

## DARTMOUTH AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB

### ***CONSTITUTION AND CLUB RULES***

1. The Club will be called Dartmouth Athletic Club and will be affiliated to the Southern England Athletic Association, Devon County Athletic Association, England Athletics Ltd.
2. Headquarters – Dartmouth Leisure Centre, Dartmouth
3. The object of the Club is the promotion of amateur athletics: track and field, cross country and road races for seniors and juniors.
4. GOALS AND AIMS OF THE CLUB:
  - a. To help adults and juniors reach their full potential in athletics;
  - b. To offer coaching and competitive opportunities in athletics and to encourage wherever possible, everyone to take part in competitions at all levels to achieve their own personal goals and those of the club.
  - c. To maintain a social, friendly club with social interaction between members, youngsters and adults alike. To introduce opportunities for members to meet and enjoy those meetings.
  - d. That the achievements of all members are respected, irrespective of competitive standard, that the taking part is important and achieving a personal level of fitness.
  - e. That there is pride in the club and hope that newcomers joining feel the same.
  - f. To promote the club within the local community and athletics.
  - g. To manage the athletics club.
  - h. To provide all its services in a way that is fair to everyone;
  - i. To ensure that all present and future members receive fair treatment.
5. Age limit to be a minimum of eight (8) years;
6. The management of the Club is vested in a Committee consisting of Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Hon treasurer, Captains, Regatta Road Race Director and up to twelve (12) other members, all to be elected annually. The Committee has the power to fill any vacancy that may arise. The Committee will meet in the first half of the month on a convenient date. The Committee will be convened by the Secretary of the Club and hold no less than ten meetings per year. Quorum – in order to make a decision at Committee meetings, there needs to be a minimum of 60% (excluding the Chairman) of committee members present. The minutes to be posed on the Club notice board. Extra ordinary Committee meetings will be held as necessary.
7. Membership should consist of Officers and Members of the club, and is confined to persons who agree to abide by the Rules of the Governing Body of the Sport, UK Athletics. A candidate for Membership must apply in writing on a form provided for the purpose and be proposed by one member and seconded by another member and elected by ballot at the next committee meeting.

## DARTMOUTH AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB

2

8. A member wishing to withdraw from the Club shall give notice in writing to the Hon Secretary and his membership terminates on that date of that notice unless he is financially indebted to the Club in which case the Committee may withhold acceptance of the resignation until he has discharged his liability.
9. Membership fees will be set annually by the Committee and confirmed at the AGM. All members to be notified in advance of proposed changes to membership fees. The categories are: eighteen years and over, under 18 years; associate members; life members at the discretion of the Committee. Second Claim members 50%. Full time students and unemployed 50% with annual review. Coaches to have free membership from 2007.
  - a. Any senior member who is registered as unemployed shall be eligible for a reduction of 50% of the full annual subscription providing he or she pays within the period stated in the constitution.
  - b. Payment of annual subscriptions:
    - i. All subscriptions should be paid in full within 3 (three) calendar months from their due date as advised by the membership secretary;
    - ii. A further but final period of 3 (three) months will be permitted but with the proviso that the member does not participate in any Club activity or any event (whether Club, League or Open) held under UK Athletics Rules.
    - iii. If a member fails to pay his or her annual subscription within this 6 (six) month period, then UK Athletics Rules appertaining to this situation will be rigidly enforced.
    - iv. Members have the right to spread payment over 4 (four) months, with the first payment due within 3 (three) months of the annual notification.
10. The AGM will be held during the month of April in every year to receive the committee's reports and financial statement, elect officers and committee and deal with any other matter specified on the agenda. The Hon Secretary must give 21 days notice of the meeting and notice of any business that is to be desired to place on the agenda must be given in writing to the Hon. Secretary at least 14 days prior to the meeting. All members aged 18 and over have the right to vote at the AGM. The quorums for AGMs will be 25% of those eligible to vote. An extraordinary general meeting must be called by the Hon. Secretary within 14 days of the receipt by him/her of a requisition in writing signed by any member stating the business to be brought before such a meeting. The Hon. Secretary to advise time and place. No alteration to the

## DARTMOUTH AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB

rules/constitution or additions can be made except at the Annual General Meeting.

3

11. The club strip is – navy vest with 2 (two) horizontal gold bands and navy shorts/briefs with appropriate footwear. Club kit must be worn in all team competitions and at any event where the organisers require club kit to be worn.
12. Discipline and appeals:
  - a. The Committee reserves the right to terminate any membership;
  - b. A member has the right appeal to the President, Vice Presidents and Life members of the club;
  - c. All complaints regarding the behaviour of members should be submitted in writing to the Secretary. The committee will meet to hear complaints within 14 (fourteen) days of a complaint being lodged. The Committee has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action including the termination of membership. The outcome of a disciplinary hearing should be notified in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made, within 7 (seven) days of the hearing. There will be the right of appeal to the appeals Committee (consisting of a minimum of 3 (three), being President, Vice presidents and Hon. Life members, (these should not be present where the complaint is first considered) following disciplinary action being announced. The appeals committee should convene within 14 (fourteen) days of the appeal being received.
13. The Club cannot be held responsible for loss or damage to personal belongings.
14. Ownership of property: a list of club equipment is held by the Equipment Secretary (obtainable on request). Such equipment is held by the Club for Club use, and is not to be resold unless by Committee decision. Equipment may be loaned to individual members for home use only. Any other requests to be by Committee decision only. The loan of any throwing equipment is expressly prohibited. Any equipment loaned is to be signed out and then signed in again on its return in a book kept for the purpose by the Equipment Secretary.
15. If Dartmouth Amateur Athletic Club ceased to exist, then the financial dissolution – a resolution to dissolve the club can only be passed at an AGM or EGM through a majority vote of the eligible membership. Assets of the Club will be held by Dartmouth Town Council until the Club restarts and arrangements shall be made to store the Club's equipment.

DARTMOUTH AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB

16. The financial year shall end on the last day of February.
17. Equity of Access. 'The Club wishes to encourage a welcoming environment that provides equal access, irrespective of gender, ethnic origin or ability.'
18. Dartmouth Amateur Athletic Club hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members.

Signed ..... Date .....

Name ..... Club Chairman

Signed ..... Date .....

Name ..... Club Secretary

7<sup>th</sup> May 2009