



## **SOUTH CHESHIRE HARRIERS CONSTITUTION 2008**

### **Name**

The title of the Club shall be "South Cheshire Harriers" (hereinafter referred to as the Club) and it shall seek affiliation to and be bound by the rules of the England Athletics.

### **Objects**

The objects of the Club shall be:

- To encourage the practice and development of athletics.
- To provide coaching for the members and to organise competitions.
- To organise teams to represent the Club in Championships and Leagues, and in such other competitions as the Management Committee shall decide.

The Club shall cater for:

- Cross Country Running
- Road Running
- Road Relay Running
- Fell and Hill Running

The Club is committed to encouraging the highest ethical standards. All individuals involved in the Club should conduct themselves with integrity, transparency, and accountability in a fair and equitable manner.

### **Membership**

The normal minimum age of entry shall be 16 years, but consideration will be given to family membership. Membership is open to all and no application for membership will be refused on other than reasonable grounds. There will be no discrimination on grounds of race, occupation, sex, religious, political or other opinion.

Each applicant for membership must complete the official application form and members shall pay Membership fees as fixed at each Annual General Meeting.

All members joining the Club shall be deemed to accept the terms of this Constitution, in particular without prejudice to the foregoing generality, the requirement to conduct themselves in accordance with the Club's ethical framework.

## **Management**

The Management of the Club shall be vested in a Management Committee. This shall consist of the officers of the club plus 6 members, all of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), and remain in office until the next Annual General meeting

The officers of the Club who shall be honorary are the President, Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary. If the post of any officer or ordinary committee member should fall vacant after such an election, the Executive Committee shall have the power to fill the vacancy until the succeeding Annual General Meeting.

The committee will have the power to co-opt additional members when they consider it necessary. These co-opted members will have a committee vote. The committee shall have the power to fill vacancies if and when they arise.

The quorum for the Management Committee to take decisions is 4, this quorum to consist of a minimum of two elected officers.

## **Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of November:

- Approve the minutes of the previous year's AGM.
- Receive reports from the Chair and Secretary.
- Receive a report from the Treasurer and approve the Annual Accounts.
- Elect the Management Committee.
- Appoint someone responsible for certifying the Club's accounts.
- Fix the subscription for the ensuing year.
- Consider changes to the Constitution for which due notice has been given to all members.
- Deal with other relevant business.

The Chair or Secretary must receive any proposed change to a Constitution Rule by a member at least 14 days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting, in order that all members shall have sufficient notice of the proposal. At least 14 days notice shall be given to members of the date, venue and agenda items for the Annual General meeting. Each fully paid up member present at the meeting shall have one vote.

## **Extraordinary General Meeting**

An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called by an application in writing to the Secretary supported by at least 10% of the members of the Club.

The Management Committee shall also have the power to call an Extraordinary General Meeting by decision at a Committee Meeting by a simple majority of those present.

## **Notices**

At least 14 days' notice and the Agenda shall be given to all voting members of any General Meeting. No business shall be conducted unless fair notice thereof is contained in the Agenda.

## **Voting**

With the exception of changes to the Constitution (see below), a simple majority at General Meetings shall resolve decisions put to a vote.

The Chair of the Club will have a casting vote at general and committee meetings.

## **Changes to the Constitution**

The Constitution may not be altered, added to or deleted except at an Annual General Meeting, or at an Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose, and then only by a two thirds majority of those present and voting.

## **Finance and Accounts**

The financial year shall run from 1 November to 31 October each year.

The Honorary Treasurer shall be responsible for the preparation of Annual Accounts of the Club.

The Accounts shall be certified by an appropriate independent person elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.

All cheques drawn against the Club's funds shall be signed by any 2 members nominated by the Management Committee (normally officers of the Committee).

## **Dissolution**

The Club is a non-profit making organisation. All profits and surpluses will be used to maintain or improve or develop the Club's facilities or to carry out the

objects of the Association to which it is affiliated. No profit or surplus will be distributed other than to another non-profit making body on a winding-up or dissolution of the Club.

If, upon the winding up or dissolution of the Club there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall be transferred to some other organisation or organisations having objects similar to the objects of the Club, such organisation or organisations to be determined by the members of the Club by Resolution passed at a General meeting or in the absence of such a resolution (or that the extent to which it cannot be given effect) to the Association to which the Club is affiliated.

### **Affiliations**

The Club shall seek to be affiliated to England Athletics, and to such other athletic bodies as the Management Committee consider appropriate in order to carry out the objects of the Club.

### **Subscriptions**

The amount of the annual subscriptions shall be as determined at Annual general meeting where appropriate.

The subscription year runs from the beginning of January to the end of December. Renewal is reduced if paid before the end of the January of the subscription year.

Subscription for new members, reducing to amount determined at Annual General Meeting, if joining from 1<sup>st</sup> August onwards. If joining after Annual General meeting then only the subscription for the following year need be paid.

### **Resignations**

Any member wishing to resign must do so in writing addressed to the Chairman or Secretary. The resignation shall be considered by the Committee within one calendar month of receipt and will be held as effective on the date of tendering. Resignations will not be accepted if the member is financially indebted to the Club, i.e. has not paid his or her subscription for the current year, and acceptance will be withheld until the debt has been discharged.