

VR001 Vegan Runners UK Constitution

1. Title

The name of the club shall be 'Vegan Runners UK'

2. Headquarters

The Headquarters of the Club shall be the residing address of the Club Secretary or other Management Committee member as defined in 5(a)

3. Objectives

The Objectives of the Club are

- (a) The promotion of amateur athletics amongst vegans of all abilities
- (b) The publicity of veganism amongst athletes

4. Non profit making

The club will only sell running kit and other merchandise to members and any surplus income or gains must be reinvested in the club for the mutual benefit of paid-up members. Surpluses or assets cannot be distributed to members or third parties unless subject to clause10

5. Management

- (a) The Management of the Club is vested in a Management Committee of paid-up members consisting of the following officers: Chairperson, Club Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Press Secretary, Clothing Secretary, Triathlon Secretary, Welfare Secretary and eight Region Representatives for the following regions:

- 1 Scotland and Northern Ireland
- 2 North West England
- 3 North East England (inc Yorkshire & Humber)
- 4 Wales and West Midlands
- 5 East Midlands and East of England
- 6 Greater London
- 7 South East England
- 8 South West England & Channel Islands

- (b) All Management Committee members to be elected annually at the AGM
- (c) All Management Committee members shall have one vote including a member holding more than one position
- (d) The Management Committee has the power to fill any vacancy during the year without calling a meeting
- (e) Additional non committee posts may be adopted during the year and approved at the AGM
- (f) Management Committee meetings other than the AGM can be conducted by email or as otherwise agreed
- (g) The Management Committee has the right to expel a member by a majority vote

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6. Membership

- (a) Membership of the Club is confined to Amateurs as defined by UK Athletics in the Rules for Competition Handbook
- (b) A candidate for membership must complete a membership form as approved by the committee
- (c) Each member of the Club shall be classed as the following:
 - i. ***A Vegan "A philosophy and way of living which seeks to exclude—as far as is possible and practicable—all forms of exploitation of, and cruelty to, animals for food, clothing or any other purpose; and by extension, promotes the development and use of animal-free alternatives for the benefit of humans, animals and the environment. In dietary terms it denotes the practice of dispensing with all products derived wholly or partly from animals."***
- (d) The Membership Secretary will decide whether to approve or reject an application for membership and if in doubt may consult all members of the Committee for a decision by ballot. The application will be approved by a majority vote.
- (e) Members will be categorized as 1st or 2nd claim for the Vegan Runners UK in accordance with the rules of our governing body.
- (f) Members may change their claim status in accordance with the rules of our governing body.
- (g) Membership is due for renewal on the 31st March each year. Reminders will be emailed at least 2 months in advance. Members who have been emailed at least 2 reminders and have not renewed by the end of March may be deemed to have resigned.
- (h) Any member upon application for membership renewal whose status does not satisfy the requirements stated in 6c will be refused.
- (i) New members joining after 1st January will have their membership carried forward to March in the following year.
- (j) If **not** paid up, the runner must not enter competition under the Club's name and should **not** wear the club kit at races or events or re-sell the club kit to non-members.
- (k) In addition to (c), there is a category Honorary Member not included on the membership form. The AGM will consider any proposals for Honorary Membership which will normally run for a term of 3 years.

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7. Annual General Meeting

- (a) An AGM shall be held not more than 15 months after the previous AGM, usually during November, to conduct the following business:
 - i. Receive reports from elected officers and non-committee post holders, proposed and seconded by members present
 - ii. Election of the Management Committee and other post holders proposed and seconded by members present. Resolutions raised by an absentee proposer will be accepted
 - iii. Review and set the membership fees for the following year
 - iv. Review and vote on any resolution regarding affiliations
 - v. Review Constitutional matters and vote on any resolutions
 - vi. Discuss and vote on other resolutions raised on the agenda. Items are passed by majority vote
 - vii. Any other business
 - viii. The setting of a date for the next AGM
- (b) Only paid up and honorary members can attend the AGM
- (c) Each member present has one vote by show of hand
- (d) Where the Management Committee has agreed that it is appropriate paid up members may be given the opportunity to vote on a proposal by email or other internet based method during the 7 days prior to the AGM and the Chairperson will act as proxy for these members.
- (e) The quorum shall be at least 5 members but if less, the members present can take the decision to go ahead if they feel sufficiently competent to conduct the business, otherwise the meeting will be adjourned and reconvened within 28 days.
- (f) The Secretary must give 2 months' notice to members for submitting any resolutions they wish to raise at the AGM and a closing date for receipt which must be 21 days in advance of the meeting apart from exceptions under(h)
- (g) The Secretary must give every member at least 7 days' notice in writing of the Agenda
- (h) Any resolutions that do not reach the Secretary in time for inclusion in the Agenda can be raised under Any Other Business and at the Chairperson's discretion. If considered as essential club business a vote will be conducted.

8. Special General Meeting

- (a) A Special General Meeting shall be convened by the Secretary and held within 28 days of the receipt to f a requisition in writing signed by at least 20 members of the Club, stating the business to be brought before such a meeting. The proposer of the resolution must also deposit with the Secretary a sum of 5 times the Single Adult membership fee. If a quorum is present and a ballot of those present is conducted on the resolution, the deposit will be returned otherwise used by the Club to cover the costs of hiring a venue. This will not apply to an AGM.

9. Alteration of Rules

- (a) No alteration or addition may be made to the rules except by an AGM or Special General Meeting called for that purpose. Notice of any proposed amendment must be given as provided in rules 7&8.

10. Dissolution of the club

- (a) If, in any Management Committee meeting of the club, a resolution is passed calling for the dissolution of the club, the Secretary shall immediately convene an Extraordinary General Meeting of the club to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.
- (b) If, at that Extraordinary General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two thirds of the fully paid up members present at the meeting, the Management Committee shall there upon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realize the assets of the club and discharge all debts and liabilities of the club.
- (c) In the event of the dissolution of the club, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the club but shall be given or transferred to one or more of the following bodies provided the main objective of that body is promotion of veganism:
 - i. Registered charitable organisation(s)
 - ii. Not for profit club(s)

Signed: Date:.....

Position:.....