



# Newport Rowing Club

Hurstake, Riverway, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5XH

Founded 1863

President: Ian Lallow

Affiliated to

Hampshire & Dorset A.R.A

IW Rowing Forum

British Rowing

## CONSTITUTION

### 1. NAME

The name of the club shall be *Newport Rowing Club* (therein after called the 'Club').

### 2. COLOURS

The Club colours are blue and yellow.

### 3. OBJECTS

The objects of the Club are to provide for anyone interested in the sport of rowing the facilities for rowing and to coach rowing as a recreational and competitive sport.

### 4. MEMBERSHIP

- a) Membership shall consist of
  - i) *Full Membership* with full rowing and voting rights.
  - ii) *Junior Membership* (under 16 years of age) with full rowing rights, but non-voting.
  - iii) *Coach Membership* with full rowing and voting rights.
  - iv) *NRC Supporter* with voting rights, but no rowing rights.
  - v) *Student Membership* with full rowing, but non-voting rights.
  - vi) *Family Membership* (children under 16) with full rowing rights but only one vote.
  - vii) *Temporary Membership* with full rowing rights for seven visits but non-voting.
  - viii) *Non-Island Resident* with full rowing rights and voting rights.
  - ix) *Life membership* valued at ten times the current Full Membership
- b) The President and Vice-Presidents, who will be elected each year by the members at the Annual General Meeting
- c) Honorary Members - members to whom the Committee may wish to pay special tribute or honour.
- d) Election of Membership
  - i) Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport of rowing on application, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs. 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 members.'

- e) Membership subscriptions shall be due annually after the 1<sup>st</sup> October. Members joining during the year shall pay a full subscription for the year unless the date of joining shall be on or after 1<sup>st</sup> April when the membership fee will be reduced by fifty percent.
- f) Any member who has not made adequate arrangements to pay his or her subscription fee within one calendar month of the 1<sup>st</sup> October shall cease to be a member of the Club.
- g) Any person seeking re-election following Rule 4f may be required to pay a surcharge, the amount of which will be determined by the Committee.
- h) Any committee member who fails to attend three committee meetings without notifying the Secretary shall be deemed to have resigned from the committee.
- i) If at any time the Committee shall believe it is in the interest of the Club, it may invite any Member to withdraw from the club. In default of such a withdrawal the questions of expulsion shall be considered at a Committee Meeting at which such Member shall be allowed to offer an explanation verbally or in writing. If thereon at least two thirds of the Committee members present vote for expulsion, he or she shall forthwith cease to be a Member. Any Member being expelled shall forfeit all claims to the property of the Club.
- j) The Club will not be made responsible for any accident which may occur to any member whilst on the Club's premises or in the Club's boats.
- k) In accepting membership of the Club, the member agrees to abide by the Rules of the Club.

## 5. OFFICERS

The Officers of the Club shall be, Captain, Vice-Captain, Secretary, Treasurer, Safety Officer, Child Welfare Officer and committee Chairman.

## 6. THE COMMITTEE

- a) The Committee shall consist of the Officers and not less than two or more than nine other members who have had at least one year's membership of the Club. All members of the Committee will be proposed, seconded and elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.
- b) The Committee shall be empowered to co-opt other members from the membership to serve on the Committee either generally or for a specific purpose. The Committee shall also have the power to invite such other persons, as may be thought fit, to attend its meetings, but such persons shall have no voting rights.
- c) Committee members shall be Full Members of the Club. The President and Vice-Presidents shall be deemed Full Members for voting purposes.
- d) The Chair shall be the Chairman of the Committee. In his or her absence from any meeting the Committee shall elect a Chairman *pro temp* from those members present.
- e) The Committee shall have the power to enforce the Rules of the Club.
- f) Any five members of the Committee may request a Committee Meeting by giving written notice to the Secretary. Such meeting shall be held within three weeks of the date of notification.
- g) The Committee shall have the power to loan boats, oars and equipment for Regattas and for other purposes. The Captain shall determine which boats members shall use and the areas in which they shall be used.
- h) No personal liability will be incurred by any member of the Committee as the result of any action taken by the Committee in carrying out its duties.
- i) A quorum shall consist of five members.

