

WEALD HARNESS CLUB CONSTITUTION & RULES 2023

President: Mr Barrie Luck
Club founded in 1977.

1. NAME AND PURPOSE

The Club shall be called The Weald Harness Club (the Club) and shall exist for the purposes of:

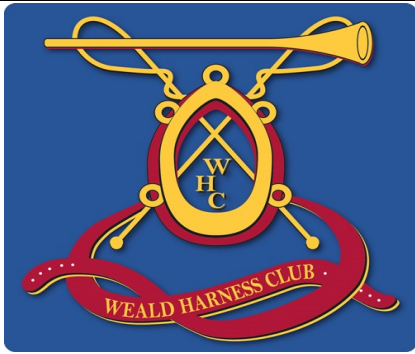
- i. The encouragement and enjoyment of carriage driving
- ii. To promote the safe use of horses, ponies and other driven animals.
- iii. To help prevent the misuse of horses, ponies and other driven animals in harness.

2. MEMBERSHIP

- i. There shall be the following types of membership:
 - a. **SINGLE** – Single shall mean any individual aged eighteen years or more as at the first day of January in the year – compulsory for drivers not covered by JUNIOR membership.
 - b. **JUNIOR** – Junior shall mean a person between twelve and seventeen years of age inclusive as at the first day of February in the year, who is not covered by FAMILY membership who wishes to take part in any of the events organised by or for the Club, and includes participating as a driver.
 - c. **NON-DRIVING** – Non-driving shall mean any individual irrespective of age who wishes to become a member of the Club and to participate in any event organised by or for the Club in any capacity other than as a driver.
 - d. **HONORARY** – Honorary membership is awarded at the discretion of the Committee on behalf of the Club to any individual who in the opinion of the Committee has contributed in an exceptional manner to the well-being of the Club, normally over the course of a significant period of time. An Honorary member may take part in any capacity in any event organised by or for the Club.
- ii. Membership applications shall be formally considered by the Committee.
- iii. There shall be a joining fee of such sum as the Club may, at its Annual General Meeting, determine for all types of membership but excluding Honorary for which no joining fee is required.
- iv. Single Adult and Junior members shall be entitled to cast a vote at any Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club.
- v. A member shall be entitled to the following:
 - a. To enter any function run by the Club, subject to the payment of any entrance fee (if levied), and according to the type of membership in force. Entrance fees levied by the Club for an open event, will always be set at a lower rate for members.
 - b. To wear the Club badge.
 - c. To invite guests to any social function of the Club.
 - d. To receive Newsletters and other publications that the Club may produce for the purpose of communications.

3. SUBSCRIPTIONS AND THE CLUB'S YEAR

- i. Subscriptions shall be such a sum as the Club may, at its Annual General Meeting, determine.



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- ii. The subscriptions shall be paid on or before the 1st day of January in each year and in default membership of the Club shall lapse until such time as the subscription shall have been paid.
- iii. Any lapsed memberships renewed on after the 1st day of June in each year shall be subject to a Re-joining Fee of the same amount as the Joining Fee in 2.iii above, at the Committee's discretion.
- iv. The Club's year shall commence on the 1st day of January in each year.
- v. The Club's financial year shall commence on the 1st day of January in each year.

4. MEETINGS

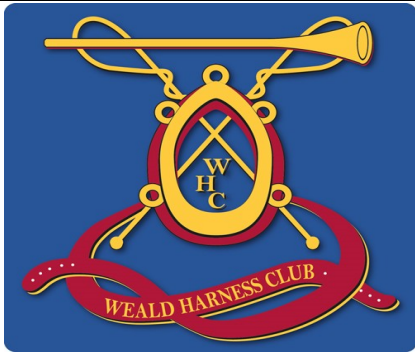
- i. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held in December each year.
- ii. An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be called by the Committee, as the Committee may consider expedient. Any fifteen or more members may, by written request, require the Committee to call an Extraordinary General Meeting.
- iii. The notice of the calling of an AGM or an EGM and the terms of the resolutions proposed for discussion shall be sent to the members in writing at least fourteen days prior to the meeting.
- iv. A quorum at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting shall be 30% of the Club who are entitled to vote.

5. COMMITTEE

- i. The Committee shall consist of the President (who shall have no vote), the Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and not more than five other members.
- ii. The members of the Committee shall be elected annually at the AGM from the members of the Club and serve for a period of one year after which time they shall stand down and offer themselves for re-election as appropriate.
- iii. Only the offices of Secretary and Treasurer will specifically be elected annually at the AGM by the membership, all other offices will be resolved by the Committee from serving members of the Committee, such offices will normally include Membership Secretary, Training Officer and Health & Safety Officer, but are instituted at the discretion of the Committee.
- iv. The Chairman shall be elected annually from serving members of the Committee.

6. POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

- i. The Committee shall have full power to administer all monies belonging to the Club and employ such monies as they see fit for the benefit of the Club, but excluding single donations given for a specific cause.
- ii. The Committee shall have the right to refuse or withdraw membership of the Club.
- iii. The Committee shall have the power to require any member or non-club member to leave an event, if in the opinion of two or more members of the Committee, the safety of other members, and/or non-club members and/or spectators are in any way endangered, or the horse, pony or other driven animal is suffering distress or misuse.



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- iv. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt not more than two members of the Club, but such co-opted members shall have no vote and their appointment shall automatically cease at the AGM following their appointment.
- v. The Committee's decision on all matters with which they are competent to deal under these Rules shall be final.
- vi. The Committee shall have the powers to set up sub-committees for specific designated purposes. The Committee may co-opt members of the Club to such sub-committees and each sub-committee shall be chaired by a member of the Committee and be responsible to the Committee.
- vii. The Committee is ultimately responsible for the organisation of any event run under the banner of The Weald Harness Club. A sub-committee may be formed, with responsibilities as defined by the Committee as per 6.vi above, as appropriate, to aid in the smooth running, before, during and after, any event.

7. GENERAL

- i. Any member of the Club who considers any member of the Committee to be in breach of the Club's Constitution and Rules shall have the right to require a meeting of the Committee at which the Chairman, or Vice-Chairman and a minimum of five Committee members shall be present. The request for such a meeting shall be made to the Secretary, who shall call a meeting of the Committee as soon as practicable after receiving such written request. The member shall be entitled to be accompanied by another member of the Club.
- ii. The accounts for the previous financial year shall be audited and presented to the members of the Club at the AGM. The accounts shall be audited by an independent audit panel approved by the members at the AGM.
- iii. Any resolutions proposing an alteration to the Club's Constitution and Rules shall be given to the Secretary in writing at least twenty-one days prior to the AGM.

25th March 2023