



# Whinmoor Warriors ARLFC

## Club Constitution

### 1. Name

The club will be called **Whinmoor Warriors ARLFC** (Hereinafter will be referred to as the Club) and will be affiliated to the Yorkshire Junior and Youth Amateur Rugby League for junior rugby and to the appropriate league for Open Age and Ladies rugby.

### 2. Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the Club will be:

- To provide facilities for and promote participation in the amateur sport of Rugby League in the Whinmoor; Seacroft and Crossgates areas of Leeds.
- To offer coaching and competitive opportunities within Rugby League.
- To promote the club within the local community and within Rugby League.
- 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. Membership

- a) Membership of the club is open to anyone interested in promoting, coaching, volunteering or participating in rugby league, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs.
- b) All players, coaches and officials are automatically members of the club. For the purpose of votes at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting players under the age of 18 will have their vote exercised for them by a parent, guardian or nominated person over 18 years old.
- c) All members will be subject to the regulations of the constitution and by joining the Club will be deemed to accept these regulations and all codes of practice that the Club has adopted.
- d) Playing members will pay membership fees. The Club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.
- e) Membership fees will be set annually and agreed by the Management Committee.
- f) Membership fees can be paid either in a lump sum payment or monthly.
- g) The Management Committee may refuse membership, or remove it, only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or the sport of rugby league into disrepute.
- h) Individuals shall be eligible to take part in the business of the Club and vote at general meetings unless the applicable subscription has been paid by the due date and/or membership has been agreed by the Club committee.



### 4. Sports Equity

- a) 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.*
- b) 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.
- c) The Club is committed to everyone having the right to enjoy their sport in an environment free from threat of intimidation, harassment and abuse.
- d) All club members have a responsibility to oppose discriminatory behaviour and promote equality of opportunity.
- e) The Club will deal with any incidence of discriminatory behaviour seriously, according to club disciplinary procedures.

### 5. Management of the Club

- a) The management of the club shall be conducted by a Management Committee, which shall consist of officers and executive members, who will exercise strategic and day to day management of the clubs affairs, and will consist of:
  - Chairperson.
  - Secretary.
  - Treasurer.
  - 5x Executive Members (who are not officers of the club).
  - Club Welfare Officer.
- b) Officers and Executive Members will be elected at the Annual General Meeting and will serve a two year period of office. Members shall be eligible for re-election.
- c) If the post of any officer or executive member should fall vacant after such an election, the Management Committee shall have the power to fill the vacancy until the succeeding Annual General Meeting.
- d) Any such candidates will be selected from previously unsuccessful committee nominations, if there are no such candidates the position will remain unfilled until the next annual general meeting.
- e) The post of Club Welfare Officer (CWO) is not an elected post and is an appointment of the Management Committee, however, in line with best practice the CWO is considered to be a full member of the Management Committee with full voting rights.



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- f) The Management Committee meetings will be convened by the Secretary of the club and held no less than *4 times* per year.
- g) All members of the Management Committee will have the right to vote at committee meetings.
- h) The quorum required for business to be agreed at Management Committee meetings will be: 4
- i) The Management Committee will be responsible for adopting new policy, codes of practice and rules that affect the organisation of the club.
- j) The Management Committee will have powers to appoint subcommittees as necessary and appoint advisers to the Management Committee as necessary to fulfil its business
- k) 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.

### 6. Finances

- a) The Club Treasurer will be responsible for the finances of the Club.
- b) The financial year of the Club will end on: *31 December*
- c) All Club monies will be banked in an account held in the name of the Club.
- d) An audited statement of annual accounts will be presented by the Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting.
- e) Any cheques drawn against Club funds should hold the signatures of the Treasurer plus one other officers.
- f) All members of the Club shall be jointly and severally responsible for the financial liabilities of the Club.