## 7. GENERAL MEETINGS

- a) The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held in the month of November each year upon a date and time fixed by the Committee for the following purposes: -

updated and adopted January 2010

- i) to receive from the Committee reports and statements of accounts for the preceding financial year.
  - ii) to appoint the Officers and Committee members for the ensuing year.
  - iii) to decide on any resolution which may be duly submitted to the meeting as hereinafter provided.
  - iv) to appoint Trustees when necessary who shall be notional owners of the Club.
  - v) any other business at the discretion of the Chairman.
- b) Nomination from members for appointment under Rule 5 or Rule 6a shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the Club to reach him or her no later than forty-eight hours before the time fixed for the Annual General Meeting in question. A list shall be displayed of the nominations received in time.
  - c) Officers not seeking re-election at the Annual General Meeting should give at least forty-two days' notice.
  - d) The Committee may at any time, for any special purpose, call a *Special General Meeting*. The Secretary shall call a Special General Meeting forthwith upon the requisition in writing of any six members stating the purpose for which the meeting is required.
  - e) Not less than fourteen days written notice of a general meeting shall be given to all members of the Club.
  - f) One fifth of the full membership of the Club shall constitute a quorum.

#### **8. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY**

The Club will ensure that the talents and resources of all members are utilized to the full and that no member receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of gender, disability, marital status, creed, social class, ethnicity, age or sexual orientation.

#### **9. CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES**

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

#### **10. SAFETY**

The club activities will comply with the Clubs Water Safety Policy and the Water Safety Code Guidance Notes as published by the British Rowing with updates and recommendations adopted immediately without referral to the next AGM.

The Committee shall appoint a member to act as Safety Adviser whose duty it will be to understand the requirements of the British Rowing Code of Practice for Water Safety and advise on their prominent display, their observation and their implementation always.

#### **11. FINANCE**

- a) The financial year of the Club shall end on the last day of September in each year to which day the accounts of the Club shall be balanced.
- b) The Honorary Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Club not less than twenty-one days before the Annual General Meeting.
- c) The Treasurer shall keep proper books of accounts and shall be responsible for advising and reporting to the Committee on all matters affecting its financial activities. An account shall be opened in the name of the Club at a bank approved by the Committee, into which all monies (other than such reasonable sums as may be required for petty cash disbursements) shall be

paid by the Treasurer or other responsible person. Authorized signatories will be the Chairman, Treasurer, Captain and Secretary and disbursements will be by single signature of any one of these four officers. The Bank Account shall not be in deficit at any time.

## **12. SAILING SECTION**

The Sailing Section may operate under the following rules: -

- a) Persons who wish to join the Club for this purpose shall join as Full Members of the Club.
- b) Entries in Regattas and races may be in the name of the Club with the sanction of the Committee.
- c) The needs and/or requirements of the rowing section shall take precedence in any dispute between sections of the Club.

## **13. CONSTITUTION**

- a) The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of this Constitution and the decision of the Committee upon any question affecting the Club and not provided for in this Constitution shall be final and binding on the members.
- b) This Constitution and the Club Rules may be added to, repealed or amended by resolution at any Annual General Meeting provided that no such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless it is carried by a majority of at least two thirds of the members present and voting thereon.
- c) Proposals to alter the Constitution may be submitted by the Committee or by any members.
- d) Any proposed amendment must be supported by at least four members, must be submitted in writing to the Secretary not less than four weeks before the date of the meeting at which it is to be considered, and the text thereof must be included in the notice of such meeting.

## **14. SPECIAL POWERS**

The Committee shall be empowered to take such action as it may consider desirable in any circumstances not covered by this Constitution, this action to be reported at the next General Meeting of the Club.

## **15. DISSOLUTION**

If at any General Meeting a resolution for the dissolution of the Club shall be passed by a majority of the members present and voting thereon, the Committee shall forthwith call a Special General Meeting to be held not less than six weeks later (of which not less than four weeks written notice shall be given to each member).

If at such meeting there shall be present not less than one half of the members and if that resolution shall be confirmed by a resolution passed by a majority of two thirds of the members voting on such a resolution of the Committee shall inform the Trustees immediately, or at such future date as shall be specified in such resolution, who will then proceed to dispose of the property of the Club and after discharge of all liabilities shall pay the net proceeds in equal sums to a similar rowing club and the Island branch of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution