

ALNMOUTH COMMUNITY ROWING

1. NAME

1. The Association shall be known as Alnmouth Community Rowing, hereinafter known as “the Association”.
2. The name may be changed if agreed by a majority at an Annual General Meeting

2. OBJECTIVES

- 1.1. The Association shall promote the sport of recreational community rowing, and the use of coastal rowing boats in and around Alnmouth Bay. It will encourage recreational coastal rowing as an inclusive, healthy activity and shall engage in with like minded clubs and associations in social and competitive events.
- 1.2. The Association will develop and demonstrate the skills of boat building and maintenance.
- 1.3. The Association will provide opportunities to train members in coastal rowing and associated activities.
- 1.4. The Association will work with others within the Alnmouth community to enhance the facilities within the area and to support the development of the village as a vibrant and attractive destination.
- 1.5. The Association shall provide to the community information concerning the heritage underpinning coastal rowing and the craftsmanship and materials necessary to construct traditional boats.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1. Membership of the Association shall be open to anyone interested in the sport of recreational rowing 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.
- 1.2. The Association may have different classes of membership and subscription on a non discriminatory and fair basis. The Association will keep subscriptions at levels that do not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.
- 1.3. Classes of membership:

The Committee shall determine classes of membership from time to time as required, but they shall at least include

Full members for those 18 years or over at 1st January

Junior members for those who are under 18 years of age at 1st January

Visitor members for short term visitors to the area

- 1.4. Only full members are entitled to vote

4. ELECTION OF MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1. Membership of the Association shall be open to anyone interested in the sport and recreation of coastal rowing on application in accordance with 3.1.1 above.
- 1.2. Applicants for membership and members renewing their membership will abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Association and the sport of coastal rowing.
- 1.3. If it is considered by the Association committee that the granting or renewal of membership would be detrimental to the aims and objectives of the Association or would be likely to bring the Association or the sport of coastal rowing into disrepute or for some other good cause, the Association committee shall be entitled to refuse or withdraw such membership. In doing so the committee shall provide full reasons for their decision. If an appeal is lodged against the decision the Association will form an independent panel of members to review the decision. The decision of this panel shall be final.

5. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY

The Association is fully committed to the principles of equality of opportunity and is responsible for ensuring that no crew member receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of gender, race, ethnic origin, nationality, colour, parental or marital status, religious belief, social status, sexual orientation or political belief. The cox in his/ her role of being responsible for the safety of the crew reserves the right to prohibit a member from taking to sea if that member is considered to be a potential risk to his/ her fellow crewmen.

6. CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES

The Association accepts the intent and principles relating to Child Protection and the Protection of Vulnerable Adults as set out by British Rowing, and requires all members to accept them as a condition of membership. Officials/ members who will have contact with juniors without the presence of a parent or legal guardian will have undertaken 'Disclosure and Barring Service Checks'. A designated committee member will have responsibility for Child Welfare and instigate procedures as suggested by 'British Rowing' in case of any incident.

7. SUBSCRIPTION

The rates of subscription shall be determined by the members in General Meeting and shall be due from a member joining and, thereafter, on or before 1st January in each year: membership is valid from that date for a calendar year.

8. CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1. Any member may resign giving one month's clear notice in writing to the Secretary
- 1.2. A member shall be deemed to have resigned from the Association if, after due notice in writing, they have not paid by 1st March the annual subscription which became due on 1st January. They may however rejoin at any time during that year subject to the provision of 7 above
- 1.3. Within 1 month of cessation of membership, a member shall remove all personal effects from boats or premises used by the Association.

9. DISQUALIFICATION FROM HOLDING OFFICE

- 1.1. Only members entitled to vote are eligible to hold office.
- 1.2. Any member who is under the age of 18 years shall not be eligible for election, but may be co-opted onto the Committee of the Association as required.

10. COMMITTEE

- 1.1. The Committee shall conduct the affairs of the Association as a whole and shall consist of the Officers (Chair, Secretary, Treasurer) and up to 4 other members. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt up to 2 further members.
- 1.2. Nominations for the position of Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and other committee members shall be put forward in the form of a motion to the Annual General Meeting.
- 1.3. The term of office shall be for one year.
- 1.4. The holder of the office of Chairman shall not stay in post for more than two consecutive years. He/she will be eligible for re-election after at least one year from their last date in office.

11. DUTIES OF COMMITTEE OFFICERS

- 1.1. Chair: The Chair will preside at all General meetings of the Association and at all meetings of the Committee, and shall be responsible for guiding the activities of the Association in accordance with its general policy as expressed by the majority of its members.
- 1.2. Secretary: The Secretary will be responsible for the organisation of meetings of the Committee and of the Association, and the recording of minutes relating to such meetings and all correspondence relating to the general business of the Association.
- 1.3. Treasurer: The Treasurer will be responsible for the collection and disbursement of all monies belonging to the Association and will keep proper accounting records of all such transactions. He/she will present to the members at the AGM a balance sheet and income and expenditure account showing the Association's financial position and the results of its transactions for the year. The transactions of the Association will be conducted through a bank account and will require the signatures of any 2 of 3 members of the Committee who have been designated for the purpose.

