



## ELSTEAD RIDING CLUB Rules and Constitution

### 1 **Title**

The Club shall be known as the "Elstead Riding Club".

### 2 **Objects**

The objects of the club shall be:

- (a) To encourage riding as a sport and recreation, to promote good fellowship amongst riders and to improve and maintain the standard of riding and horsemastership.
- (b) To organise instructional meetings, lectures and competitive events and other activities deemed to further the objects.
- (c) To be affiliated to the British Horse Society and to co-operate with such recognised organisations as the Committee see fit.
- (d) 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. Those bridle tracks and rights of way to be investigated to be at the discretion of the district.

### **Membership**

3 Membership shall consist of adults, juniors and family members. Adults being those who have attained the age of eighteen years, juniors being those seventeen years and under, and family membership which shall consist of 4-5 members of a family (juniors or seniors) who live at the same address. No junior member may be a voting member of the Club. Honorary or life membership may be conferred by the Committee upon any person deemed by them to have rendered notable service to the Club.

4 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 arrear shall have his/her name removed from the Membership List after written notice to the effect has been sent to him/her. Any member joining the Club within two months of the end of the financial year shall be deemed to have paid his/her subscription for the ensuing year.

5 The Committee may expel from membership of the Club any member who has willfully disobeyed any rules of the Club, or who has, in the opinion of the Committee, been guilty of derogatory actions to the interest of the Club, after first hearing any explanation in defence of these actions.

### **Administration**

#### 6 **The Committee**

(a) All powers of management shall be vested in the adult Committee consisting of the Honorary Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and other Committee members. With effect from the Annual General Meeting in 1987, the number of other Committee members shall be eight. Five shall form a quorum.

(b) 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 office for the same length of time, the members to retire shall be determined by lot). Retiring members shall be eligible for re-election.

- (c) The Honorary Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer to be elected at the Annual General Meeting.
  - (d) Nominations to the Committee should be submitted to the Honorary Secretary at least fourteen days in advance of the Annual General Meeting. All nominees for honorary officers and committee members should be paid up members and should be proposed and seconded by two other paid up members.
  - (e) The decision of the Committee shall be final unless over-ruled at a General Meeting.
  - (f) 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.
  - (g) 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.
  - (h) 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 shall then be eligible for re-election.
- 7 The financial year of the Club shall commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> November in each year.
- 8 The annual subscription shall be determined by the Committee.
- 9 The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of November or December in 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 before the members and to receive suggestions from the members for consideration by the Committee.
  - (e) Notice convening the General Meeting shall be sent to the members not less than one month before the meeting and shall specify the matters to be dealt with.
- 10 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 fourteen days notice of the date of such a meeting and shall specify in such notice matters to be dealt with at such a meeting.
- 11 The accounts of the Club shall be audited each year by the person appointed at the previous Annual General Meeting.
- 12 Notice may be given to any member by sending it by post to his/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 of a meeting by any member shall not invalidate the proceeding of that meeting.

- 13 Any person wishing to make a complaint about the running of the Club or any individual event must put their complaint in writing to the Honorary Secretary to be brought before the Committee.
- 14 Members must be correctly turned out all mounted club events. Hard hats must be worn at all times when mounted. Hard hats must be to at least the minimum standard with harness properly adjusted and fastened. The minimum standard includes hats marked EN1384, PASO15:1998, ASTM F1163, BSEN14572:2005, or SEI, American standard SNELL E2001, ASTM95, SNZ3838 1998.
- 15 In the event of the Club being temporarily disbanded, a body of four Trustees to be appointed to safeguard the Club's assets. In the event of dissolution or winding up of the Club, whether voluntarily or by order of the court, any net assets remaining after settlement of all liabilities shall be donated to the local Riding for the Disabled.
- 16 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.
- 17 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.
- 18 The Honorary Officers (Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer) shall act as named Tenants in respect of any lease or agreement pertaining to the Club Field. These officers shall therefore have power of veto on decisions relating to the use of the Club Field where such decisions have implications for the lease or agreement.

***Rules & Constitution approved at the AGM on 29<sup>th</sup> November 1986***

*Amended (new paragraph 18) at the AGM on 26<sup>th</sup> November 1993*

*Amended (revised paragraphs 3, 14 & 15) at the AGM on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2009*