

# CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY HORSE RACING SOCIETY (CUHRS)

## CONSTITUTION

### 1. NAME:

The name of the Society shall be the “Cambridge University Horse Racing Society” hereafter referred to as “the Society”.

### 2. OBJECTS:

(1) The Society’s aims shall be to promote student access to horse racing;

(2) In pursuance of its aims the Society shall;

a) Organize educational sessions about the sport of horse racing, its history, rules, strategies, and famous personalities;

b) Facilitate visits to local horse racing events, promoting exposure to real-world racing experiences;

c) Collaborate with local horse racing clubs, industry professionals, and organizations for guest lectures, seminars, and hands-on workshops;

d) Advocate for animal welfare in horse racing;

e) Host fundraisers, charity races, and other events to support local equine charities or scholarship funds for students interested in careers related to horse racing;

f) Encourage a sense of community among members through regular meetings and social events;

The Society shall commit itself to operate in a manner that respects diversity and inclusivity, and actively seeks to educate its members about these values within the context of horse racing. The Society shall also act in accordance with all university regulations and applicable local, national, and international laws.

### 3. MEMBERSHIP:

(1) Membership of the Society shall be open to all members of the University and any others that have an interest in the sport, history, culture, and wider societal impacts of horse racing;

(2) There may be an annual fee for membership which shall be determined by the Society from time to time;

(3) The Society may offer Life Membership and Honorary Membership on such terms as it may decide;

(4) The Executive Committee may expel any member whose conduct seems likely to bring the Society into disrepute. Such expulsion shall be undertaken in accordance with Section 8, and is subject to confirmation at the next General Meeting of the Society. Any person expelled shall have the right of appeal to the Senior Treasurer.

#### 4. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- (1) The day-to-day management of the Society's affairs shall be in the hands of the Executive Committee, which shall normally be elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM);
  - 1.1) The Executive Committee will be bifurcated into a Senior Committee and a Junior Committee;
- (2) The Junior Committee shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Junior Treasurer, who shall be elected by the members as in 4(1). This Junior Committee will report and be answerable to the Senior Committee;
  - 2.1) For the academic year 2023-2024 specifically, the Junior Committee shall be elected by the society's founders in conjunction with the Senior Committee. This ensures the society's alignment with its foundational vision during this formative phase. In subsequent years, the process for electing the Junior Committee will revert to the society's standard procedures;
  - 2.2) Exceptionally, for the term immediately following the term of the current President (as of 2023-2024), the Vice-President from the current term will automatically ascend to the role of President. If this Vice-President is unable or unwilling to assume the role of President, the outgoing President from the 2023-2024 term will have the discretion to choose a successor;
- (3) The Senior Committee shall consist of at least three core members, which includes a Chairman. One member must always be a board member of Newmarket Racecourse, and another member must always be affiliated with the Jockey Club, in recognition of the society's close ties to Newmarket Racecourse and its foundational sponsorship by the Jockey Club. A third member must always be one of the original founders of the society, ensuring that the society's operations and direction are continuously aligned with its founding vision and principles;
  - 3.1) In the event that a member of the Senior Committee can no longer serve, it is their responsibility to identify and propose a suitable replacement that aligns with the original criteria for their specific role. If a suitable replacement meeting the original criteria cannot be found, exceptions can be made, provided that the replacement is unanimously approved by the remaining members of the Senior Committee;
  - 3.2) Additional members of the Senior Committee can include ex-Junior Committee members, or any esteemed person in horse racing that can bring a wealth of insight, connections, and guidance to the society. Potential members must be unanimously voted in by existing members of the Senior Committee;
- (4) The Junior Committee shall operate under the guidance and oversight of the Senior Committee. All decisions made by the Junior Committee are subject to review, but not all decisions necessitate Senior Committee approval. However, if a decision made by the Junior Committee is disapproved by the Senior Committee, it must be revisited and reconsidered by the Junior Committee;
- (5) In addition, there shall be a Senior Treasurer, who shall be a member of the Regent House, or other person approved by the Junior Proctor. The Senior Treasurer shall be appointed by the elected members of the Executive Committee and shall be *ex officio* a member of the Executive Committee;
- (6) A majority of the elected members of the Executive Committee shall be full-time undergraduate or postgraduate students of the University of Cambridge;

- (7) Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be chaired by the President or if in absence the Vice-President. If neither the President nor Vice-President is present, the remaining members shall elect a chairperson for that meeting. The quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be three members and a written record of each meeting shall be kept.

