



# Club Constitution

## TITLE

The club shall be known as ASHRIDGE CANICROSSERS.

## OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the club shall be:-

- To encourage Canicross as a sport and recreation.
- To encourage responsible canine care when Canicrossing.
- To arrange regular meets over a variety of terrain

## MEMBERSHIP

This shall consist of persons who have attained the age of 18 years and who have paid the due subscription for the current period.

The club year to run from 01Sept - 31August.

Anyone wishing to become a member must complete a membership application form and comply with the conditions of membership.

The Committee shall have the right to reject any application for membership it deems unsuitable.

The annual subscription shall be due on the first day of the club's financial year. A reduction of 75% in fees will be due if 6 months of the membership year has passed, and if joining in the last two calendar months then the following year subscription is automatically covered.

Any member whose subscription is more than three months in arrears may have his or her name removed from the Membership List without notification.

The Committee may expel from membership of the Club any member who has not complied with the rules of the Club or who has, in the opinion of the Committee, been guilty of any conduct derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the Club, providing that before expelling him or her the Committee shall call upon him or her for an explanation of his or her conduct and give him or her a proper opportunity of answering the allegations.

## ADMINISTRATION

The Committee

All powers of management shall be vested in the Committee consisting of the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and all other committee members: three shall form a quorum.

The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected annually by the Committee from among their number.

The decision of the Committee shall be final unless over-ruled at a General Meeting.

The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of the rules or for anything relating to the Club not provided therein and their decision shall be final and binding on the members.

The Committee shall have the power to fill any casual vacancy arising amongst members of the Committee, but any person so co-opted shall retain office only until the next Annual General Meeting and shall then be eligible for re-election.

The Annual General Meeting shall be held in Jan/Feb each year to transact the following business:-

- To receive and if approved to adopt a Statement of the Club's Accounts to the end of the preceding year.
- To fill vacancies on the Committee
- To appoint an auditor
- To deal with any special matter which the Committee may desire to bring before the members and to receive suggestions from the members for consideration by the Committee.

Notice convening the AGM shall be sent to members not less than 21days before the meeting and shall specify matters to be dealt with.

The accounts of the Club shall be audited each year by the person appointed at the previous Annual General Meeting.

Notice may be given to any member by sending it by post or email or Facebook to him or her at the address registered in the records of the club.

The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting or the non-receipt of a notice of a meeting by any member shall not invalidate the proceedings.

The rules set out in this constitution may be added to, repealed or amended by resolution at the Annual General Meeting, provided a change notice is sent to all members stating the proposed amendment 21 days prior to the meeting. Members can vote by proxy if unable to attend the AGM, with the members at vote at the AGM a 2/3 majority must be reached. Members choosing not to vote either at an AGM or by proxy will be considered as abstentions.

The Club, its Committee or persons acting on their behalf will not be held responsible for claims for anything which may happen to competitors, their helpers, onlookers, canines, vehicles or property in connection with, or arising from, any Club event and it shall be a condition of participation that each canicrosser shall indemnify the Committee against legal action arising from any accident.

#### **BYE-LAWS**

The Club will not be responsible for the actions of any member's canines at an event. Runners should ensure they have adequate canine insurance.

It is each member's responsibility to ensure that their dog is fit to run and not put at risk whilst attending any club event.

The Club will provide third party liability for runners at its events against third parties not involved in the event.

Temporary membership will be granted to persons new to the club. This will permit the temporary member to join in a maximum of 3 club runs, after which the temporary member must join the club to continue attending events. The Club may make a nominal charge for loan equipment.

Members may bring guest/guests to club runs. The same criteria as a temporary member apply.

Persons under the age of 18 must be accompanied by their Parent or Guardian, who is a fully paid up member, the Parent or Guardian accepts full responsibility for said person.

#### **FINANCE**

The financial year of the Club shall commence on 1 Jan in each year.

The annual subscription shall be a sum determined by the Committee. The subscription shall be used primarily to cover insurance.

The Honorary Treasurer shall be responsible for the preparation of the annual accounts of the club.

All cheques drawn from the club will require two signatures, one of which shall be the Treasurer. Other signatories can be drawn from the committee but would normally include the Secretary and the Chairperson.

#### **REVENUE**

The revenue of the Club shall not be available for dividend, but shall be used solely to further the objectives of the Club. In the event of dissolution or winding up of the Club, whether voluntary or by order of the court, any net assets remaining after settlement of all due liabilities shall be donated to a Canine Rescue Organisation agreed on by the officers of the club.

#### **DATA PROTECTION AND PRIVACY**

The Data Protection Act currently exempts private clubs from the need for registration of their databases, but the Club will follow best practice guidelines as follows:

- The Membership Secretary holds a simple UK-based electronic database of the information provided by members on their membership application form including e-mail addresses where supplied.
- Member contact details will be used for mailing newsletters, renewal reminders and other club information the Committee deems appropriate. E-mail addresses will only be used if the member has given permission via the membership form and will only be used for club business. From time to time, the Club may allow third party material to be included with mailings to offset the costs but undertake not to pass contact details to any third party at any time.
- Committee Members undertake to treat any member contact details as confidential and for the use of club business only. Membership records will be kept for five years or at the discretion of the Committee. Any member who has any concern regarding the use or holding of their contact details at any time should contact the Membership Secretary in writing giving details of the nature of their concern.