



RULES AND CONSTITUTION OF

EAST SHROPSHIRE RIDING CLUB (Founded 1971)

TITLE

1. The Club shall be known as the East Shropshire Riding Club

OBJECTIVES

2. The objectives of the Club shall be:

- (a) To promote participation in and provide facilities for the amateur sport of riding in the East Shropshire and surrounding areas.
- (b) 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.
- (c) To organise instructional meetings, lectures and competitive events and other activities to further the objectives.
- (d) To be affiliated to The British Horse Society and to support and co-operate with recognized organisations interested in the breeding and use of all breeds and types of horses and ponies.
- (e) 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 eighteen years (Senior) by January 1st and persons aged seventeen years and under (Junior) on the same date and, having been accepted by the Committee, have paid the due subscription for the current period. Honorary membership may be conferred by the Committee upon any person deemed by them to have rendered notable service to the Club.

4. 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.

5. The annual subscription shall be payable on the first day of the Club's financial year. Any member whose subscription is more than three months in arrears shall have his or her name removed from the Membership List. Any member joining the club on or after 1st December shall be deemed to have paid his or her subscription for the ensuing year.

6. It is a condition of membership that direct support and assistance with the operation of the club is offered when requested by the committee, examples include, but are not limited to, volunteering to help as needed at shows, rallies or events, or offering assistance with showground start-up and pack-up.

7. The Committee may expel from membership of the Club any member who 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.

ADMINISTRATION

8. The Committee

- (a) All powers of management shall be vested in the Committee consisting of the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and other Committee members.
- (b) At the Annual General Meeting each year any members of the Committee who have been in office for three years shall retire. Retiring members shall be eligible for re-election.
- (c) The decision of the Committee shall be final unless over-ruled at a General Meeting.
- (d) 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
- (e) The Committee may formulate bye-laws for the detailed running of the Club and elect subcommittees for any special activities of the Club which the Committee may authorise.
- (f) The Committee shall have the power to fill any casual vacancy on the Committee, but any person so co-opted shall retain office only until the following Annual General Meeting and then shall be eligible for formal election.

9. The financial year of the Club shall commence on the 1st January in each year.
10. The annual subscription shall be £25 for Senior Rider and £17 for Junior or non-riding member 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.
11. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the final quarter 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 member 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 15 days before the meeting. Notice of the meeting may be given EITHER to any member by sending it by post to him at his 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) OR by notification of Social Media such as the East Shropshire Riding Club Facebook page. 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. 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 the meeting.
13. 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.
14. 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.
15. 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). This includes but is not limited to hard hats to be worn at all times, with harness adjusted and fastened, and riding boots, jodhpur boots or plain shoes must be worn when mounted.
16. One person will be responsible for all aspects of the Club Rallies, including the taking of names, the collection of fees, cancellations and a reserve list. The programme will indicate the person responsible for the rally and contact details in case of queries. Charges for a rally may still be applicable in the event of a cancellation, unless another rider can be found to take their place, or the Riding Club cancels the rally, in which case a full refund will be given.
17. Visitors may observe any number of rallies but membership of the club is obligatory for attending rallies.
18. It is requested that Club Members respect our venues and tidy up any litter that may occur at rallies or shows (for example horse droppings and trailer spillage).
19. Breakages will be paid for by the club if classed as a hazard of learning, otherwise they will be paid for by the individual concerned.
20. The club recommends horses are vaccinated for equine influenza, this is a requirement for ESRC shows and Area qualifiers if competing for the club.
21. All surplus income or profits are to be reinvested in the Club. No surpluses or assets will be distributed to members or third parties.
22. 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 shall be given or transferred to a registered charity, either for use by them in related community sports (for example Riding For the Disabled) or for services given (for example The Air Ambulance). The chosen recipient charities will be agreed between committee members and recorded in the latest minutes of the AGM.

Summary Rules for East Shropshire Riding Club

1. The club is called East Shropshire Riding Club
2. Objectives are to encourage riding in the East Shropshire and surrounding areas.
3. Senior members are aged 18 or over on or after January 1st of the membership year, Juniors below this age.
4. A Membership form is to be completed and application for membership is open to all.
5. Annual subscriptions paid from 1st December are for membership of the ensuing calendar year.
6. It is a condition of membership that members help at any ESRC events when requested to do so.
7. Members can be expelled for derogatory or prejudicial behaviour against the interests of the club.
8. All powers of management are vested in the committee.
9. The club financial year starts 1st of January.
10. Subscription rates are at the discretion of the committee.
11. AGM will be held in the final quarter of each year.
12. Special General Meetings can be called in certain circumstances.
13. Accounts of the club will be audited each year.
14. These rules may be amended at any Annual or Special General Meeting.
15. Members should be correctly turned out at Club events (according to BRC rules).
16. Each rally shall be administered by one person (details in the programme). Fees may still apply in the case of rider cancellation.
17. Visitors may observe rallies but must join to partake in them.
18. Club members are requested to respect our venues and keep the area clean of litter or horse droppings.
19. Breakages will be paid for by the club if deemed a hazard of learning, but otherwise not.
20. Up to date vaccinations for Equine Influenza are a requirement at our shows and area qualifiers.
21. Surplus income or profits will be reinvested in the club.
22. In the event of dissolution of the club, remaining assets will be given or transferred to a charity agreed between committee members and recorded in the minutes of the AGM.

Issue 1.2 Jan 2020