



BLYTH RUNNING CLUB CONSTITUTION

Updated 17th June, 2025

1. Name

The Club will be called 'BLYTH RUNNING CLUB' and will be affiliated to the governing body 'England Athletics'. The colours of the Club shall be Green Vest with a Single Broad White Horizontal Stripe. Club colours should be worn in all competitions under UK Athletics laws.

2. Aims and objectives

The main purposes of the Club are to provide facilities for and to promote participation in the amateur sport of Running.

To offer coaching and competitive opportunities in Road, Cross Country, and Fell Running together with Track and Field Athletics under the rules of the relevant governing body. To encourage membership and promote the Club within the local and amateur athletic community. To ensure a duty of care to all members of the Club. To provide all its services in a way that is fair to everyone.

3. Powers

In order to achieve its aims the Club has the power to co-operate with other organisations such as local groups, voluntary bodies, charities and the statutory authorities and also to exchange information and liaise with them; raise funds through membership fees and entry fees for events, as well as applying for community grants and sponsorship; do anything else within the law that is necessary in carrying out the aims.

4. Club Equity Statement

This Club is committed to ensuring that equity is incorporated across all aspects of its development. In doing so it acknowledges and adopts the following Sport England definition of sports equity: Sports equity is about fairness in sport, equality of access, recognising inequalities and taking steps to address them. It is about changing the culture and structure of sport to ensure it becomes equally accessible to everyone in society. The Club respects the rights, dignity and worth of every person and will treat everyone equally within the context of their sport, regardless of age, ability, gender, race, ethnicity, religious belief, sexuality, or social/economic status. The Club is committed to everyone having the right to enjoy their sport in an environment free from threat of intimidation, harassment, and abuse. All Club members have a responsibility to oppose discriminatory behaviour and promote equality of opportunity. The Club will deal with any incidence of discriminatory behaviour seriously, according to Club disciplinary procedures.

5. Membership

Application for membership must be made on the appropriate form and should be accompanied by the appropriate subscription. The Club is open to all members of the community. The Club will ensure all present and future members receive fair and equal treatment. Membership should consist of officers and members of the Club. All members will be subject to the regulations of the constitution and by joining the Club will be deemed to accept these regulations and codes of practice that the Club has adopted. Members will be enrolled in one of the following categories:

Full member, Associate member, Junior member, Life member.

Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport on application, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs, except as necessary consequence of the requirements of Running.

The Club may have different classes of membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The Club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.

The Club committee may refuse membership, or remove it, only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or sport into disrepute. Appeal against refusal or removal may be made to the members.

6. Membership fees

Membership fees will be set annually and agreed by the Management Committee or determined at the Annual General Meeting. Fees will be paid with application for membership and thereafter annually on 1st January each year. Family discount packages are available.

The Committee shall have the power to expel any member of the Club whose subscription is 10 months in arrears, provided a months' notice in writing shall have been sent to such member by a Registered or Recorded Delivery letter, addressed to his/her last known address, informing him/her of the proposed action of the Committee. The name and address of any person so expelled from the Club shall be sent to the Hon. Secretary of the Area Association who shall enter the name in a book kept for that purpose. Every person whose name has been so entered shall be suspended from competing under UK Athletics Laws until the liability causing his/her expulsion, which shall not exceed one year's subscription shall have been discharged. A member wishing to resign must give notice in writing to the Hon. Secretary. Membership will cease with effect from the date of the notice unless the member is in debt to the Club (in particular if his/her subscriptions are overdue) in which case acceptance of the resignation will be withheld until the debt has been cleared. The Secretary in all cases should send acceptance of a member's resignation in writing.

7. Officers of the Club

The officers of the Club will be Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer. Officers will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. All officers will retire each year but will be eligible for re-appointment. All Officers of the Club are required to sign a Fit and Proper Person Declaration, which will be held on file while serving, and for four years after they step down. The Club, via the committee, can if it chooses, bestow the title of honorary President on an individual Club member. The duration would be the earlier of 5 years, individual elects to stand down, mitigating circumstances, guilty of bringing BRC into disrepute.