## **5. GENERAL MEETINGS:**

- (1) The Society shall hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM) during each Academic year. The AGM shall be held in Cambridge during Easter Full Term. All Members, other than Honorary Members, shall be entitled to attend and vote at any General Meeting. At least fourteen days written notice shall be given to members before the AGM;
- (2) The AGM shall approve Minutes of the last General Meeting and the Society's Accounts for the preceding year, elect the Junior Committee for the year ahead and conduct such other business as is necessary;
- (3) Candidates for election to office shall be proposed and seconded by two other members. Every motion at a General Meeting shall be proposed and seconded by two members. Voting shall be by secret ballot and if there are more than two candidates for a post or more than two options on a motion, voting shall be by Single Transferable Vote;
- (4) An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be held at any time during Full Term. It shall be held in Cambridge and may be called by the Executive Committee or at the written request of at least ten members. Twenty-one days written notice shall be given to members before an EGM is held. An EGM shall have the same powers as an AGM;
- (5) The Robert Sangster Annual Dinner will be held at The Jockey Club Rooms in Newmarket. This dinner will serve as a significant event for the Society where the incoming President, voted in at the AGM, will be officially handed over their role. Invitations to the dinner are extended by the Executive Committee to select society members and external guests. In accordance with tradition and in honour of Robert Sangster's legacy, a member of the Sangster family must always be invited to attend;
- (6) The President or if in absence the Vice-President shall take the Chair at any General Meeting. In the absence of the President and Vice-President the meeting shall elect a Chairperson for that meeting. The quorum for a General Meeting shall be five members and a written record of every General Meeting shall be kept.

## **6. FINANCIAL MATTERS:**

- (1) The Society shall maintain a banking account with a suitable Bank or Building Society to hold the Society's funds;
- (2) It shall be the responsibility of the Junior Treasurer to ensure that monies received are properly accounted for, and that the Society's financial records are kept in good order. In particular, the Junior Treasurer shall ensure continuity of Cambridge resident signatories for any bank accounts held by the Society;
- (3) The Senior Treasurer shall make arrangements for the Society's Accounts to be properly audited, either by themselves, or by some other person approved under University Ordinances;
- (4) The Senior Treasurer shall not be liable for any financial debt or other obligation of the Society unless personally authorised such a debt in writing;

(5) For so long as the Society shall be Registered with the Junior Proctor, it shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to ensure that the Society complies with the requirements for Registration as a University Society.

## **7. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION:**

The Constitution may be amended at a General Meeting, with approval of at least two thirds of those present. No amendment to this Constitution intended to remove the position of Senior Treasurer, to alter its prerogatives and duties, or to change the criteria and procedure for the appointment of a Senior Treasurer can be put to a vote without the prior written agreement of the Junior Proctor of the University of Cambridge.

## **8. DISCIPLINARY PROCESSES:**

The Society's only disciplinary sanctions are to expel or to suspend a member whose actions are felt to be such as to bring the Society into disrepute, or to adversely affect the smooth running of the Society in a major way. Such expulsion or suspension can only be effected by a majority vote of all Executive Committee members, excluding the Senior Treasurer. In the event of an expulsion, the excluded member is required to return all equipment, documents and finances belonging to the Society within 7 days. They will not be entitled to any full or partial refund of annual subscriptions;

If the excluded or suspended member wishes to appeal the decision, that appeal should be made to the Senior Treasurer, who will consider all the facts, and whose decision will be final. An appeal as to the process of exclusion, but not a further investigation into the facts, may be lodged with the Junior Proctor.

## **9. DISSOLUTION:**

(1) The Society may be dissolved at a General Meeting provided that at least Twenty-one days written notice of the intention to dissolve the Society has been given to the members. At least two thirds of those present and voting at the General Meeting must vote in favour of the motion for Dissolution for it to be effective;

(2) Any motion for Dissolution of the Society shall provide that assets remaining after all liabilities have been met shall be transferred either to another Registered University Society, or to the Societies' Syndicate.