**WITHERIDGE RIDING CLUB**

# RULES AND CONSTITUTION

February 2018

## TITLE

1. The Club shall be known as The Witheridge and District Riding Club.

## OBJECTS

2. The Objects of the Club shall be:

1. 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
2. To organise instructional meetings, lectures and competitive events and other activities deemed to further the Objects
3. 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
4. To investigate the subject to bridle tracks and rights of way with a view to opening those that have been closed and maintaining and more clearly defining those that are in existence
5. To concern itself with any object which will benefit the horse and horse user in the district

## MEMBERSHIP

3. This shall consist of persons who have attained the age of fifteen years and have paid the due subscription for the current period. Honorary membership may be conferred by the Committee upon any persons deemed by them to have rendered notable service to the Club.

1. Anyone desirous of becoming a member shall forward his/her name and address and fee to the Honorary Secretary.
2. The annual subscription shall be payable on the first day of the Club’s financial year. Members must have paid their annual subscription in any given year to be included on the membership list and for the purposes of their involvement as member in any club event. Any member joining the Club on or after October 1st may be allowed to join for a reduced fee of £15 at the discretion of the committee in any year.
3. The Committee may expel from membership of the Club any member who has wilfully disobeyed any of the rules of the Club or who, in the opinion of the Committee, has been guilty of any conduct derogatory to the character of prejudicial to the interests of the Club, provided that before expelling him or her the Committee shall call upon him or her for an explanation of his or her conduct and shall hear what he or she may wish to urge in his or her defence.

## THE COMMITTEE

1. (a) All powers of management shall be vested in the adult Committee consisting of the Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, and other Committee members, the number of which will be determined by the Committee. Half of the current Committee shall form a quorum
2. At the Annual General Meeting each year, one third of the members of the Committee shall retire, the members to retire being those who have been longest in office and as 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.
3. The Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall be elected annually by the committee from among their number
4. The decision of the Committee shall be final unless over-ruled at a General Meeting.
5. 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
6. The Committee may formulate bye-laws for the detailed running of the club and elect sub-committees for any special activities of the Club which the Committee may authorise
7. The Committee shall have the power to fill any casual vacancy arising among 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
8. The financial year of the Club shall commence on the 1st January in each year.
9. The annual subscription shall be £20.00 or such other sum as shall from time to time be determined by the Committee.
10. The Committee may appoint annually a President and Vice President. These shall not by virtue only of such appointment become members of the Committee.

The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of January / February in each year to transact the following business:

1. To receive and if approved to adopt a Statement of the Club’s Accounts to the end of the preceding year.
2. To fill vacancies on the Committee
3. To appoint an auditor
4. To deal with any special matter which the Committee may desire to bring before 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 seven days before the meeting and shall specify the matters to be dealt with
5. A special General Meeting may be called by the committee, or by a request signed by not fewer 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 and shall specify in such notice matters to be dealt with at such meeting
6. The Accounts of the Club shall be audited each year by the person appointed at the previous Annual General Meeting
7. Notice may be given to any member by sending it by post to him or her at his or her 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 by any Member shall not invalidate the proceedings of that meeting
8. These Rules may be added to, repealed or amended by resolution at any Annual or Special General Meeting, providing 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
9. 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
10. Members should be correctly turned out at all Club events and all clothing and tack must be in compliance with current BRC rules.
11. In the event of Witheridge Riding Club being disbanded for any reason and there being a balance of funds remaining in the bank after any outstanding expenses have been met, this sum will be donated to a current registered horse charity, to be chosen by the Committee.