

DEVON ORIENTEERING CLUB CONSTITUTION

September 2009

1. TITLE AND PURPOSE

The Club shall be called the Devon Orienteering Club and referred to hereinafter as the Club. The object of the Club shall be to encourage and promote the sport of orienteering in and around the County of Devon.

The Devon Orienteering Club is intent that children and vulnerable adults will find orienteering a safe environment in which to have fun, learn and develop. The Club will do this by adopting and promoting the British Orienteering Policy on Protecting Young and Vulnerable People.

The Club commits to the British Orienteering Policy on Equality & Inclusion and will do everything possible to ensure that the sport is open and accessible to all.

2. AFFILIATION

The Club shall affiliate to the South Western Orienteering Association (SWOA) and British Orienteering and pay such fees to them as may be required.

3. MANAGEMENT

A. The affairs of the Club shall be governed by the Annual General Meeting which shall elect an Executive Committee. The Committee shall meet and act as required for the efficient conduct of the Club's business but in any event not less than once a year. The Executive Committee shall carry out the decisions of the Annual General Meeting or any Extraordinary General Meeting.

B. The Executive Committee elected at the Annual General Meeting shall consist of
(i) The Officers: a Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Club Captain
(ii) Seven Elected Members, one of whom shall represent the junior members.

C. The Executive Committee shall have power to:
(i) Appoint additional Officers and co-opt additional Members
(ii) Fill any vacancies that may occur among Officers until the next Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting.

D. No Officer shall serve for more than three consecutive years in the same capacity.

E. Four Elected Members of which at least two shall be Officers shall constitute a quorum.

4. PRESIDENT AND PATRON

The Executive Committee may propose for General Meeting approval such persons as they think fit to be the President or Patron of the Club. Membership expenses of such persons shall be borne by the Club.

5. MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

- A. Membership fees for the following year shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting and the said fees shall be due on 1st January.
- B. The types of membership are defined as
- (i) **INDIVIDUAL**
1. Senior - an individual who is 21 years old or over or other such age as determined by British Orienteering who has paid the appropriate fee through the Club.
 2. Junior - an individual who is under the age of 21 or other such age as determined by British Orienteering who has paid the appropriate fee through the Club.
 3. Family - a family (parents and children under 19 years, or husband and wife) who has paid the appropriate fee through the Club.
- (ii) **GROUP:** a Group (e.g. School, Youth Club, etc.) which has paid the appropriate group registration fee through the Club affiliating to the British Orienteering and to the South Western Orienteering Association.
- (iii) **CLUB CONTACT:** Members of other British Orienteering Clubs who have paid the appropriate fee for receipt of Club Events and activities only. Club Contacts are not entitled to vote at General Meetings.
- (iv) **HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS:** Honorary Life Membership may be accorded to persons who have given outstanding service to Orienteering and who have been recommended by the Executive Committee and their nomination approved at a General Meeting. Membership Expenses of such persons shall be borne by the Club.

6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Club shall hold an Annual General Meeting no later than 31st October each year. The Secretary shall be responsible for giving reasonable notice of the Meeting to all Members. Eight Members or one third of the total franchised membership, whichever is the lesser, shall constitute a quorum.

7 EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called by the Committee or at the written request to the Secretary of at least eight Members or one third of the total franchised membership, whichever is the lesser. Eight members or one third of the total franchised membership, whichever is the lesser, shall constitute a quorum.

8. VOTING

All Members present at a General Meeting shall have a right to vote as follows:

- A. Individual Senior - one vote each.
- B. Individual Junior - one vote each.
- C. Individual Family - one vote per member of the Family 14 years or over present.
- D. Group - one vote per Group.

9. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- A. Any amendment to the Constitution shall be proposed in writing to the Secretary at least 14 days before the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting and shall be sent to each Club Member at least 7 days before the said Meeting.
- B. Alterations to the Constitution shall require a simple majority of the franchised members present at a General Meeting.

10. FINANCE

- A The financial year shall run from 1st August to 31st July each year. The accounts of the Club shall be balanced at 31st July and submitted, after independent audit, to the Annual General Meeting that follows the audit
- B All cheques written against the Club's funds will be signed by the Treasurer or a nominated officer. Cheques above the value of £300 will also be signed by the Club Chairman or Secretary. Expenditure greater than £3,000 on a single purchase will also require approval at a General Meeting of the Club.

11. DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution of the Club, any assets thereof must not be distributed amongst Members of the Club in any way whatsoever.

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AGREED BY

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 20TH SEPTEMBER 1986,

WITH AMENDMENTS AGREED AT:

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING ON 10TH JANUARY 1992

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 20TH SEPTEMBER 1995

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING ON 16TH JANUARY 1998

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 15th OCTOBER 2005

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ON 12th SEPTEMBER 2009