

DENBIGH HARRIERS CONSTITUTION (V3-Jan22)

1. Title

- a. The Club shall be known as Denbigh Harriers Running Club (hereinafter to be referred to as "the Club"). The Club Colours shall be green with white inserts (hoops or side panels)

2. Objectives

The objectives of the Club shall be:

- a. To encourage the practice, promotion, development and participation of amateur athletics within Denbigh and the wider community.
- b. To organise open, club, and club handicap running races.
- c. To organise teams to represent the Club in championships and leagues and in such other competitions as the Committee shall decide.
- d. The Club shall cater for the following athletics disciplines: Road Running, Cross-Country Running, Fell/Trail Running.
- e. The Club shall seek to be affiliated to national and regional amateur athletic bodies as the Committee consider appropriate in order to carry out the objectives of the Club.

3. Membership

- a. Membership of the Club shall be open to persons over the age of 12, who are amateurs as defined by Welsh Athletics governing bodies at that time, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion, or other beliefs. However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.
- b. The membership shall consist of the following categories:
 - Senior Member 18+
 - Junior Members (9 -17)
- c. Each membership application should be made by completing the web site application form, if anyone has difficulty Club Secretary can be contacted to provide help to complete the application form, paper forms will be shredded after completion. The appropriate subscription must accompany the application for membership.
- d. Honorary life membership of the Club may be conferred upon any member by a majority vote of those present at an Annual General Meeting (AGM) in recognition of someone who has performed an outstanding service, or who has made an outstanding contribution to the Club.
- e. Any member wishing to resign from the Club must do so in writing or by email to the Secretary before the 1st April, failing which, they may be liable for the ensuing year's subscription.
- f. Resignation shall be considered by the Committee within one calendar month of receipt and will be held as effective from the date of tendering. Resignations will not be accepted if the

member is financially indebted to the Club, i.e. has not paid their subscription for the current year and acceptance of the resignation will be withheld until the debt has been discharged.

- g. The Committee shall have the power to suspend or exclude any member for contravention of this Constitution, documented rules or published codes of conduct that may exist at that time. In exercising these powers, the Committee shall adhere to the Club's disciplinary procedures. Appeal against refusal or removal may be made to the members.
- h. All club members are expected to wear a High visibility vest during club runs/gatherings publically advertised during the darker months of the year.

4. Subscriptions

- a. Annual subscriptions shall become due for payment on 1st April each year, with the amounts being determined by the AGM.
- b. The Club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.
- c. Members joining after the 1st January shall be deemed to have paid their subscription for the following year.
- d. Any member failing to make payment by 31st May shall cease to be entitled to the rights and privileges of membership and may be expelled provided that notice has been sent at least twice to the member's last known email address informing him/her of the proposed action.

5. Management

- a. The management of the Club shall be vested in a Committee that shall consist of the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary who shall be Officers of the Club together with a maximum of twelve other members. All the foregoing shall be elected at the AGM and remain in office until the conclusion of the AGM of the following year.
- b. The Junior section must have one representative on the Committee.
- c. Four elected Committee members are required for a quorum for a Committee meeting to take place providing the Chairman or Secretary is also present.
- d. The Committee shall have the power to fill vacancies if they arise and to co-opt members for particular projects, but co-opted members shall not have a Committee vote.
- e. The Committee shall also have the power to establish any sub Committee deemed appropriate to assist in meeting the objectives of the Club, and to delegate to these sub Committees such duties as may be considered appropriate.
- f. The Committee shall have the power to appoint individuals to perform specific duties on behalf of the Committee, and to delegate to those individuals such duties as they consider appropriate.

6. Annual General Meeting

- a. The AGM shall be held in the months of January or February as dictated by the practical circumstances applicable at that time.
- b. At the AGM the meeting will:
 - I. Receive the annual reports of the Committee members.
 - II. Receive the financial statements and the Treasurer's report.
 - III. Elect the officers and the Committee for the ensuing year.
 - IV. Consider any amendment to the constitution of which due notice has been given to all members.
 - V. Any proposed change to the constitution must be received by the Secretary at least 14 days preceding the meeting in order that all members shall have sufficient notice of the proposal.
 - VI. Transact any other notified business.
- c. At least 21 days' notice shall be given to members of the date, venue and agenda items for the AGM.
- d. All registered members of the Club at the meeting who are aged 18 years or more shall have one vote. In the case of an equality of votes the Chairman will have a second, casting, vote. Voting shall be by a show of hands except where the Chairman decides voting shall be by ballot.

