

# **Goyt Valley Striders Club Constitution**

## **Goyt Valley Striders Club Constitution**

### **1. Name**

The name of the organisation shall be Goyt Valley Striders, hereinafter referred to as the Club.

### **2. Objectives**

- The club is established to pursue the following objectives:
- Participation in the sport of running for those aged over 18. Those younger than 18 are permitted to run with the club but only under the supervision of an adult, usually a parent or guardian
- To offer support and encouragement, training and competitive opportunities in the name of running
- To assist and encourage members to achieve their own personal goals
- To promote the club within the local community
- To ensure a duty of care to all members of the Club
- To provide its services in a way that is fair to all members
- To foster a spirit of comradeship and co-operation between members and promote a cordial relationship between members
- To co-operate with clubs and leagues in all matters including those related to the laws of England Athletics.

### **3. Affiliation**

The Club shall be affiliated to England Athletics.

### **4. Membership**

- All members are subject to the Constitution of the Club and the regulations of England Athletics.
- Membership of the club is open to all individuals provided they comply with this Constitution.
- No person shall be refused membership on the grounds of race, colour, creed, religion, sex, sexual identity, sexual preference, impairment or disability.
- All applications for membership shall be accompanied by the appropriate annual membership fee, which shall thereafter be payable on demand. New members joining after 31 December shall pay a reduced fee covering membership through to the following 31 March.
- New members transferring in from other clubs may, if desired, provide, in addition to the club application form, a completed first claim transfer form together with information required from their former first claim club in order to register the transfer, together with the England Athletics transfer fee.
- Each fully paid up member shall be entitled to attend and vote at General or Annual General Meetings.
- Fully paid up members may be elected and serve on the Committee.

- Fees will be set annually and agreed by the Committee or determined at the Annual General Meeting and will be paid annually. The subscription year will run from 1 April until the following 31 March.
- Members entering races, including the club championship races, should run in official club shirts and abide by rules set out by race organisers.

## **5. Officers of the Club**

The officers of the Club will be

- Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Any other relevant position as required from time to time as decided by the Committee

## **6. Committee**

The Club will be managed through the Committee consisting of the officers

- The Committee will have the power to appoint subcommittees as necessary and appoint advisers to the Committee as necessary to fulfil its business
- The Committee will be responsible for disciplinary hearings of members who infringe the club rules/regulations/constitution. The Committee will be responsible for taking any action of suspension or discipline following such hearings.

## **7. Committee Meetings**

- Meetings shall be chaired by the Chair or another Committee member.
- If the Chair is unable to attend a meeting he/she/they may appoint a vice chair from the existing committee membership for that particular occasion.
- Committee meetings will take place no less than 4 times per year
- The committee members will receive an agenda prior to the meeting
- Any competent business to be discussed/considered at a meeting shall, where reasonably practicable be notified to the Secretary at least 7 days before the meeting, in order that it may be included in the agenda
- Any votes at club meetings shall be indicative and not binding. The Chair shall have a casting vote.
- No proxy votes will be permitted at club meetings apart from AGM & EGMs.

## **8. Finance**

- All Club monies will be banked in an account in the name of the Club
- The Club Treasurer will be responsible for the finances of the Club

- The Financial Year of the Club will end on 31st March.
- A statement of annual accounts will be presented by the Treasurer at the AGM
- Any monies drawn on the Club will be made by and recorded by the Treasurer
- The property and funds of the Club cannot be used for the direct or indirect private benefit of members other than as reasonably allowed by the Rules and all surplus income or profits are reinvested in the Club.

## **9. Annual General Meetings**

- Notice of Annual General Meetings (AGM) and Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM) and agenda will be given by the Club Secretary not less than 21 days notice to be given to members.
- The Committee shall agree the Agenda for each AGM/EGM prior to it being circulated to the Members by the Secretary
- Nominations for officers of the Committee shall, where possible, be sent to the Secretary at least 48 hours prior to the AGM or EGM at which an Election of officers is to take place. All nominations should be proposed and seconded by club members and the nomination should clearly state who proposes and seconds the member seeking election
- Elections of officers are to take place at the AGM or, in Extraordinary circumstances, at an EGM
- In the event of two members standing for one office, each member shall provide a written statement to the Secretary outlining why they believe they should be elected for that office. The statement shall be provided, together with the nomination, no later than 7 days prior to the AGM/EGM at which an election is to take place. The statements will be circulated to the members by the Secretary together with the meeting agenda and the person(s) standing for office shall not be permitted to make any further representation at the AGM/EGM at which the election is to take place. The statements will be read out at the AGM/EGM by the Secretary or Chair
- An AGM or EGM shall be chaired by the Chair or a Committee member
- All members over the age of 18 have the right to vote at an AGM or EGM. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chair of the meeting will have a second, casting vote. Members who have an interest in a vote such as their own election to office must make the meeting aware of their interest in the vote and will not be permitted to vote on the matter
- The quorum for AGM/EGM's will be 10 per cent of membership
- The Committee or 25 per cent of the members acting together have the right to call Extraordinary General Meetings (EGMs) outside the AGM. Procedures for EGMs will be the same as the AGM
- Any request for alteration of the rules or Constitution must be agreed at an AGM or EGM. A proposal to change a rule or the Constitution may be voted upon providing it is submitted in writing 7 days in advance, bears the name of the proposer and a seconder and has been circulated to the members as an agenda item at least 7 days prior to the meeting at which it is to be considered

- All votes at AGM/EGM's shall be by show of hands and shall be passed by a simple majority

Members will be entitled to vote by proxy if they are unable to attend an AGM/EGM. Proxy votes must be submitted in writing to the Secretary no later than 7 days prior to the meeting. The Secretary will confirm to the meeting the outcome of any proxy votes and confirm who has voted by proxy

### **10. Personal Risk**

- Members (and guests) acknowledge and accept that engaging in or participating in sport of any kind can be dangerous and that in participating in these activities they may be at risk of an injury, and even the possibility of death.
- Members and guests shall take personal responsibility for their own actions and safety.
- When participating in any of the Club's training sessions or events, they do so entirely at their own risk and release the Club from liability for injury, illness or death that may occur as a result of participating in a club session or event.
- The liability of the Club and its Officers to any member is limited to the net assets of the club.

### **11. Complaints**

- Any member wishing to register a complaint against the Club or a member of the Club should do so in writing to the Secretary
- The Committee will discuss, within 7 days of a complaint being lodged. The Committee has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action including the termination of the membership
- The outcome of a disciplinary hearing will be notified in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made within 7 days of the hearing
- In the event that a member is unhappy with the decision of the Committee in relation to the complaint, or with any subsequent disciplinary action, the member should refer their complaint to England Athletics who may provide advice and support regarding Club and Athlete compliance and wellbeing matters.

### **11. Dissolution**

- A resolution to dissolve the Club can only be passed at an AGM or EGM through a majority vote of the membership
- In the event of a dissolution, any assets of the Club that remain will be donated to a charity chosen by club members

The Club hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members.