

CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

The Club shall be known as Benson Striders, hereinafter referred to as "the Club".

2. OBJECTIVES

To promote an interest in running (as its primary objective) and related events for the residents of Benson and the surrounding area.

To foster a spirit of fellowship and mutual encouragement between members of the Club.

To provide opportunities for members to participate in organised running events.

3. CODE OF CONDUCT

The Club shall have a written Code of Conduct available – in accordance with UK Athletics (UKA) policy.

4. MEMBERSHIP

Any resident of Benson or the surrounding area shall be eligible to apply for membership of the Club.

5. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The following classes of members shall be available:

Full Adult Member

Junior (14 years or over but under 18 years – accompanied by a Member who is also the parent or guardian).

The subscription for each financial year shall be recommended by the Committee at its final meeting in each financial year, to be presented for approval at the Club's next AGM.

Subscriptions become due on 1 April, following the annual rates recommended and agreed at the previous AGM. .

Any member whose subscription is more than three months in arrears may, after Committee agreement, be suspended from the Club *sine die*.

6. FINANCIAL YEAR

The financial year shall be from 1 January to 31 December.

7. MANAGEMENT

The general financial, social and administrative business of the Club shall be managed by a Committee consisting of a minimum of five members and a maximum of 10 members which shall include the Chairman, Secretary and the Treasurer. It may also include a Vice Chairman and Welfare Officer.

The officers of the Club shall be the Chairman, the Secretary and the Treasurer, also the Vice Chariman where elected.

8. POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Chairman will be responsible for managing the Committee and overseeing the affairs of the club. The Vice Chairman will support the Chairman in the above role and take responsibility for the role of the Chairman if he/she is absent'.

The Membership Secretary shall be responsible for the maintenance of a register of members. The Committee shall have the power to make or alter such Club Rules as they may, from time to time, deem necessary.

The custody of the equipment of the Club shall be the responsibility of a designated member (or members) of the Club, in accordance with arrangements made by the Committee.

Not less than six Committee meetings shall be held in any calendar year.

The Chairman shall have a casting vote when an equality of votes occurs at any Committee or General Meeting of the Club.

The Committee shall be empowered to form and to determine the mandates of sub-committees as considered necessary for the effective management of the Club. Any sub-committee shall include not less than one Committee Member.

9. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

The Annual General Meeting will elect the Officers, who shall hold office for one year.

The Committee shall have the right to co-opt additional members who shall have no voting rights on the Committee.

No Junior Member shall be eligible for election as a Club Officer.

10. QUORUM

Not less than one Club Officer and three elected Committee Members shall constitute a quorum at any Committee or General Meeting.

11. AFFILIATION

The Club shall endeavour to be affiliated to one or more of the following organisations: UK Athletics (UKA), and any regional group charged with UKA administration for our area (South Oxfordshire); the Association of Running Clubs (ARC); the British Association of Road Runners (BARR); or Run Together.

12. AMATEUR DEFINITION

An amateur is a person who abides by the eligibility rules of the UK Athletics.

13. POWER TO EXPEL MEMBERS

The Committee shall have the power to expel any member whose subscription is three months in arrears, provided that a month's notice in writing shall have been sent to the member's last known address by recorded delivery giving information of the proposed action of the Committee.

14. CLUB COLOURS

The Club Colours are red tops with white trim.

15. GENERAL MEETINGS

The Annual General Meeting shall be convened sometime during the period 1 January to 31 March in each year, and notice shall be given by email, at least 28 days before the meeting.

Notice for an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be given to members by email, at least 14 days before the meeting. It shall be convened by decision of the Committee or at the written request addressed to the Secretary of at least 10 Club members. The meeting shall be held within 30 days of the request being received.

Proposals received less than 7 days before a meeting will be accepted only at the discretion of the Chairman.

16. FINANCE

The Committee shall control the finances, which shall be used solely for the furtherance of the objectives as stated in paragraph 2 of the Constitution.

Club bank accounts will be held and the Committee will determine their nature and location.

The signatures of any two of the Club Officers shall be required to withdraw any monies from the accounts.

The Treasurer shall collect all fees and subscriptions as and when they fall due.

The accounts shall be prepared by the Treasurer, approved by the Committee and presented to the membership at the Annual General Meeting.

17. CONDUCT

The Committee may take disciplinary action as considered appropriate against any member whose conduct during Club time causes offence to other members or is considered to be prejudicial to the good name of the Club. Disciplinary action may, in appropriate circumstances, extend to immediate cancellation of membership, in which case the Committee reserves the right to refuse reimbursement of any fees or subscriptions paid.

18. DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of the Club, the Committee shall realise the property and the assets, call in all monies due and, after discharge of all liabilities where possible, hand any surplus to such charities as shall be determined by the Annual General Meeting, or Extraordinary General Meeting called for the purpose.

19. AMENDMENTS

The Constitution shall only be changed by a resolution submitted in writing to the Committee at least sanctioned by a two-thirds majority of the members voting thereon.