7. Extra-Ordinary General Meeting

- a. An EGM may be called by the Committee to discuss changes to the Constitution and Rules or any other Club business too urgent to wait for the AGM.
- b. An EGM must be called if 25% of voting members so petition the Secretary in writing.
- c. Three weeks' notice of an EGM must be given to all members by email or in writing together with the motion/s to be discussed. No other business shall be conducted.
- d. Procedures for voting shall be as used for the AGM.

8. Finance

- a. The financial year of the Club shall end on 31st December.
- b. All funds belonging to the Club shall be deposited with a bank or building society in accounts that carry the Club title. All accounts shall operate on two signatories, one of whom will be the Treasurer and the other being a nominated individual.
- c. Expenditure above agreed budget levels may only be authorised at a Committee meeting.

9. Property and Funds

- a. The property and funds of the Club cannot be used for the direct or indirect private benefit of members other than as reasonably allowed by the Rules and all surplus income or profits are reinvested in the Club.

- b. The Club may provide sporting and related social facilities, sporting equipment, coaching, courses, insurance cover, medical treatment, travel expenses and other ordinary benefits of Community Amateur Sports Clubs as provided for in the Finance Act 2002.
- c. The Club may also in connection with the sports purposes of the Club:
 - I. Sell and supply food, drink and related sports clothing and equipment.
 - II. Employ members and remunerate them for providing goods and services, on fair terms set by the Committee without the person concerned being present.
 - III. Pay for reasonable hospitality for visiting guests.
- d. Indemnify the Committee and members acting properly in the course of the running of the Club against any liability incurred in the proper running of the Club (but only to the extent of its assets).
- e. The Committee will have due regard to the law on disability discrimination and child protection.

10. Disciplinary Procedures

- a. Any Member may be disciplined or excluded from membership of the Club, if his or her conduct has been or is likely to be prejudicial to the interests of the Club, by resolution of a majority of at least two thirds of those present and voting at a properly convened Committee Meeting and at which not less than eight of the total voting members of the Committee shall be present in addition to whatever other quorum requirements which may apply from time to time. Such Member shall have one month's clear notice sent to him or her of the Committee Meeting and he or she shall be entitled to attend the Meeting along with one other member and be heard in defence but shall neither be entitled to be present at the voting nor take part in the proceedings otherwise than as the Committee shall permit. If the Member is a member of the Committee, he or she shall not be entitled to vote, nor be present during the voting procedure.
- b. Any Member disciplined or excluded from the Club under 10. a. (above), or person whose application for membership has been refused by the Committee under Paragraph 3, may lodge an appeal with the Committee within three months of the relevant decision and shall thereupon have the right to demand that the matter be referred to three arbitrators. The arbitrators shall each be either a Member and none of them shall be serving on the Committee or shall have been serving on the Committee at the time of the relevant decision that is subject to appeal. The arbitrators shall be chosen as follows: one chosen by the Committee, one by the aggrieved party and one by the two arbitrators. In the event that the first two arbitrators fail to agree on a third, the third arbitrator shall be appointed by the relevant organising body as shall be nominated by the Committee. Such arbitrators shall have the power by their award to annul the disciplinary action or exclusion, or to annul it subject to the performance of any condition which the arbitrators may think fit to impose. The arbitrators' decision shall be final. Persons whose exclusion or refusal is upheld on appeal, or who have not appealed within three months, may not reapply for membership.

11. Winding Up

- a. The members may vote to wind up the Club if not less than three quarters of those present and voting support that proposal at a properly convened general meeting.
- a. The Committee will then be responsible for the orderly winding up of the Club's affairs.
- b. After settling all liabilities of the Club, the Committee shall dispose of the net assets remaining to one or more of the following:
 - I. To another Club with similar sports purposes which is a registered charity and/or
 - II. To another Club with similar sports purposes which is a registered CASC and/or
 - III. To the Club's national governing bodies for use by them for related community sports.

12. Alterations to the Constitution

The Constitution may be altered but only by a resolution passed by two-thirds of those present and voting at an AGM or an EGM called for that purpose.

13. Priority

Interpretation of all the above rules must be consistent with the statutory requirements for CASCs (which means Community Amateur Sports Clubs as first provided for by the Finance Act 2002).

14. Revision History

- a. The Constitution (V3) was formerly adopted at the AGM held on 17th February 2022 and supersedes any previous version of the club's Constitution held in circulation.