**RULES AND CONSTITUTION OF**

**STRATHMORE AND DISTRICT RIDING CLUB**

**(revised 30.01.2024)**

1. TITLE

The name of the Club shall be “Strathmore and District Riding Club”.

1. OBJECTS

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 standards 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 breeding and use of all breeds and types of horses and ponies
	4. To investigate the subject of 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.
1. MEMBERSHIP
	1. Membership shall be open to all genders who have attained the age of twelve years by joining/renewing via Sport80 or, for non-riding members, by forwarding their name and address to the Membership Secretary of the Club together with the relevant subscription.
	2. Members may be riding or non-riding members.
	3. A copy of the Constitution will be made available on the website.
2. If the conduct of a member of the club shall, in the opinion of the Committee, be injurious to the character, interests or objects of the club or if any member shall wilfully disregard the rules of the Club or if any complaint is lodged against a member the Committee shall intimate the same to him or her in writing requesting an explanation. After hearing the member’s explanations, it shall be in the power of the Committee to discuss the matter, to admonish the member, to suspend the member or to expel the member from the club.
3. Honorary membership may be conferred by the Committee upon any person who has in their view rendered important or notable service to the club. Any member may nominate for honorary membership anyone who is considered to have rendered exceptional service to the club, such nomination to be submitted, in writing, to the Secretary. The final decision rests with the Committee.
4. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION
	1. Annual subscriptions for riding and non-riding members, which may be different, shall be fixed provisionally by the Committee subject to approval by the majority of the members attending at each Annual General Meeting.
	2. The financial year of the club shall commence on 1st January in each year.
	3. Then relevant membership subscription shall be payable by members annually and will be on a 12 month rolling basis.

ADMINISTRATION AND MEETINGS

1. The Committee
	1. All powers of management shall be vested in a committee consisting of the chairman, vice-chairman, honorary secretary, honorary treasurer and honorary membership secretary and eight other ordinary committee members (referred to throughout these presents as “the Committee”). Six shall form a quorum. The chairman, who failing the vice-chairman shall preside as chairman at each meeting of the Committee. In the absence of the chairman or vice-chairman any member of the Committee may be appointed the chairman for that meeting. All questions before the Committee shall be decided by the votes of the majority of all those Committee members present and voting. The chairman shall have a deliberate as well as a casting vote.
	2. Notwithstanding and without prejudice to the foregoing generality the Committee shall have the power inter alia to:
2. purchase or sell or take lease or hire all kinds of heritable and moveable property such to be undertaken in the name of the officer bearers of the club for the time being in their role as office bearers and their successors in office as Trustees of the club for and on behalf of the club on such terms and conditions as the Committee shall deem appropriate.
3. enter into all kinds of contracts, including contracts for employment or insurance, in connection with the club.
	1. At the Annual General Meeting each year, one quarter of the ordinary members of the Committee shall retire, the members to retire being those who have been the longest in office and as between those who have been in office for the same length of time the members to retire shall be decided by lot. Retiring members shall be eligible for re-election.
	2. The chairman, vice-chairman, honorary secretary and honorary treasurer shall be elected annually by the members present at the Annual General Meeting. They shall also be eligible for re-election.
	3. The decision of the Committee shall be final unless over-ruled at a Special General Meeting.
	4. 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 members.
	5. 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.
	6. Any Committee member who is unable to attend three consecutive Committee meetings may be voted off by the rest of the Committee unless there is a genuine reason for absence.
	7. Any member of the Committee wishing to resign must intimate his/her intention to do so in writing to the Secretary.
	8. The Committee shall have the power to fill any casual vacancy arising among the members of the committee, but any person so co-opted shall retain office only until the next following Annual General Meeting and shall be eligible for re-election.
	9. All Committee members shall be notified, when possible, not less than seven days prior to meetings.
4. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS
	1. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of January in each year to transact the following business:
5. To hear the Chairman’s report.
6. To receive and, if approved, adopt a statement of the club’s accounts to the end of the preceding financial year.
7. To fill vacancies on the Committee.
8. To appoint an Auditor.
9. 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 Annual General Meeting shall be sent to the members not less than 14 days before the meeting and shall specify the matters to be dealt with.

The quorum of the Annual General Meeting shall be 20% of the current membership.

The Annual General Meeting may be held online if it is not possible to hold a physical meeting. Members may join a physical meeting online if they wish.

Proxy votes will be allowed. If members are unable to attend, they can nominate another member to vote on their behalf. They can also send a postal vote

* 1. A Special General Meeting may be called by the Committee, or by a request signed by not less 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 a meeting.
1. The accounts of the Club shall be audited each year by the person appointed at the previous Annual General Meeting.
2. Notice may be given to any member by sending it by post to his last intimated address in the United Kingdom registered in the records of the club or via email. All notices posted to members at such addresses shall be deemed to be duly delivered. 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 that meeting.
3. These rules may be added to, replied or amended by resolution at any Annual or Special General Meeting, provided that no such resolution shall be deemed to have 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.
4. The club, its committees or person acting on their behalf shall not be held responsible for any accident or injury to any person or property howsoever caused.
5. Members must be correctly turned out at all club events. Hard hats of current B.S.I. standard are compulsory when mounted on a horse. Members who fail to conform to this rule shall reported to the Committee who will then take further action in term of these rules.