretary holds an email address.

6.4 An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be called by the Committee, or by a request signed by not fewer than five Club members specifying the business to be discussed.

6.5 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.

6.6 Accidental omission of notice to any member or the non-receipt by any member of notice sent will not invalidate any general meeting.

7. Miscellaneous

7.1 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.

This constitution was adopted on: 1st October 2014

Signed by: *Lois Eyre* (Chair)

Countersigned by: *Caroline Harwood* (Secretary)