Bridgwater & District Road & Trail Runners
Constitution

1. Club Name

1.1. The club shall be called **Bridgwater & District Road & Trail Runners (BADRAT Runners)** or referred to as 'the Club' in this document.

2. Club Colours

2.1. The club's primary kit colours will be blue fading to white (as registered with England Athletics).

3. Affiliation

3.1. BADRAT Runners shall maintain affiliation with England Athletics (EA). The Club's affiliation registration number is 7693470.

3.2. BADRAT Runners may affiliate to other bodies e.g. Association of Running Clubs (ARC), Trail Running Association (TRA), etc.

4. Aims and objectives

The main purposes of the club are to provide facilities for and to promote participation in the amateur sport of Running in Bridgwater. This will be achieved by:

4.1. Offering regular running sessions for club members on both road and trail terrain in and around the Bridgwater and surrounding district.

4.2. Providing a welcoming and inclusive club atmosphere with a keen focus on the social, physical, and mental health benefits of running.

4.3. Ensuring a duty of care to all members of the club, providing services in a way that is fair to everyone.

5. Club Finances

5.1. A bank account shall be opened and maintained in the name of the Club (BADRAT Runners).

5.2. Designated account signatories shall be the Club Chairperson, Club Secretary, Members Secretary, and Treasurer. No sum shall be expended from the Club Account by electronic bank transfer unless approved by at least one of the designated signatories subject to a maximum amount fixed by the Committee. All monies payable to the Club shall be received by electronic

bank transfer and deposited in the Club Account as soon as is reasonably practicable. The Club account shall be managed by the club Treasurer following any finance policy drawn up by the Committee and/or under the reasonable instructions of the Committee (acting collectively) from time to time.

5.3. The Club's financial year shall end on **31St March** each year or such other date as the Committee may determine from time to time provided that no financial year shall be shortened to less than nine months or extended to more than fifteen months.

6. Club Membership

6.1. Membership of the club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport on application, regardless of age, sex, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion, or other beliefs, except as a 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.

6.2. 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 conduct that the club has adopted.

6.3. Partner offers and discounts available to club members must not be shared with any other person(s) outside of the club who do not have an active/valid club membership.

6.4. All members are responsible for keeping their contact details, emergency contact information, and relevant health information up to date via the England Athletics portal.

6.5. Members take part in activities at their own risk.

7. Participation

Participation in Club activities may be subject to age restrictions, safeguarding requirements, coaching qualifications, risk assessments, insurance requirements or other safety considerations as determined by the Committee.

8. Club Member Conduct and Behaviour

8.1. All members are expected to uphold the values of BADRAT Runners by treating fellow members, volunteers, and the wider running community with respect. Members must not engage in behaviour that causes conflict, undermines others, or brings the club into disrepute, including negative or inflammatory comments about other members or club activities.

8.2. Breaches of this conduct may lead to action by the committee, which may include verbal or written warnings, suspension of membership, or removal from the club in accordance with the constitution.

9. Membership & Membership Fees

9.1. Membership fees will be set annually and agreed upon by the Club Committee or determined at the Annual General Meeting with England Athletics membership fees determined by EA. See the website for current club membership fees.

9.2. Fees will be paid by direct bank transfer. Annual membership subscriptions are due on the 1st April each year and will be valid until 31st March the following year. Any membership not renewed by 30 April will be considered not seeking renewal, and the individual's membership will be terminated. As a result they will no longer be eligible to participate in club activities.
In cases where a new or returning member is unable to pay the fee due to financial hardship or personal circumstances, this will be reviewed and considered by the club officers on a case-by-case basis, with discretion applied as appropriate.

9.3. Prospective new members are encouraged to try up to 4 of the regular club-run sessions as non-members. Thereafter, they will be required to join to participate in club activities and receive the full benefits of membership.

9.4. Those returning with previously lapsed club membership are exempt from item 9.3 and will be required to renew their membership prior to taking part in club-run sessions.

10. London Marathon (LM) Place & Ballot

10.1. Clubs with between 10 and 39 England Athletics (EA) members will be entered into a ballot alongside other eligible clubs for a London Marathon club place.

