

CONSTITUTION AND RULES (*Updated January 2021*)

1. TITLE

The Club shall be known as the 'Tendring Hundred Riding Club'.

2. OBJECTS

The objects 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 to further the objects.
- (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 investigate the subject of bridle tracks and rights of way with a view to opposing those that have been closed and maintaining and more clearly defining those that are in existence.
- (e) To concern itself with any object which will benefit the horse and horse user in the district.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- (a) This shall consist of persons who have attained the age of 18 years (and persons aged 17 years and under if a junior section is formed) and, having been accepted by the Committee, have paid the due subscription for the current period.
- (b) Honorary membership may be conferred by the Committee upon any person deemed by them to have rendered notable service to the Club.
- (c) No junior member may be a voting member of any Riding Club. However, Clubs with a junior membership may appoint a Junior Committee to discuss matters relevant to the junior membership. This Committee, through the Chairman of said Committee, may make recommendations to the Adult Committee for their consideration.
- (d) A member shall complete the application form as prescribed by the committee. Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport on application regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs. The committee may refuse membership only for good cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or the sport into disrepute. Appeal against refusal may be made to the members. However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.
- (e) Membership of THRC runs from January 1st to December 31st. The annual subscription shall be payable by December 31st. Any member whose subscription is not paid by the end of February shall have his or her name removed from the Membership List after written notice to the effect has been sent to him or her. Any member joining the club on or after December 1st shall be deemed to have paid his or her subscription for the ensuing year.
- (f) The Committee may expel (or temporarily suspend) from membership of the Club any member who, or in the case of a junior member whose parent, has breached any of the rules of the Club, or who has in the opinion of the Committee have been guilty of any conduct derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interest of the Club, provided that before expelling him or her the Committee shall allow the member to appeal the decision to the members and provide an explanation of his/her conduct and allow a proper opportunity of answering the allegations against him/her.

4. ADMINISTRATION

The Committee

- (a) All powers of management shall be vested in the adult Committee consisting of the Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and at least 8 other Committee Members; 7 shall form a quorum.
- (b) At the Annual General Meeting each year, 3 of the members of the Committee shall retire, the members to retire being those who have been longest in office. Those who have been in office for the same length of time shall determine retiring members by lot. 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 at a General Meeting.
- (e) 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 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 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
- (h) A member seeking election to the committee must have paid a subscription to the Tendring Hundred Riding Club for the previous year.

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

6. The annual subscription shall be £27 for seniors and non-riders and £22 for juniors or such other sum as shall from time to time be determined by the Committee. The Club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.

7. The Committee may appoint annually a President and Vice-Presidents. They shall not by virtue only of such appointment become members of the Committee.

8. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in November of each year to transact the following business:

- (a) To receive and, if approved, to 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 which the Committee may desire to bring to the members and to receive suggestions from the members for consideration by the Committee. Notice convening the General Meeting shall be sent to the members not less than 10 days before the meeting and shall specify the matters to be dealt with.

9. A Special General Meeting may be called by the Committee, or by a request signed by not less than 10 members specifying the business to be discussed. The Secretary shall give all members 10 days' notice of the date of such a meeting and shall specify in such notice matters to be dealt with at the meeting.

10. The Accounts of the Club shall be audited or verified each year by the person appointed at the previous Annual General Meeting. Accounts must be audited or verified by an independent professional.

11. Notice may be given to any member by sending it by post (or email) to said member at their address in the United Kingdom registered 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 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 the meeting.

12. 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 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.

13. Members shall be correctly turned out at all Club events. Any protective clothing required by current British Riding Clubs rules must be worn. (See current BRC Rulebook)

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

15. TEAMS

- (a) Any member chosen for Team events will be responsible for their own travelling expenses, transporting their own horses and for entry fees, unless the committee decide that these expenses shall be covered by club funds. Competitors must be fully conversant with the BRC Affiliated Rule Book and abide by them.
- (b) Any member accepting a place in a team representing the club in a qualifying team who does not keep themselves and their horse available for the finals, unless due to injury or ill health of horse or rider, will be liable to reimburse the Club for all expenses incurred by the Club.

16. DISSOLUTION

In the event that dissolution of the Club shall occur, the assets of the Club shall be used first to discharge all liabilities of the Club and the remaining assets are to be divided equally between paid up SENIOR members at that time provided that they have been members of the Club for the 4 previous consecutive years.

17. THE PROPERTY

The property of the Club shall be vested in 4 Trustees who shall be appointed by the Committee and the property of the club shall be vested in them to be dealt with by them as the Committee may from time to time direct by resolution (of which an entry into the minute book shall be conclusive evidence); the Trustees shall be indemnified against risk and expense out of the Club property. The Club Trustees shall hold office until death or resignation or removal from office by the Committee. Whereby reason of such death, resignation or removal it is necessary that a new Trustee or Trustees be appointed, the Committee shall nominate the person or persons to be appointed the new Trustee or Trustees. For the purpose of giving effect to such nomination, the Chairman is hereby nominated as the person to appoint new Trustees of the Club within the meaning of Section 36 of The Trustees Act 1925 and shall by deed duly appoint the person or persons nominated by the Committee.

18. If, at any time the Club in general meeting shall pass a resolution authorising the Committee to borrow money, the Committee shall thereupon be empowered to borrow for the purposes of the Club such amount of money either at one time or from time to time and at the rate of interest and in such form or manner and upon security as shall be specified in such resolution and thereupon the Trustees at the direction of the Committee may deem proper for giving security for such loans and interest. All members of such resolution shall be deemed to have assented to same as if in favour of such resolution.

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