12. COMMITTEE POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1.1. The Committee is responsible for the general conduct of the Association's business and activities.
- 1.2. The Committee shall meet at regular intervals during the year, as required by the business to be transacted. Special meetings of the Committee shall be called by the Secretary on instructions from the Chair, or not less than three Committee members.
- 1.3. A quorum shall consist of not less than 3 members

- 1.4. In the case of a casual vacancy among the Committee, the said Committee shall be entitled to appoint another eligible person to act until the next AGM.
- 1.5. The Committee shall have the power to raise finance through subscriptions, donations, grant aid and sponsorship, as appropriate.
- 1.6. The Committee shall have the power to obtain the use of premises for the purpose of boat construction, storage and maintenance plus other related activities.
- 1.7. The Committee will have due regard to the law on disability discrimination and child protection.
- 1.8. The Committee and individual members should act according to high ethical standards, and ensure that conflicts of interest are properly dealt with.
- 1.9. The Committee shall form such sub committees and working groups as it deems necessary on condition that they report their decisions to the Committee for ratification.

13. GENERAL MEETING

- 1.1. An Annual General Meeting shall be held in December of each year. There shall be laid before the meeting a statement of accounts made up to the 30th day of the month of November.
- 1.2. An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called on the instructions of a simple majority of the Committee, or on a requisition signed by not less than 6 of the members of the Association entitled to vote.
- 1.3. Not less than 30 days clear notice shall be given, specifying to all members the time and business of the General Meeting.
- 1.4. Motions for discussion at Annual General Meetings, not of origin from within the committee, shall be lodged with the Secretary at least 21 days preceding the AGM, and be signed by 2 members entitled to vote.
- 1.5. At any General Meeting, a resolution put to the vote of the Meeting shall be decided by a show of hands of those entitled to vote, except when more than one nomination has been received for a position on the Committee, in which case voting will be by secret ballot.
- 1.6. At all General Meetings the Chair will preside or, in his/her absence, a Chair for the meeting will be elected by the voting members present.
- 1.7. At all General Meetings not less than 10 members of the Association entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum.
- 1.8. Absences of Quorum: If after half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the Meeting, if called at the request of the members, shall be dissolved. In any other case, the Meeting shall be adjourned until a time and place to be fixed by the Committee. If a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for an Adjourned Meeting, the members present shall be a quorum.

1.9. Accidental Omission: Accidental Omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of, a meeting by any member shall not invalidate the proceedings of a meeting.

14. LIABILITY

The Committee shall manage the affairs of the Association. Financial or legal liability incurred in the rightful exercise of their office shall not, however, be the personal liability of the Committee, but shall be the responsibility of the Association as a whole. The Committee should ensure that adequate and appropriate liability insurance is in place to cover all activities of the Association, its committee and members.

15. VOTING

Only members over the age of 18 years are entitled to vote at a General Meeting of members.

16. ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION

1.1. This constitution shall not be altered, amended or rescinded except by a General Meeting of the Association.

1.2. A resolution to give effect to a change must be passed by at least 75% of the members present at a General Meeting, and voting on this behalf.

17. AUDITOR

Every Annual General Meeting shall appoint an Auditor who shall at the conclusion of the next financial year examine the accounting records of the Association, and report to the members on the income and expenditure accounts and balance sheet that are presented to the next AGM.

18. DISTRIBUTION OF PROFITS

In no circumstances can any profit be distributed to members, but any profits earned shall be used in furthering the objectives of the Association.

19. WINDING UP OF THE ASSOCIATION (TERMINATION)

1.1. The members may vote to wind up the Association if agreed by three-quarters of those present at a properly convened General Meeting.

1.2. The Committee will then be responsible for the orderly winding up of the Association's affairs.

1.3. After settling all liabilities of the Association, the Committee shall dispose of the net assets remaining to another association or club with similar community sports and/or recreational purposes.

20. POWER OF DECISION

Any matter not provided for in this constitution, or any question over the interpretation of it shall be dealt with by the Committee whose decision shall be final.

21. SAFETY

The Officers and Committee have primary responsibility for providing rules and procedures for the safe building and operation of the Association's boats. All members have a shared responsibility to ensure

that every activity of the association is conducted in a safe manner. To this end all members are required to alert the committee to any activity or practices which the member regards as unsafe.

22. PROPERTY AND FUNDS

The property funds and operations of the Association cannot be used for the direct or indirect private benefit of members. All surplus income or profits are to be reinvested in the Association.

23. DECLARATION

Each member of age 18 or over upon joining or renewing the Association shall sign the following declaration:*

1. I and/or my children/charges (if appropriate) confirm that I/ we do not suffer from any disability or medical condition which may render me/ them unfit for strenuous exercise.* *
2. I understand that rowing is undertaken at my own risk. As the parent/guardian of a junior member (if appropriate) I undertake to take responsibility for my child/charge. Alnmouth Community Rowing operates to high safety standards, but cannot eliminate all risks associated with the handling and operation of small boats on inland waters or the sea.
3. I and/or my children/charges (if appropriate), when afloat, will abide by all Association Rules and Regulations regarding the wearing of personal buoyancy and the use of safety equipment and will obey the instructions of the cox at all times.
4. I and/or my children/charges (if appropriate) will acquaint myself/ themselves with and adhere to all operational rules and briefings. (operational rules are displayed in the boathouse or are available in print or on the Association's website).
5. I and/or my children/charges (if appropriate) accept the conditions of membership described in the association's constitution (available on request)

Signed (18 or over).....

OR

Signed Parent/Guardian (member under 18)

* For members under the age of 18 the parent/ guardian must sign.

* *Should a medical condition exist, this will not necessarily preclude you from membership/participation, but it must be declared. Should you be in any doubt, advice should be sought from your family doctor.