Clubs with 40 - 189 or more EA-affiliated members will automatically receive one club place. Those with over 190 members will receive two places.

10.1.1. Clubs successful through the EA club ballot will receive a single London Marathon club entry for that year.

10.2. This entry will be allocated to a member who is an EA registered Athlete, with BADRAT Runners as their 'First Claim' club. This will be via an open internal ballot where members will be required to explicitly confirm their 'expression of interest' to the Club Secretary no later than 24 hours before the deadline.

10.3. Entry into the club ballot is open to those members with the following eligibility criteria:

10.3.1. Members who are EA registered competitive athletes with BADRAT Runners as their first claim club, and have 12 months or longer membership as of April 1st before the ballot date.

10.3.2. In order to be included in the draw, club members must submit proof of unsuccessful public ballot entry (e.g – a rejection email from the event organisers)

10.3.3. Out of the 168 club runs organised throughout the year, eligible members must have taken part in a minimum of 12 club runs and/or races representing the club between April 1st and March 31st preceding the ballot

10.3.4. Members participating in the London Marathon the year before who had been successful through the public ballot will be excluded from the club ballot.

10.3.5. The last member to receive a BADRAT Runners London Marathon club ballot place will be ineligible to enter the club ballot for the following three occasions in which the club is allocated a London Marathon place.

10.4. Should an eligible member not declare their interest, then they will be excluded from the ballot.

10.5. As this is a club-secured entry into the event, the successful club ballot member is expected to wear a BADRAT Runners club shirt or vest during the London Marathon event. Shirts/vests can be loaned through the club.

10.6. The successful member must not transfer the club place to anyone else. Should they be unable to take part or change their mind prior to registering the entry, there will be a subsequent draw to select from the other candidates still wishing to be included.

11. Officers of the club

11.1. The officers of the club will include the following positions:

Club Chairperson
Club Secretary
Treasurer
Membership Secretary
Social Secretary
Club Welfare Officer x 2
Mental Health Champion
Club Captain x 2

11.2. Club President (Honorary Role)
The Club may also appoint a Club President as an honorary position. This role recognises an individual who has made a significant and lasting contribution to the club and who reflects its values. The Club President may also hold an elected Officer role, if duly nominated and appointed at the AGM. The President's responsibilities are ambassadorial in nature, but plays a key part in supporting the direction of the club's vision and growth and will actively help to promote the club's reputation.

11.3. Officers shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and shall hold office until the conclusion of the next AGM.

In the event of an officer resigning or otherwise vacating their position during their term of office, the Committee may appoint a suitable replacement to serve in an interim capacity until the next AGM. Such appointments may be made by agreement of the Committee to ensure the continued effective management and operation of the Club.

Any interim appointment shall be subject to the normal election process at the next AGM

11.4. All officers will retire each year but will be eligible for re-appointment.

12. Club Committee

12.1. The Club Committee will consist of the officers listed above and up to 2 other members, all of whom must be full members of the club as a minimum for the maintenance of the club. Other positions may vary and be added to officers and/or included within the committee as the club develops.

12.2. The Club Committee will be responsible for managing all affairs of the club, including adopting policies, codes of conduct, and rules that affect the organisation and direction of the club. The Committee shall have the power

to appoint a subcommittee and to co-opt any person to serve on such committee.

12.3. The Club President may be invited to attend the Committee meetings in an advisory, non-voting capacity, unless they also hold a formal Officer role, in which case they retain the same voting rights as that elected position.

12.4. The Club Committee meetings will be convened by the Club Secretary and held no less than 4 times yearly. A minimum of 4 club officers will form a quorum to transact business at committee meetings.

12.5. Any vacancy on the Committee that arises between one AGM and the next may be filled by a Member proposed by one Officer, seconded by another Officer, and approved by the Committee.

13. Committee Member Conduct and Behaviour

13.1. Committee members are expected to act with integrity, impartiality, and professionalism in all matters relating to the club. They must work collaboratively, avoid behaviour that damages trust or cohesion within the committee, and refrain from negative or divisive comments about other committee members or club decisions. Committee members must represent the club positively and act in its best interests at all times.

13.2. Breaches of committee conduct may result in review by the committee or an appointed sub-group, which may include formal warnings, removal from committee duties, or referral to the membership for further action as defined in the constitution.

