

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MERSEYSIDE HF RAMBLERS

(As amended at the Annual General Meeting 18 April 2019)

1 The Club shall be called the MERSEYSIDE HF RAMBLERS.

2 Its objects shall be:-

- a. To provide for the healthy enjoyment of leisure by walking / rambling.
- b. To encourage the love of the open air,
- c. To appreciate and conserve the environment.

3 Membership shall be open to any person in sympathy with the objects of the Merseyside HF Ramblers, at the discretion of the General Committee. The General Committee shall have the power, by resolution passed at a General meeting, to terminate or suspend the membership of any member whose behaviour is considered detrimental to, or contrary to, the spirit of the Club's activities. The person in question must have been notified in writing in advance of the intended resolution and given 14 days to submit written representations for the meeting to consider.

4 (a) Each member of the Club shall pay an annual subscription, the level of which shall be recommended by the General Committee and agreed at the Annual General Meeting. A person joining after the first of November in any year shall be entitled to membership until 31 December of the following year. An existing member who has not paid such subscription by 28 February shall be deemed to have terminated their membership. A subscription paid by one member of a family shall include all children up to sixteen years of age.

(b) In the event of a person being a continuous member for 30 years that person shall be eligible for Life Membership with no further subscriptions due. If the person is willing to accept Life Membership they will be elected into Life Membership at the next Annual General Meeting.

5 The administration and control of the Club shall be vested in a General Committee consisting of a President, Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and such assistants or deputies to these offices as may be required together with additional members so that the total number of members on the General Committee (excluding co-opted members) shall not exceed 17 in all, all of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office until the next subsequent Annual General Meeting, at which they shall retire, and shall be eligible for re-election. Five members shall form a quorum at ordinary meetings of the General Committee.

6 The General Committee shall have power to co-opt for service on the General Committee, or on any Special Committee or Sub-Committee, additional members at its discretion, to fill any vacancies that may arise and to delegate any of its functions to Special- or Sub-Committees appointed for any purposes, and may appoint an Executive Committee to deal with matters of urgency. The proceedings of such committees shall be reported to the next following meeting of the General Committee. The Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be ex-officio members of all Special- and Sub-Committees, and shall receive notices of their meetings. Any General Committee member who fails to attend meetings during the year without notification or apology shall be deemed to have resigned his/her office.

7 The Club year shall commence on 1 January and finish on 31 December. As soon as possible after 31 December and in any case not later than 30 April an Annual General Meeting shall be held for the purpose of receiving reports of the various Secretaries, the audited Statement of Accounts of the Treasurer, to elect a Committee and Auditor and the transaction of any other competent business. Fourteen days' notice shall be given of this meeting and 15 members shall form a quorum. Notices of motion must be sent to the Secretary seven days before the meeting.

8 The Secretary shall call an extraordinary General Meeting at any time at the written request of not less than 10 members, who shall state the reason for the meeting. If such a meeting is not held within one month of the date of such requisition then the Chairman, Treasurer, or other officer or member of the Committee may be requested to call the meeting. If necessary, such a meeting may be called by public advertisement in the local press.

9 This Constitution may be altered only in accordance with a Resolution passed by two-thirds of those fully paid up members present and voting at a General Meeting of which not less than 14 days written notice has been given to each member of the Club of the intention to alter the Constitution, and setting out in full the alteration proposed.

10 Vice-Presidents may be proposed by writing to the Secretary, for consideration by the General Committee and approval at the next Annual General Meeting. Such persons do not have voting rights at meetings of the General Committee.