

CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF THE RIBCHESTER AND DISTRICT ANGLING CLUB (2008 Revised)

Name of Club

1. The name of the Club shall be “ The Ribchester and District Angling Club” (hereafter “The Club”).

Purpose

2. The objectives of the Club are to foster the art of angling within the local community; to encourage the youth and senior members of the community in the practice of angling through the membership of a trained and disciplined confraternity; to acquire the fishing rights and other fishing opportunities for members at reasonable prices.

The Committee

3. The Club shall have a Committee consisting of twelve voting members; it shall include the Honorary Vice President. The Committee will elect its own officers including: a Chairman, Secretary, Waters Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer and Head Bailiff.
4. Not less than seven of the elected members must be from the parishes of Ribchester, Hothersall or Dutton.
5. The Committee can co-opt others to serve on the Committee and its Sub-Committees as it sees fit.
6. Each Committee member shall, on a staggered basis, seek re-election every three years at the Annual General Meeting.
7. The Committee will appoint from its number Trustees. These Trustees shall not be subject to re-election during the period of their appointment as Trustees.
8. The Committee will meet six times a year, plus additional meetings as advised by the Secretary. Any three Committee members may call a Special Committee Meeting, giving no less than two full weeks notice to all serving members of the Committee.
9. No decision of the Committee shall bind the Club unless taken at a meeting at which no less than three of the officers listed at Clause 3, and four other members, are present. No less than three of those attending the meeting must be from the parishes of Ribchester, Hothersall or Dutton.
10. The Secretary is charged with approaching any Committee members who fail to attend three consecutive committee meetings so that any information forthcoming can be presented by the Secretary to the Committee upon which any decisions can be justly made regarding the member’s continued service.
11. No Committee member shall be a Committee member of any other angling club, syndicate or like association.

Conduct of Meetings

12. Whenever a Committee member has a personal interest in a matter to be discussed he/she must declare it, withdraw from that part of the meeting (unless asked to stay), not be counted in the quorum for that agenda item and withdraw during the vote and have no vote on the matter concerned.
13. The Committee may decide its own way of operating. Unless it otherwise resolves the following rules apply:
 - a. Committee meetings shall be held face to face;
 - b. The Chairman of the Club, or whoever else those present choose, shall chair meetings;
 - c. Decisions shall be by simple majority of those voting;
 - d. A resolution in writing signed by every Committee member shall be valid without a meeting;
 - e. The chair of the meeting shall have a casting vote in the event of a drawn ballot.

Annual General Meetings

14. The Club will meet once a year for an A.G.M.
15. The A.G.M. will be held on the last Thursday in November.

16. The AGM shall include:
 - a. An audited statement of accounts and report from the Treasurer;
 - b. A report by the Secretary;
 - c. A report by the Waters Secretary;
 - d. A report by the Membership Secretary;
 - e. A report by the Head Bailiff;

Financial Matters

17. The Trustees shall hold the assets of the Club.
18. The Committee will have a recognised bank account, under the control of the Treasurer.
19. All cheques issued by the Club will require dual signature of the Treasurer and one other from either the Chairman or Secretary.
20. The Chairman and / or Secretary, as named signatories to the Club's bank account, shall periodically, and independently of the Treasurer, request a statement of the account(s) to monitor the use of the account(s).
21. The Treasurer has licence to invest, in any lawful manner, under the approval of the Committee.
22. The Treasurer and Secretary will keep appropriate records for approval and scrutiny by the Committee.
23. If, at a General Meeting, a resolution for the dissolution of the Club shall be passed by a majority of the members present, and at a Special General Meeting held not less than six weeks later (of which not less than four weeks written notice shall have been given to each member) and at which not less than one half of the total membership of the Club shall be present, that Resolution shall be confirmed by a Resolution passed by a majority of two thirds of the Members voting thereon, the Committee shall thereupon, or at a future date as shall be specified in the Resolution, proceed to realise the property of the Club and after discharge of all liabilities shall distribute the same to a charity or charities in such share or shares as the Committee shall decide and upon the completion of such payment the Club shall be dissolved.

Rules, Conduct and Discipline

24. The Committee shall publish a set of Rules to govern the fishing practices of members. Any member failing to comply with those rules may have their membership revoked (or suffer other sanctions as appropriate) at the discretion of the Committee.
25. The Committee is empowered to change the Constitution and Rules but is obliged to inform members at an A.G.M. or at a special member's meeting or in writing.
26. The Committee is the final arbiter on all matters relating to the running of the Club.
27. The Committee shall have power to expel members from the Club (or apply other sanctions as appropriate) when it has been proved to their satisfaction that the member's conduct has brought the Club into disrepute or where they have failed to comply with the Rules and/or Constitution of the Club.
28. Subscriptions are due on January 1st. Members who have not paid their subscription by the last day of February will forfeit their membership.
29. No member shall submit any article for publication (either in a printed journal, on the internet or in any other public media) relating to any RADAC water without the express agreement of the Committee. The member shall, if so requested, submit the article to the Committee for the purpose of gaining this approval.
30. The Environment Agency has made a Fisheries Byelaw (17th July 2006) which restricts anglers fishing the River Ribble, and all waters tributary and connected with it, to the killing of no more than two salmon between the 16th June and the 31st October (the killing of salmon before the 16th June being forbidden by the North West Fisheries Byelaws). In support of this byelaw the Environment Agency has put in place a voluntary tagging scheme for any salmon so killed. The Committee has decided that compliance with the tagging requirement will be mandatory for all members fishing RADAC waters. If the Environment Agency modifies or cancels these byelaws the Committee shall review the Constitution accordingly.
31. Members who have their membership revoked shall not be entitled to any reimbursement of subscription.
32. Members who have their membership revoked shall not be entitled to reapply.

33. The Committee, at its discretion, may require a member or applicant for membership to appear before it to provide information relating to any matter.

Membership.

34. The Club shall have different classes of membership as follows:
- a. Junior Members. Members shall be classed as junior members until the end of the year following their 18th birthday.
 - b. Senior Members.
 - c. Old Age Pensioner. A members shall qualify as an OAP member from the beginning of the year following their 65th birthday.
 - d. Lady Members.
 - e. Disabled Members. Members shall qualify as disabled who have a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.
35. Old Age Pensioners (OAPs) must pay full entrance and full yearly fees for the first two years of membership. After two years, for their third and subsequent years, they qualify to pay a concessionary membership rate. Disabled members pay the same fees as OAPs.
36. Children of full members may join the Club upon application as long as they qualify as junior members.
37. Any new member, who gives false information on application, may have their membership revoked at the discretion of the Committee.
38. Any member who gives false information in support of an application for membership, or fails to disclose anything within their personal knowledge that the Committee should be aware of in considering an application for membership, may have their membership revoked at the discretion of the Committee.
39. The Committee reserves the right to refuse membership to any applicant where they believe that to do so would not be conducive to the Purpose and/or interests of the Club.
40. Members are entitled to take two guests onto RADAC waters provided that they have purchased guest tickets for them before fishing. The RADAC member must accompany the guests at all times and is responsible for their behaviour whilst on RADAC water. A RADAC member may be subject to disciplinary action in respect of the conduct of their guests.
41. Members may take guests onto exchange tickets where the arrangement allows.
42. Senior members may take up to two guests under the age of 14 onto RADAC waters without charge.

General

43. The Club does not hold itself responsible for any accidents during member's pursuit of the common hobby, nor any liability arising from any accident. However, suitable third party insurance on behalf of itself and its members is maintained by the Club.

Adopted at a meeting held at the Ribchester Sports and Social Club, on 27th October 2008, signed:

Signature: (Signed in the original)

Name: Tim Booth

Position: Chairman

Witnessed:

Signature: (Signed in the original)

Name: Derek Harwood

Position: Secretary of the Club