

Constitution of Gipping Riding Society

Chairman : Anne Gayfer Tel no 01728 861424

Secretary : Gill Orves Tel no 07793411462

1. The club is to be known as Gipping Riding Society
2. The objective of the club is to encourage riding as a sport and recreation and to organise competitive events, demonstrations, lectures and social events for local riders of all levels in a safe and friendly environment.
3. To be affiliated to British Riding Clubs and The British Horse Society and support and co-operate with these organisations to the benefit of the horse and horse owner.
4. To concern itself with any object which will benefit the horse and horse users in the local area.
5. Membership. Any person over 18 will be considered Senior members on payment of current membership fee. Persons up to and including the age of 17 will be Junior members on payment of current membership fee.

Junior members must have an accompanying signature of parent or guardian when joining the club and entering events and may not vote on any matter. A junior committee may be formed if deemed necessary to make recommendations for the Adult committee to consider.

Honorary membership may be conferred by the committee upon any person deemed by them to have rendered notable service to the club.

The annual subscription is due on the first day of the financial year which starts on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Persons wishing to be a member must complete the membership form and hand to the membership secretary with the appropriate fee.

Any member not paying their membership by April 1<sup>st</sup> will have their name removed from the membership list.

The annual subscription will be agreed by the committee each year prior to the AGM.

The committee retain the right to expel from the club any member who has been found to have wilfully disobeyed any rules of the club. The member has the right to appeal the decision and be given an opportunity to answer allegations against him/her.

6. A.G.M. The AGM which must be held yearly before the 31<sup>st</sup> December shall receive and approve the statement of the club's accounts to the end of the preceding year. Elect the Committee. Appoint an Auditor. Deal with any special matters the committee may wish to bring before the members.

Notice may be given to members by post or e-mail if that has been indicated on the membership form. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting or non-receipt of notice will not invalidate the proceedings of that meeting.

The Auditor appointed should be experienced in accounting matters and not be a member of the club.

A special AGM may be called by the committee, or by request of at least 5 members of the club specifying the reason. The secretary shall give all members 10 days notice and will specify the matters to be dealt with.

7. The Committee. The committee will consist of the Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and at least three other committee members. Five of these, which must include either Chair or Vice Chair and either Treasurer or Secretary, will form a quorum.

The Committee will manage the running of the club. This is to include interpreting the rules for anything relating to the club, formulating the by-laws for the detailed running of the club and electing sub-committees. The committee's decision is final unless overruled by the members at the AGM.

At the AGM each year 2 members of the committee will retire. The retirees will be the longest serving members of the committee. Retiring members will be eligible for re-election.

The Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected annually by the committee from their number.

The committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy that arises during the financial year but any person will only retain office until the next AGM and then be eligible for re-election.

The committee may appoint a President and Vice President annually. These appointments shall not become members of the committee.

8. Members shall be correctly turned out at all club events. Hats and correct footwear must be worn when mounted. All members must be aware of Health and Safety measures. A copy of the GRS Health & Safety Policy is available at all events or on request.

Hats must be marked: British - PAS 015:1998 or 2011 / BSEN1384:1997 or 2012, provided they are BSI Kitemarked. European - EN1384:1996 Provided they are BSI Kitemarked. American - All SEI, ASTM F1163:2004a or 04a, SNELL E2001. Australian & New Zealand - All SAI AS/NZS 3838:2006 OR SEI. Skullcap hats must be worn with a silk.

The club, its committee or persons acting on their behalf shall not be held responsible for any accident or injury to any property or person howsoever caused

9. All surplus income or profits are to be reinvested in the club. No surpluses or assets will be distributed to members or third parties. Charitable donations may be made at the discretion of the committee or if requested by members at the AGM.

10. In the event of the club disbanding, as determined by an inability at the AGM to elect a quorum for a committee, any funds remaining will be donated to one or more charities nominated by the members at the AGM or transferred to another registered CASC or the sport's governing body.