8. Committee

The Club will be managed through the Management Committee consisting of: Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and up to nine other committee members. Only committee members will have the right to vote at meetings of the Management Committee. The Management Committee meetings will be convened by the Secretary of the Club and held no less than 8 times per year. The quorum required for business to be agreed at Management Committee

meetings will be: 4. The Management Committee will be responsible for adopting new policy, codes of practice and rules that affect the organisation of the Club. The Management Committee will have powers to appoint subcommittees as necessary and appoint advisers to the Management Committee as necessary to fulfil its business. The Management Committee will be responsible for disciplinary hearings of members who infringe the Club rules/regulations/constitution. The Management Committee will be responsible for taking any action of suspension or discipline following such hearings. The Management Committee must keep an up-to-date list of members.

9. Finance

All Club monies will be banked in an account held in the name of the Club, plus an incidental small cash in hand amount held by Treasurer, not exceeding £150, and reported in the accounts as Cash in Hand. The Club Treasurer will be responsible for the finances of the Club. The financial year of the Club will end on 6th November. An audited statement of annual accounts will be presented by the Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting. Any cheques drawn against Club funds should hold the signatures of the Treasurer plus one other member. No member can receive any payment or other benefit from Club funds except for reasonable out of pocket expenses properly incurred for the purpose of the Club.

All surplus income or profits are to be reinvested in the Club. No surpluses or assets will be distributed to members or third parties.

10. Annual General Meetings

The annual general meeting will be held in the months of December to February each year. Notice of Annual General Meetings (AGM) will be given by the Club Secretary. Not less than 21 clear days' notice to be given to all members. The AGM will receive a report from officers of the Management Committee and a statement of the audited accounts. Nominations for officers of the Management Committee will be sent to the Secretary prior to the AGM. Elections of officers are to take place at the AGM. Such other official Club posts may be created and filled at the Annual General Meeting or as the Committee considers appropriate. The Committee may co-opt members to fill vacancies during the year. Either the AGM or the Committee has power to form such Sub-Committees as it may deem necessary. All members have the right to vote at the AGM. The quorum for AGMs will be 10% of the senior membership. The Management Committee has the right to call Extraordinary General Meetings (EGMs) at any time outside the AGM, or if 10 members request such a meeting to be held. Procedures for EGMs will be the same as for the AGM.

11. Discipline and appeals

All concerns, allegations or reports of poor practice/abuse relating to the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults will be recorded and responded to swiftly and appropriately in accordance with the Club's child protection and welfare policy and procedures. The Club Welfare Officer is the lead contact for all members in the event of any child protection concerns. All complaints regarding the behaviour of members should be presented and submitted in writing to the Secretary. The Management Committee will meet to hear complaints within 28 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 days of the hearing. There will be the right of appeal to the Management Committee within 7 days following disciplinary action being announced. The committee should consider the appeal within 28 days of the Secretary receiving the appeal. The latest England Athletics Disciplinary and Grievance Procedures will be adhered to.

12. Dissolution

A resolution to dissolve the Club can only be passed at an AGM or EGM through a majority vote of the membership. In the event of dissolution, the members of the committee holding office will remain responsible for the orderly winding up of the affairs of the organisation. Upon dissolution of the Club, any remaining assets shall be given or transferred to another registered CASC, a registered charity or the sport's governing body for use by them in related community sports.

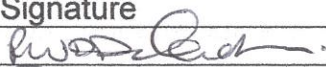

13. Amendments to the constitution

The constitution will only be changed through agreement by majority vote at an AGM or EGM. No changes may be made to: Clause 2 (The Aims) if they make the objectives of the Club uncharitable, or Clause 12 (The dissolution) on how any remaining assets are distributed if the changes are not in line with the objectives of the Club.

14. Declaration

BLYTH RUNNING CLUB hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members.

Signed:

Position	Name	Signature	Date
Secretary	Ralph Dickinson		17.06.2025
Chairman	David McGarry		17.06.2025