

DONCASTER ROWING CLUB

CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

The Club shall be known as the Doncaster Rowing Club herein after known as 'The Club'.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of The Club are:-

- a) To promote and encourage the sport of rowing in the City of Doncaster and the wider area
- b) To provide a social meeting place for rowers past and present.
- c) To encourage proficiency in rowing and to train and enter crews to represent The Club at races at home and abroad.
- d) To support people in achieving their aspirations and get the most they can out of their involvement in the sport of rowing
- e) To apply the funds and other property of The Club in pursuance of the above objectives or any of them and to do all acts and things that may be conducive or incidental thereto.

3. MEMBERSHIP

a) Classes of Membership:

The following membership classes will be offered at subscription rates agreed at AGM.

- i) Adult Members - over the age of eighteen
- ii) Family Members - adults and children in a family group who all appear on the membership list.
- iii) Student Members - over eighteen and attending a college or university.
- iv) Junior Members - from eleven years to a date they can no longer row as a Junior.
- v) Indoor Rowing Members - do not have access to or use of club boats but can use training equipment with an induction.
- vi) Life Members - have the standing of a full member but enjoy their rights for life. They are required to pay a lump sum subscription and satisfy such conditions as the Committee deems fit.

b) Election of Membership

- i) Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport of rowing, on application, in accordance with the Equal Opportunities Policy (Paragraph 4). However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.
- ii) The Club may have different classes of membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The Club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.
- iii) Applicants for membership and members renewing their membership, will abide by the Rules and Regulations of The Club and the sport of rowing.

iv) If it is considered by The Club committee that the granting or renewal of membership would be detrimental to the aims and objectives of The Club, by virtue of conduct or character likely to bring The Club or the sport of rowing into disrepute or for some other similar good cause, The Club committee shall be entitled to refuse or withdraw such membership. In doing so the committee shall provide full reasons for their decision and grant a right of appeal to the member.

c) Restriction:

A person who has been expelled from, or refused membership of British Rowing, shall not be eligible for membership.

4. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY

The Club is fully committed to the principles of equality of opportunity and is responsible for ensuring that no member, volunteer, employee or job applicant receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of age, gender, disability, race, ethnic origin, nationality, colour, parental or marital status, pregnancy, religious belief, social status, sexual orientation or political belief.

5. CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES

The Club accepts the policy and procedures relating to Child Protection and the Protection of Adults at Risk as set out by British Rowing, and requires all members to accept them as a condition of membership.

6. RACING NAMES

When competing in British Rowing events, and representing the club, the following 'Racing Names' shall be used

Doncaster Rowing Club (DRC)

Doncaster Schools' Rowing Association (DSRA)

Adults shall use only the name *Doncaster Rowing Club (DRC)*

The name used by junior crews shall routinely be *Doncaster Schools' Rowing Association (DSRA)* or as decided by the committee.

No other 'Racing names' shall be used.

7. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The rates of subscription shall be determined by the members in General meeting and shall be due on election and, thereafter, monthly.

8. CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- a) Any member may resign giving notice to the Membership Secretary.
- b) i) Any member violating any of the rules or regulations of The Club or being adjudged guilty of unsatisfactory conduct may, by resolution of the Committee, be suspended or expelled. Any member so suspended or expelled may appeal to an independent Hearings Panel if such an appeal is approved by the Management Committee of The Club, hereinafter called the panel. The panel will hear and receive evidence, reach a conclusion, affirm, or reject the sanctions imposed as appropriate.

- ii) Any hearings panel must give a fair and independent hearing to the appellant within an appropriate timescale. Hearings must not contravene the Human Rights Act 1998 or any other policies of The Club and British Rowing.
- c) A member shall be deemed to have resigned from The Club if they have not paid the appropriate subscription for three months. They may, however, rejoin at any time subject to the provision of 3b or 3c above.

9. GRIEVANCE AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

An individual or member with a complaint about treatment by the Club should set out their grievance, in the first instance to the Club Chairman. The Club will seek to deal with complaints in a fair and timely manner, with reference to British Rowing's Guidelines on Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures in Rowing.

10. DISQUALIFICATION FROM HOLDING OFFICE

Only members entitled to vote are eligible to hold office.

Any member who is under the age of 18 years, shall not be eligible for election to the Committee of The Club.

11. COMMITTEE

- a) The Committee shall conduct the affairs of the Club as a whole and shall consist of a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and other Officers as deemed necessary, together with 8 ordinary members. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt up to 6 further members but co-opted members shall have no right to vote at Committee meetings.
- b) Nominations for the position of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and other Officers shall be put forward in the form of a motion at Annual General Meeting in a manner determined by the committee.
- c) The Committee shall elect a Vice-Chairman from among its number.
- d) The term of office shall be for one year, and members shall be eligible for re-election.

