

Penistone & District Riding Club

Constitution & Rules

(7th Edition, January 2006)

1. NAME

The Club shall be known as the 'PENISTONE & DISTRICT RIDING CLUB' and is hereinafter referred to as 'the Club'.

2. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The aims & objectives of the Club shall be:

- 2.1 To encourage riding as a sport and recreation, to promote good fellowship amongst riders, to improve and maintain the standard of safe riding and horsemanship, and to encourage a greater interest in the welfare and care of horses/ponies.
- 2.2 To organise shows, competitive events, instructional meetings, lectures and other activities to further these objectives.
- 2.3 To concern itself with any objective that will benefit the horse and horse user in the district including, where appropriate, the investigation of Rights of Way and bridleways with a view to opening those that have been closed, and maintaining and more clearly defining those that are in existence.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 The Club may have an unlimited number of members whose names shall be recorded and held by the Club Secretary (or Membership Secretary).
- 3.2 Anyone desirous of becoming a member of the Club shall send his or her name and address (and appropriate subscription fee) to the Honorary Secretary (and/or Membership Secretary) on the appropriate nomination form.
- 3.3 The annual subscription fee shall be that determined by the Committee.
- 3.4 No member under the age of 18 may be a voting member of the Club.
- 3.5 Honorary Membership may be conferred by the Committee upon any person(s) deemed by them to have rendered notable service to the Club.

4. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

- 4.1 The Committee shall consist of a President, Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and up to 12 other Committee Members.
- 4.2 Committee Members shall retire annually, but shall be eligible for re-election.
- 4.3 Committee Members shall be elected either at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) or Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM), if called.
- 4.4 Any fully subscribed member of the Club, who has been a member for more than one year, shall be eligible for election as an Officer or Member of the Committee. If a member of the Club wishes to become a Committee Member, they must be both proposed and seconded by fellow Club members.
- 4.5 From amongst their number, the Committee shall appoint annually a Show Manager, Show Secretary, Advertising/Press Officer, Bridleways Officer and any other positions deemed appropriate.

5. MANAGEMENT

- 5.1 The management of the Club shall be in the hands of the Officers of the Club and the elected Committee.**
- 5.2 Committee meetings shall be held as often as deemed necessary, and not less than six times per year.**
- 5.3 Five of the elected Committee shall form a quorum.**
- 5.4 In the absence of the Chairman, the members present shall elect a person to chair the meeting.**
- 5.5 The Committee has the power to co-opt.**
- 5.6 The Chairman of the Club shall not vote except in the event of a tie, whereupon he/she shall have the casting vote.**
- 5.7 The decision of the Committee shall be final, unless overruled at a General Meeting.**
- 5.8 The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of the rules, or anything related to the Club not provided therein, and their decision shall be final and binding on the members.**
- 5.9 Any Officer or Committee Member who has resigned shall immediately return all papers required by the Committee, to the Secretary.**

6. GENERAL MEETINGS

- 6.1 The Annual General Meeting shall be held before the 31st January each year, and each member shall receive notice at least 28 days prior as to the time and place of the meeting.**
- 6.2 At the AGM the following business will be transacted:**
 - (i) To receive and, if approved, to adopt a statement of the Club's accounts to the end of the preceding year.**
 - (ii) To elect Committee Members (nominations must be received at least 7 days before the AGM).**
 - (iii) To appoint an auditor.**
 - (iv) To deal with any special matter that the Committee may desire to bring before the members, and to receive suggestions from the members for consideration (to be received at least 14 days before the General Meeting).**
- 6.3 An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be called by the Committee, or by a request signed by not less than ten Club members, specifying the business to be discussed. The Hon. 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.**
- 6.4 The Rules of this Constitution may be added to, repealed or amended by resolution at any AGM or EGM, 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.**
- 6.5 Notice may be given to any member by sending it by post to him/her at his/her address in the UK registered in the records of the Club. If any member has no address in the UK 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 not shall invalidate the proceedings of the meeting.**

7. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

- 7.1** Members shall pay the appropriate subscription fee annually.
- 7.2** Subscriptions become due on the 1st January.
- 7.3** Any member who has not renewed their subscription fees by the 31st March will have their name removed from the Membership List, after written notice has been sent to him/her.
- 7.4** The annual subscription fee will be decided by the Committee; any change in fee to be confirmed by October.
- 7.5** Three types of membership are available:
- Individual Membership – all ages.
Joint Membership – 2 people of any age [from the same household].
Family Membership - 2 adults and up to 4 children under 18 years of age, of the same family.
(All ages as of 1st January)
- 7.6** Any new member joining after 1st October shall be deemed to have paid his/her subscription for the ensuing year.

8. EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

- 8.1** The Committee may expel from membership of the Club, any member who has wilfully disobeyed any rules of the Club or who, in the opinion of the Committee, has been guilty of any conduct derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interest of the Club, providing that before expelling him/her the Committee shall call upon him/her for an explanation of his/her conduct, and shall hear what he/she may wish to state in his/her defence.

9. ACCOUNTS

- 9.1** The Treasurer shall keep and maintain an accurate system of accounts, showing a complete record of all income and expenditure, the assets and liabilities of the Club.
- 9.2** An auditor will be appointed each year to audit the accounts for the year. Accounts will be prepared annually for the year end at 31st December.

10. PROPERTY

- 10.1** The property of the Club shall be vested in the Committee.
- 10.2** In the event of dissolution of the Club, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities will then be as follows:-
Trophies shall be returned to the original donors, and where this is not possible donated to the RDA (Riding for the Disabled Association),
All other assets to be donated to the RDA funds.