

CONSTITUTION OF WORTHING STRIDERS

1. The name of the Club is Worthing Striders (the Club).
2. The Headquarters of the Club is Worthing Rugby Football Club or such other place as may be agreed by the Committee and approved by the membership at an Annual General or Special General Meeting.
3. The aims and objectives of the Club are:
 - a. To promote Road and Cross Country Running
 - b. To promote Running as an enjoyable way to keep fit.
 - c. To provide Training for runners and make provision for newcomers
 - d. To provide opportunities to take part in organised running events
4. The Club shall affiliate to England Athletics (EA) and UK Athletics (UKA).
5. The Management of the Club is vested in the Committee. The Committee shall consist of the following Officers:
 - a. Chair
 - b. Vice Chair
 - c. Hon. Secretary
 - d. Hon. Treasurer
 - e. Six (6) fully paid up members.

Aside from the ability to co-op members for specific purposes, the Club's elected Committee shall not exceed 10.

6. Members of the Committee shall be elected by and at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) meeting for a period not exceeding one year. Should any vacancy occur in any Office before the AGM, the Committee may appoint a fully paid up member of the Club or Committee member to act in that capacity until the AGM. The Committee may co-opt members onto the Committee.
7. No alteration or additions to the Club's Constitution shall be made except at an AGM or Special General Meeting (SGM) called for that purpose.
8. Five members of the Committee shall form a quorum.
9. Membership of the Club is confined to Amateurs as defined by EA
10. A candidate for Membership must apply in writing on the Form provided or online via the Club's Website. Membership is at the discretion of the Committee.
- 11.** All members, whether existing or newly admitted, are bound by the Club's Constitution, including the Rules and Codes of Conduct in all regards set out in EA Constitution and associated documents as shown in the EA Website. A copy of the **CODE OF CONDUCT** is on the Club Noticeboard or Website or available via the Hon. Secretary.

12. All members who are competing on behalf of the Club in competitive races shall wear Club colours.
13. An AGM shall be held in September or October to receive the Committee's Reports and Financial statement, elect Officers and deal with any other relevant matter specified on the Agenda previously published. The Chair shall have discretion to permit such other Business to be considered at the AGM that is not on the Agenda.
14. Any paid up member unable to attend the AGM or Special general meeting can vote by proxy on all matters set out in the Agenda duly published. This Proxy vote shall be with the Hon. Secretary by the commencement of the meeting. The Hon. Secretary must receive the name of the proxy – which for clarity can be a member of the Committee
- and the voting intentions clearly set out in writing or electronic form. All votes properly received and clearly stating the member's wishes shall be counted in in any vote.
15. A Special General meeting must be called by the Hon. Secretary within fourteen (14) days of the receipt of a requisition signed by ten (10) fully paid up Members of the Club stating the business to be brought before such a meeting.
16. Any ten (10) fully paid up members shall form a quorum for an AGM or Special General meeting.

17. The Hon. Secretary must give members 21 days' Notice of the AGM. Notice of any Business to be placed on the Agenda must be given in writing or electronic form to the Honorary Secretary at least 10 days prior to this meeting. The Hon. Secretary shall give at least seven (7) days' notice to every member, either by post or in electronic form, of any General meeting and the business to be dealt with at the meeting. The Chair shall have discretion to permit other urgent business to be dealt with at the meeting.
18. The Committee shall have power to expel any member whose subscription is Six (6) months in arrears, provided a month's notice of such action in writing or electronic form has been sent to the member concerned at their last known postal or electronic address. A member whose subscription is in arrears of three (3) months or more is not eligible to take part in any competition promoted by the Club, unless permission is received from the Committee in writing or electronic form. The Hon. Secretary shall notify the Secretary of the EA/UKA and the South of England AA of any such member who is in arrears and has been expelled. No member whose subscription fee is in arrears is eligible to take part in any competition promoted by the Club.
19. The Club's accounts shall be made up to the end of August and independently checked prior to being published.
20. The Hon. Treasurer shall receive and pay into the Club account all monies due and received for and on behalf of the Club. The Hon. Treasurer shall only disburse cash against a signed voucher or receipt from the recipient. All cheques drawn on the Club's account shall be signed by any two (2) of a nominated group within the Committee. No two (2) members of the same household may sign cheques on behalf of the Club..

21. In the event of the dissolution of the Club, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities of the Club may be distributed among any of the following:

1. Registered Charitable organisations
2. England or UK Athletics
3. Any other registered local Running Club

as the Committee in their discretion deem appropriate.

22. The Committee shall have the right to investigate written reports of any Member(s) of the Club infringing the Club's Constitution and Rules or the Rules of the Governing Bodies or bringing the Club into disrepute. The Committee shall set up a Panel of three (3) members of the Committee to investigate such allegations ("the proceedings"). All available evidence must be considered. The Code of Conduct of EA may be considered in this regard. The Committee shall publish their findings and, where the report or allegation is upheld, impose such determination and sanction as agreed, including suspension of the member concerned or expulsion from the Club. A member who is subject to such proceedings shall have the right of appeal against such findings or determination, subject to lodging a Notice of Appeal with the Hon, Secretary within seven (7) days of notification of the findings or determination. Such appeal must be heard by a differently constituted panel of three (3) members of the Committee.

23. The Club shall not be liable for any injury or loss/damage/injury to a Member or their personal belongings. Insurance may be available through EA. Whilst it is acknowledged that the Club has a duty of care towards members, it is underlined that all members' run at their own risk and this includes Training evenings or events.

24. The Committee shall have power to make a payment out of Club funds to any member or third party as they see fit.

25. In relation to the London Marathon or other similar Race (“relevant Race”) places allocated to the Club, these shall be given to members who have been a paid-up members of the Club for at least twelve months, have entered the race ballot and been rejected. Rejection slips must be provided by the member concerned. Subject to the number of rejection slips and places, a ballot will be held at the earliest opportunity to determine allocation of places. At least three substitutes shall also be drawn.

A member who is allocated a place in a relevant Race and is not able to compete shall return the Entry to the Hon. Secretary. Providing the cut-off date is not passed, the Hon. Secretary shall offer the place to the substitute in order that was selected in the original draw. The cost of the relevant Race place shall be borne by the member given the place whether via a ballot or selection.

Where there are no rejection slips, the Committee shall hold a ballot of members who wish to take part. Only fully paid up members of at least twelve months standing may take part in the Ballot.

26. The Club will make every effort to obtain a ‘CLUBMARK’ qualification as set out in England Athletics Constitution.

EQUITY POLICY STATEMENT ADOPTED BY WORTHING STRIDERS FROM ENGLAND ATHLETICS

Worthing Striders is committed to ensuring that equity is incorporated across all aspects of its development. Sport equity is about fairness in sport, equality of access, recognising inequalities and taking steps to address them. It is about changing the culture and structure of sport to ensure it becomes equally accessible to everyone in society.

The Club:

- Respects the rights, dignity and worth of every person and will treat everyone equally within the context of the sport, regardless of age, ability, gender, race, ethnicity, religious belief, sexuality or social/economic status.
- Is committed to everyone having the right to enjoy their sport in an environment free from threat of intimidation, harassment and abuse.
- Requires members to have a responsibility to oppose discriminatory behaviour and promote equality of opportunity