

# Valley Striders

## New Constitution October 2008

adopted on 7 October 2008

Including amendments agreed on 30 September 2014

*Note that the changes on 30 September 2014 are shown in red and underlined for reference*

### 1. NAME AND COLOURS

The Club shall be known as "Valley Striders Athletics Club", hereafter referred to as "the Club". The Club athletics colours shall be a plain white vest with the Valley Striders logo on the chest in black lettering, with preferably black shorts. Colours for other activities should be as similar as possible, subject to any restrictions by national governing bodies.

### 2. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Club shall be to encourage participation, improvement and competition in various disciplines of running, including ~~track~~, road running, cross country, fell running and trail running, also in track & field athletics, and also in associated sports, such as cycling, duathlon, triathlon etc.

### 3. POWERS

- i) to organise training sessions, races and competitions - in running and in associated sports - for Club members.
  - ii) to participate in running events as teams and as individuals.
  - iii) to organise races open to all runners.
  - iv) to affiliate to UK Athletics and to affiliate to other national governing bodies as appropriate.
  - v) to raise funds and to open a bank account.
  - vi) to obtain or lease equipment and premises.
  - vii) to recruit volunteers.
  - viii) to network and form partnerships with other organisations and agencies.
- and to do all such other lawful things as are desirable and necessary to further the objectives of the Club.

### 4. MEMBERSHIP

- i) Ordinary membership of the Club shall be open to any person (regardless of gender, age, disability, ethnicity, race, nationality, sexual orientation, occupation, religion, political or other beliefs).
- ii) Applications shall be made using the Membership Application Form and accompanied by the annual subscription, as laid down from time to time by the Management Committee (hereafter referred to as "the Committee"). Members must designate themselves as "First claim" or "Second claim" or "Social" members according to UK Athletics rules.
- iii) The Committee may create other categories of membership, such as cycling or junior or volunteer membership. In addition, honorary membership may be conferred for any reason by the Committee upon individuals who are active in Club affairs.
- iv) Every member shall have one vote.
- v) The Committee shall keep an up-to-date record of membership.
- vi) All Club members will be presumed to agree to abide by this Constitution by virtue of membership.
- vii) Membership may be terminated by the Committee if the Committee agrees that the member has acted against the objectives of the Club or brought the Club into disrepute. In these cases, a proportion of membership fees will be refunded.
- viii) Membership may be terminated by the Committee if the member defaults on an annual subscription, after having been given due notice.

### 5. GENERAL MEETINGS

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- i) An Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held in each calendar year, normally within 2 months after the end of the financial year, but always no less than 9 months and no more than 15 months following the previous AGM. The date, time and place will be determined by the Committee.
- ii) Each AGM shall be convened by the Secretary, who shall notify all members at least 21 days before the date of that meeting.
- iii) Any motion for consideration at the AGM must be in the Secretary's hands no later than 7 days, and notified to club members no later than 3 days, prior to the date of the meeting.

(the definition of "notified" is that every member with email will be sent an email and the information will be placed on the Club website)

iv) The business of the AGM shall include:

- adoption of the annual report and accounts
- election of the Committee and its officers
- election of other officials e.g. session coaches, cross country captain(s), Grand Prix co-ordinator, performance statistician, etc
- appointment of an independent examiner, if required.

v) Nominations for the Committee shall be submitted to the Secretary no later than 7 days before the AGM. If there are more nominations than there are vacancies to be filled, an election will be held at the AGM.

vi) Every member attending the AGM shall be entitled to one vote. Members unable to attend the AGM may make their voting intentions known to the chairman who will make a proxy vote on their behalf.

vii) The quorum for the AGM will be 15 voting members or one tenth of the membership resident in the UK present and eligible to vote, whichever of these is the greater.

#### SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

A Special General Meeting (SGM) shall be convened at the request of at least 10% of members, or at the request of the Committee, made in writing to the Secretary. Such a meeting shall be held within 30 days of that request. AGM rules (ii), (iii), (vi) and (vii) apply regarding notification, notice, voting rights and quorum.

### 6. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The duty of the Committee will be to carry out the objectives, provide the management and control the affairs of the Club.

i) The AGM of the Club shall elect a minimum of 6 ~~and a maximum of 10~~ members of the Committee, who shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting. At the election, the members will vote for the following officer posts to be filled:

- Chair
- Treasurer
- Secretary

ii) The Committee will be responsible for all the operational aspects of the club including recruitment, induction, training, internal competition, external competition, race organisation, membership, publicity and social.

iii) Additional officials may be appointed at an AGM or by the Committee to be responsible for specific functions, e.g. session coaches, cross country captain(s), Grand Prix co-ordinator, performance statistician, etc. These persons may be asked to attend some meetings of the Committee (see (ix) and (x) below) but they shall not have voting rights.

iv) In the event of any Committee members resigning before expiry of office the Committee may co-opt a member to fill this vacancy (but without voting rights). In the event of an officer resigning, a replacement shall be elected by the Committee from amongst its own members. If the number of current voting Committee members falls below 6, an SGM must be held to vote in additional Committee members.

v) All members of the Committee shall resign at the AGM, but shall then be eligible for re-election.

vi) The Committee shall meet no less than 3 times annually. Each meeting shall take place no more than 4 months since the previous meeting.

vii) For a Committee Meeting, there shall be a quorum when at least one third of the number of current voting members of the Committee or 3 voting members of the Committee, whichever is the greater, are present.

viii) The Committee shall keep minutes of the proceedings at meetings of the Committee and any sub-committee, and decisions taken will be notified to Club members.

ix) The Committee may invite any persons with particular knowledge, experience or skill to attend Committee meetings on special issues, but without having the right to vote.

x) The Committee may set up sub-committees and working groups from time to time, establishing their terms of reference and any delegated responsibilities as appropriate.

xi) All Committee members should be notified of all meetings at least 7 days in advance of such meetings unless, when there is urgent business, shorter notice may be given in agreement with the Secretary.

### 7. FINANCE

i) All monies raised by or on behalf of the Club should be used to further the objectives of the Club.

ii) The Treasurer shall keep account of all income and expenditure and shall submit accounts to the Annual General Meeting.

iii) A bank or building society account shall be established in the name of the Club and withdrawals shall be made in its name on the signature of any 2 of up to ~~5~~ 6 named Committee members.

iv) Members of the Committee and of the Club may claim reasonable out of pocket expenses whilst on business on behalf of the Club.

### 8. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

This constitution may be altered by means of a resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of those voting (including proxy votes) at a quorate AGM or at a quorate SGM called for that purpose. Any alterations to this constitution shall take immediate effect, providing that such implementation shall not run counter to any other provision of this constitution.

### 9. DISSOLUTION

The Club may be dissolved at any time by means of a resolution agreed by a two thirds majority of those voting (including proxy votes) at a quorate AGM or at a quorate SGM called for that purpose, providing that such dissolution is confirmed subsequently by a simple majority of at least 40% of the Club's voting members. The Club's assets will be distributed as voted upon at that meeting, following the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, to another organisation (or organisations) with similar or charitable objectives.

Signed (Chair).....

Date.....