### 7. Property and Funds

- a) The property and funds of the Club cannot be used for the direct or indirect private benefit of members other than as reasonably allowed by these Rules and all surplus income or profits are reinvested in the Club.
- b) The Club may provide sporting and related social facilities, sporting equipment, coaching, courses, insurance cover, medical treatment, away-match expenses, post-match refreshments and other ordinary benefits of Community Amateur Sports Clubs as provided for in the Finance Act 2002.



- c) The Club may also in connection with the sports purposes of the Club:
  - sell and supply food, drink and related sports clothing and equipment;
  - employ members (though not for playing) and remunerate them for providing goods and services, on fair terms set by the Management Committee without the person concerned being present;
  - pay for reasonable hospitality for visiting teams and guests; and
  - indemnify the Management Committee and members acting properly in the course of the running of the Club against any liability incurred in the proper running of the Club (but only to the extent of its assets).
- d) The Committee will have due regard to the law on disability discrimination and child protection.

## 8. Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings

- a) General Meetings are the means whereby the members of the Club exercise their democratic rights in conducting the Club's affairs.
- b) The Club shall hold the Annual General Meeting (AGM) to:
  - Approve the minutes of the previous year's AGM.
  - Receive reports from the Management Committee.
  - Receive a statement of the audited accounts from the Treasurer.
  - Hold elections of officers to the committee.
  - Consider any proposed changes to the Constitution.
  - Deal with other relevant business.
- c) 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.
- d) Nominations for officers of the Management Committee will be sent to the Secretary prior to the AGM.
- e) Proposed changes to the constitution shall be sent to the secretary prior to the AGM, who shall circulate at least 7 days before an AGM.
- f) All members have the right to vote at the AGM.
- g) The quorum for AGMs will be 25% of the membership.
- h) The Chairman of the Club shall hold a deliberative as well as a casting vote at general and committee meetings.
- i) The Management Committee have the power to call an EGM, outside the AGM, by decision of a simple majority of the committee members.

- j) An Extraordinary General Meeting may also be called by any club member via an application in writing to the Secretary supported by at least 20% of the members of the Club.
- k) All procedures for EGMs shall follow those outlined above for AGMs.

### 9. Discipline and Appeals

- a) All concerns, allegations or reports of poor practice/abuse relating to the welfare of children and young people will be recorded and responded to swiftly and appropriately in accordance with the club's child protection policy and procedures. The Club Welfare Officer is the lead contact for all members in the event of any child protection concerns.
- b) All complaints regarding the behaviour of members should be presented and submitted in writing to the Secretary.
- c) A sub-committee of the Management Committee (made up of at least 3 members of the Management Committee) will meet to hear complaints within 7 Days of a complaint being lodged (or such longer period as the Management Committee deem appropriate to allow a proper investigation into the complaint). The committee has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action including the termination of membership.
- d) 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 3 days of the hearing.
- e) There will be the right of appeal by the person against whom the complaint was made to the Management Committee following disciplinary action being announced. A sub-committee of the Management Committee (made up of at least 2 members of the Management Committee who to the extent possible shall not include any individual who sat on the initial hearing) should consider the appeal within 7 days of the Secretary receiving the appeal.

### 10. Dissolution

- a) A resolution to dissolve the club can only be passed at an AGM or EGM through a membership vote, whereby not less than three quarters of those present and voting support the motion.
- b) In the event of dissolution, the Management Committee will then be responsible for the orderly winding up of the Club's affairs
- c) After settling all liabilities of the Club, from the clubs funds, the Management Committee shall then pass on the net assets remaining to one or more of the following:
  - to another Club with similar sports objectives which is a registered charity and/or
  - to another Club with similar sports objectives which is a registered CASC and/or
  - to the sport's governing body for use by them for related community sports.



## 11. Amendments to the Constitution

The constitution will only be changed through agreement by majority vote at an AGM or EGM.

## 12. Declaration

**Whinmoor Warriors ARLFC** hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members.

Signed:

Date: 1 January 2025

Name: Khalid Hussain

Position: Club Chairperson

Signed:

Date: 1 January 2025

Name: David Porter

Position: Club Secretary