



The Oaks Driving Club Constitution (2026)

1. Title

The club shall be known as "The Oaks Driving Club". The Club which was formed in 1976 and reconstituted in 1979 shall be run by the Committee to be elected by the members as provided in paragraph iv.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the club shall be:

- a) To encourage carriage driving as a sport and recreation and to promote good practice in carriage driving and horsemanship and to promote good fellowship amongst its members and all who wish to participate.
- b) To organise instructional meetings and competitive events, lectures, rallies, and other activities deemed to further the objectives.
- c) To support and co-operate with recognised organisations interested in driving, building of vehicles.
- d) To concern itself with any object which will benefit driving horses and ponies and their users.

3. Membership

This shall consist of persons of any age approved for membership who have paid the due subscription for the current period, those under 18 years being classes as junior members.

- a) Honorary membership may be conferred by the Committee upon any person deemed by them to have rendered notable service to The Oaks Driving Club.
- b) The annual subscription shall be payable on the first day of the Club's financial year.
- c) Any member of whose subscription is 8 weeks in arrears shall have their name removed from the membership list after written notice of effect has been sent to them.
- d) Anyone joining the Club after the 1st October in any year shall be deemed to have paid their subscription for the ensuing year.
- e) Family membership shall consist of up to 2 named adults and 2 named juniors.
- f) The Committee shall or may expel from membership of the Club any member who has wilfully disobeyed any rules of the Club or has, in the opinion of the of the Committee, been guilty of any conduct derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interest of the Club provided that before expelling them the Committee shall call upon them for an explanation of their conduct and shall hear what they may wish to urge in their defence in a private Committee meeting.



4. The Committee

- a) A quorum at a Committee meeting shall be 4 members.
- b) The Committee shall be elected only by members attending the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Every member present at the AGM shall be entitled to vote but those members holding a family membership may only cast two votes, adults and juniors included.
- c) The Chairman, Honorary Secretary, and Honorary Treasurer shall be elected annually by the Committee from amongst their numbers at the first meeting of the Committee after the AGM. Any decision of the Committee may be overruled by a majority of members at the AGM.
- d) The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of the Rules and Byelaws or anything relating to the Club not provided therein and their decision shall be final and binding upon the members subject to "c" above.
- e) The Committee may formulate byelaws for the detailed running of the Club and elect sub-committees for any special activities of the Club which the Committee may authorise.
- f) The Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy arising among members of the Committee, any co-opted member shall enjoy full voting rights. Any co-opted member shall retain office only until the next AGM and then shall be eligible for re-election.
- g) The Committee may affiliate the Club to appropriate recognised organisations.
- h) The Committee may appoint a President or Vice President but these shall not be members of the Committee but may preside at a General Meeting.
- i) At any Committee Meeting the Chairman shall have an additional casting vote in the event of a tie.
- j) Committee members shall be bound by the Rules and Constitution.

5. FINANCE

The financial year of the club shall commence on the 1st January in each year.

The annual subscription shall be such a sum as shall be determined from time to time by the Committee.



6. GENERAL AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

a) General Meetings

- i) A General Meeting may be called by the Committee or by a request signed by not less than 5 members specifying the business to be discussed. The Secretary shall give all members 14 days notice of the date of such Meeting and specify in such notice the matter to be dealt with as such Meeting.
- ii) At any General Meeting, the chairman of the meeting shall have an additional casting vote in the event of a tie.
- iii) Any note of a General Meeting may be given to any member by sending it by post. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting or the non-receipt of a notice of a meeting shall not invalidate the proceedings of the meeting.

b) Annual General Meetings

The Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of February in each year to transact the following business of the Club:

- i) To receive, and if approved, to adopt the statement of the Club's accounts to the end of the preceding year.
- ii) To fill vacancies on the Committee.
- iii) To appoint auditor.
- iv) To deal with any special matter which the Committee may desire to bring before the members and receive suggestions from the members for consideration by the Committee. Notice covering the AGM shall be sent to members not less than 14 days before the meeting and shall specify matters to be dealt with. (Resolutions for the AGM shall be notified to Honorary Secretary not less than a month before the date of the AGM to allow 14 days notice to the Secretary)
- v) The accounts of the Club shall be audited each year by the person appointed at the previous AGM. The Honorary Treasurer shall be responsible for the maintaining accurate and up to date accounts for the financial affairs of the Club and shall be responsible for the management of the finances. The Committee shall be deemed to be responsible for any insolvent position of the Club finances and shall be jointly liable for such Club debts.



These rules may be added to, repealed or amended by resolution at any General Meeting provided no such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless commended by a majority of at least two thirds of the members present and voting thereon, family members casting only two votes, and provided 14 days prior notice has been given to all members.