

Wirral Archers Constitution

(Revised March 2018)

NOTICE

This constitution should be read in association GNAS and County Constitutions and policies, which take precedence over the Club's Constitution and policies.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. The name of the club to be Wirral Archers.
2. Wirral Archers also includes Wirral Archers Junior Club, which exists for the purpose of affiliation to GNAS.
3. The aims of the club are:
 - a. to provide a means for its members to practice and participate in all forms of archery with the bow (crossbow excluded); and
 - b. to further the popularity and prestige of archery.
4. The club will affiliate each year to the Grand National Archery Society, Northern Counties Archery Society and Cheshire Archery Association and shooting will take place in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Grand National Archery Society.
5. The club will, where reasonably practicable and within health and safety guidelines, adopt and apply the principles of current equalities legislation.

COMMITTEE

1. The Officers and Executive Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office for two years without the need for re-election, they may stand down at any point in the election period. Any member then co-opted to a vacancy shall hold office until the next AGM, when formal nominations and election to the post shall take place. All posts shall be elected to biannually regardless of length of office.
2. The affairs of the club shall be managed by the Executive Committee, which shall meet at least once a quarter, or as necessary. This committee shall consist of the Officers of the Club (Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Records Officer) and between two and four ordinary members, any five to form a quorum. All members of the Executive Committee shall be full senior members of the club.

MEMBERSHIP

Applications for membership

1. Admission to Wirral Archers shall be by majority approval of the Executive Committee. Applicants would normally have successfully completed Wirral Archer's beginners' course. Applications will also be considered from archers transferring from GNAS registered clubs or who have successfully completed other GNAS recognised beginners courses
2. Membership forms must be completed on joining the club and again when annual subscriptions are due.

Classes of membership

3. Classes of membership shall be full senior member (over 18years), junior member (under 18years), student member (over 18 years and in full time education), associate member and life member.
4. Junior members will be affiliated to GNAS through Wirral Archers' Junior Club.
 - a. Children under the age of 10 may be considered for membership at the discretion of the Executive Committee only where one or more of their parents are already an experienced member of the club.
 - b. Juniors over the age of 10, but under the age of 18, will be considered for membership-at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
5. The club is also open to associate members (non-shooting) without the power to vote. Associate members will not be affiliated to GNAS
6. At the discretion of the Executive Committee, life members may be appointed.

Terminating membership

7. Members wishing to resign must give notice in writing to the Secretary.
8. Membership can be terminated by the majority vote of the Executive Committee. The clubs disciplinary procedure will be followed.
9. If annual subscriptions are two months in arrears, standing order has been cancelled or annual renewal forms are not completed, membership will be deemed to have lapsed.

SUBSCRIPTION AND FEES

1. Membership is by annual subscription. Subscriptions are due on 1st April each year and on election to the club.
 - a. The annual subscription (full senior member, junior member, associate member and student member) shall be determined at the annual general meeting. Fees shall be payable as an upfront payment or by monthly standing order.
 - b. New members will also be required to pay a joining fee sufficient to cover affiliations including any outdoor ground fees.
 - c. Lapsed members will be required to pay a re-joining fee.
2. Life members will pay any applicable affiliation fees.

3. Beginners will pay a course fee to be decided by the Executive Committee. This fee will cover the hire of equipment and a course of instruction as agreed by the Executive Committee and in accordance with current GNAS guidelines
4. Visitors will be allowed to shoot with the Club, with the consent of the Executive Committee, if they are affiliated members of the Grand National Archery Society, or equivalent national association, but may be asked to pay a visitors fee.
5. Members wishing to resign must give notice in writing to the Secretary. For members paying by monthly standing order the remainder of that year's subscription will be due and immediately payable. No refunds will be given on subscriptions that have been paid in full.
6. In the event of an Executive Committee decision to terminate membership, no refunds will be given. For members paying by monthly standing order the remainder of that year's subscription will be due and immediately payable.

CLUB MANAGEMENT

1. The Executive Committee will be responsible for disciplinary hearings of members who infringe the club rules, regulations or constitution. The Executive Committee will be responsible for taking any action of suspension or discipline following such hearings.
2. The Executive Committee will have the power to co-opt members of the club to vacant posts on the Executive Committee, up to a maximum of two officer's posts.
3. The Executive Committee will have the power to create a Sub-Committee for any specific purpose in connection with the Club and can co-opt members of the club to such a committee.
4. The Executive Committee has responsibility for writing and adopting new policy, codes of conduct and amending club rules. The constitution can only be amended by a majority vote at an AGM or EGM.
5. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the appointment of a Club Safeguarding Officer.
6. Discretionary power is given to the Executive Committee to make decisions in circumstances not covered by this constitution.
7. A Bank Account shall be maintained in the name of the Club. All cheques and orders withdrawing monies from the Account shall be signed by any two of the Club Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer
8. The financial year to end on 31st December each year. Audited accounts to be presented at the AGM.
9. The postal address of the club shall be that of the Secretary.

10. Trophies – a list of club trophies and conditions for awarding them will held by the Records Officer. The Executive Committee may amend the conditions of awarding trophies.

ANNUAL AND EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS

1. The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than the end of March each year.
 - a. At least 14 days' notice of the meeting must be given to the members in writing. Notice will also include nomination forms to positions on the Executive Committee.
 - b. Any agenda items and proposed changes to the constitution must be put in writing to the Secretary at least 7 days prior to the AGM.
 - c. Chairman's report, Secretary's report, Treasurer's report, Records officer's report, audited accounts and sub-committee reports shall be presented.
 - d. Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by majority vote.
 - e. The auditor for the coming year shall be appointed by election, must hold no other club office and have no close relationship to a club officer.
2. Only full senior members and life members are eligible to vote at an AGM. The quorum for an AGM shall be 25% of the eligible voting membership.
3. The Executive Committee has the right to call an Extraordinary General Meeting. The quorum shall be 25% of the eligible voting membership.
4. An Extraordinary General Meeting may also be called on the signed request to the Secretary of 50% of the eligible voting membership, the request to state the business of the meeting. The meeting to be arranged within 21 days of such a request, where reasonably practicable. A quorum of 50% shall be required for an EGM called by the members.

DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB

1. A resolution to dissolve the club can only be passed at a Special General Meeting convened by the Executive Committee, through a majority vote of the eligible voting membership. The quorum for such a meeting shall be 75%.
2. In the event of dissolution any assets of the club that remain will be donated to a charity for disabled archers.