12. DUTIES OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- a) Chairman: The Chairman (or Chair) will preside at all General meetings of The Club and at all meetings of the Committee and shall be responsible for guiding the activities of The Club in accordance with its general policy as expressed by the majority of its members. The Chairman shall represent or arrange for the representation of The Club at British Rowing regional level and at meetings of other organisations. The Chairman shall ex officio be a member of any other committee of The Club.
- c) Captain: The Captain is responsible for the day-to-day management of The Club, training, coaching and representation of The Club in competitions supported by Squad Captains, Junior Rowing Coordinator, and Coaches.
- d) Treasurer: The Treasurer will be responsible for the collection and disbursement of all monies belonging to The Club and will keep proper accounting records of all such transactions. He or she will present at the AGM an income and expenditure report. The transactions of The Club will be conducted through an online bank account and will be visible for scrutiny to the Chairman, Captain, Membership Secretary and as many Committee Officers as deemed appropriate.

- e) Secretary: The Secretary is responsible for the organisation of meetings of the Committee and of The Club, and the recording of minutes relating to such meetings and all correspondence relating to the general business of The Club.

13. CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- a) The Committee is responsible for the general conduct of The Club's business and activities.
- b) The Committee shall meet at regular intervals during the year, as required by the business to be transacted. The frequency of, and length of meetings will be managed so as not to present a barrier to those members wishing to support The Club in committee roles.
- c) Special meetings of the Committee shall be called by the Secretary on instructions from the Chairman, or not less than three committee members.
- d) A quorum shall consist of not less than eight members.
- e) In the case of casual vacancy among the Committee, the Committee shall be entitled to appoint another eligible person to act until the next AGM.

14. GENERAL MEETINGS

- a) An Annual General Meeting shall be held in the Autumn of each year. There shall be laid before the meeting a statement of accounts made up for the period between AGMs.
- b) An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called on the instructions of a simple majority of the Committee, or on a requisition signed by not less than fifteen of the members of The Club entitled to vote.
- c) Not less than 30 days clear notice shall be given, specifying to all members the time and business of the General Meeting.
- d) Motions for discussion at Annual General Meetings not of origin from within the Committee, shall be lodged with the Secretary at least 21 days preceding the AGM, and be signed by five members entitled to vote.
- e) At any General Meeting, a resolution put to the vote of the Meeting shall be decided by a show of hands, of those entitled to vote, except when more than one nomination has been received for a position on the Committee, in which case voting will be by secret ballot.
- f) At all General Meetings the Chairman will preside or, in his/her absence, a Chairman for the meeting will be elected by the voting members present.
- g) At all General Meetings not less than fifteen members of The Club entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum.
- h) Absences of Quorum. If after half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, a quorum is not present, the Meeting, if called at the request of the members, shall be dissolved. In any other case, the Meeting shall be adjourned until a time and place to be fixed by the Committee. If a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for an Adjourned Meeting, the members present shall be a quorum.

- i) Accidental Omission. Accidental Omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of, a meeting by any member shall not invalidate the proceedings of a meeting.

15. LIABILITY

The General Committee shall manage the affairs of the Club. Financial or legal liability incurred in the rightful exercise of their office shall not, however, be the personal liability of the Committee, but shall be the responsibility of the Club as a whole. The Committee should ensure that adequate and appropriate public or preferably civil liability insurance is in place to cover all the activities of the club, its committee and members.

16. VOTING

Only members appearing on the membership list and up to date with the appropriate subscriptions and over the age of sixteen years are entitled to vote at all meetings.

17. ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION

This constitution shall not be altered, amended, or rescinded except by a General Meeting of The Club.

A resolution to give effect to a change must be passed by at least 66% of the members present at the General Meeting and voting on this behalf.

18. AUDITOR

Every Annual General Meeting may appoint an Auditor who shall at the conclusion of the next financial year examine the accounting records of The Club, and report to the members on the income and expenditure accounts and balance sheet that are presented to the AGM.

19. DISTRIBUTION OF PROFITS

In no circumstances can any profit be distributed to members, but any profits earned shall be used in furthering the objectives of The Club.

20. TERMINATION

The Club shall not terminate except by a resolution of a Special General Meeting convened for the purpose and, in such an event, any surplus assets shall be handed over to a body or bodies with similar objectives or to a charity or charities agreed by the meeting which formally terminates The Club.

21. POWER OF DECISION

Any matter not provided for in this constitution, or any question over the interpretation of it shall be dealt with by the Committee whose decision shall be final.

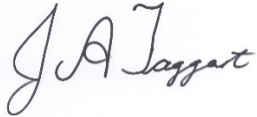
22. SAFETY

The Officers and Committee have primary responsibility for safe practice within the Club and for observing guidance of water safety issued by British Rowing and through RowSafe

23. DECLARATION

Doncaster Rowing Club hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the action of members.

Signed



Date: 24 November 2024

Chair



Date: 24 November 2024

Secretary