14. Election of Committee

14.1. Any Member may be nominated by any other two Members, with his/her approval, as a candidate for any of the Committee Member posts by notice in writing (including email) to the Club Secretary at least two weeks before the date of the AGM.

14.2. A Member may accept nomination for any of the separately elected posts constituting the Committee, subject to being eligible to hold only one of these posts at any time.

14.3. If there is only one candidate for the post of any Officer, that candidate will be declared elected unopposed. If the number of candidates is more than one, ballot papers will be prepared to contain all the names proposed: every eligible Member may vote for each officer; the candidate with a simple majority will be elected.

15. Annual General Meetings (AGM)

15.1. The Committee shall call an Annual General Meeting (AGM) each year and no more than fifteen months shall pass between one AGM and the next following one. Club AGM's to be held within 3 months of March 31st with not less than 21 days' notice to be given to all members by the club Secretary.

15.2. Nominations for vacant club officers of the Club Committee will be sent to the Club Secretary at least 14 days before the AGM.

15.3. The business of an AGM shall include:

A summarised report of the clubs' annual achievements, membership position, and annual accounts.
To review and vote on changes to the club constitution;
The retirement and appointment of committee officers; and
Any other business.

15.4. The Club Committee has the right to call Extraordinary General Meetings (EGMs) outside the AGM. Procedures for EGMs will be the same as for the AGM.

15.5. The appointment of the Club President will remain in place until such time as the individual chooses to stand down, or if the Committee or wider membership raise concerns regarding the effectiveness or appropriateness of the individual continuing in the role. In such cases, the appointment may be reviewed and subject to change following a Committee decision and/or at the next AGM.

15.6. No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum is present. The quorum for an AGM or EGM shall be a minimum of two Members.

15.7. If a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting or if, during a meeting, a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to a time and place as the Committee may determine.

15.8. All members are entitled to vote on any business at the AGM, including the election of the Committee and Officers. Any tie-in voting is to be broken by the casting vote of the Club Chairperson.

16. Altering the Constitution

16.1. No alteration or addition to this Constitution shall be made unless approved by a two-thirds majority at an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting.

16.2. The notice for that Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting must detail the proposed alteration or addition. Anyone wishing to have such an alteration or addition proposed should give notice to the Secretary at least seven days before such meeting.

17. Intellectual Property

17.1. The name "BADRAT Runners", "Bridgwater & District Road & Trail Runners", all associated abbreviations, logos, branding, race vest and shirt designs, and any related intellectual property are owned by the creator. No design and branding amendments, changes or alterations to branding can be made without consultation and approval from the creation/IP owner.

17.2. The club is granted permission to use this intellectual property under a separate agreement.

18. Non-Profit Making

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

19. Dissolution of the Club

If at any Special General Meeting, a resolution for the dissolution of the Club is passed by a majority of the Members present, a further Special General Meeting shall be convened, to be held not less than four weeks thereafter (of which two weeks written notice shall be given to each Member in addition to the other provisions for Notices), to further consider the matter.

The members may vote to wind up the Club if not fewer than three-quarters of those present and voting support that proposal at a properly convened Special General Meeting. If successful, the Committee shall proceed to realise the property of the Club and discharge all liabilities.

Upon dissolution of the Club, any remaining assets shall be given or transferred to another registered Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC), a registered charity or the sport's governing body for use by them in related community sports.

20. Disciplinary Procedures

The Club shall not tolerate the physical or mental abuse, harassment, discrimination, or defamation of any of its members during, or after, Club Events. Any Member may

be disciplined or excluded from membership of the Club if his or her conduct has been, or is likely to be, prejudicial to the interests of the Club. The exclusion will be agreed upon by resolution of a majority of at least two-thirds of those present and voting at a properly convened Committee meeting and at which no fewer than four of the total voting members of the Committee shall be present. For further information relating to club disciplinary and code of conduct, please refer to the policy documents hosted on the club website https://www.badrat.club/key-documents

Declaration

BADRAT Runners duly adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members

Signed	**Date**	**Position**
Issy Corby	27/07/202	Club Chairperson
Bjorn Edney	27/07/2026	Club Secretary