



## **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**

- 4.1. To offer regular running sessions for club members on both road and trail terrain in and around the Bridgwater and surrounding district.
- 4.2. To provide a welcoming and inclusive club atmosphere with a keen focus on the social, physical, and mental health benefits of running.
- 4.3. Ensure 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 **31<sup>st</sup> 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. Club membership shall be open upon application to all persons with interests in running (social or competitive) over the age of 18 regardless of sex, disability, ethnicity, race, nationality, sexual orientation, occupation, religion, political or other beliefs. Membership may only be refused where admission to membership would be contrary to the best interests of the sport or the good conduct and interests of the Club.
- 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. Members take part in activities at their own risk.

## **7. Membership & Membership Fees**

- 7.1. 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.
- 7.2. Fees will be paid annually by direct bank transfer. Annual membership subscriptions shall be due on the 1st of April every year and will be valid until 31 March the following year. Any membership not paid or renewed by 30 April will be deemed to be not seeking renewal of their membership and therefore will have their membership terminated and will no longer be able to participate in club activities. This will be subject to hardship/special circumstances to be considered by club officers.
- 7.3. 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.

## **8. Virgin Money London Marathon (VMLM) Place & Ballot**

- 8.1. Starting in 2023, clubs with 10 to 39 'England Athletics' affiliated members will be entered into a ballot along with other eligible clubs.
- 8.2. A club that is successful in the ballot will receive a single entry into the London Marathon each year.
- 8.3. 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 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.
- 8.4. Entry into the club ballot is open to those members with the following eligibility criteria:
  - 8.4.1. Members are to have 12 months or longer membership as of April 1st before the ballot date.
  - 8.4.2. Out of the 168 club runs organised throughout the year, eligible members must have taken part in a minimum of 4 club runs and/or races representing the club between April 1st and March 31st preceding the ballot
  - 8.4.3. Members participating in the London Marathon the year before who had been successful through the public ballot will be excluded from the club ballot.
  - 8.4.4. A member who has received a BADRAT Runners club ballot place within the previous 3 years will be excluded from the club ballot.
- 8.5. Should an eligible member not declare their interest, then they will be excluded from the ballot.
- 8.6. 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.

## **9. Officers of the club**

- 9.1. The officers of the club will include the following positions:

Club Chairperson  
Club Secretary  
Treasurer  
Membership Secretary  
Social Secretary  
Social Media Secretary  
Club Welfare Officer x 2  
Mental Health Champion  
Club Captain x 3

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- 9.2. Officers will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting and will hold office until the next AGM. In the case of an officer standing down during the year, the committee will seek to appoint a replacement officer for a formal appointment at the next available AGM.
- 9.3. All officers will retire each year but will be eligible for re-appointment.

## 10. Club Committee

- 10.1. 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 maintenance of the club. Other positions may vary and be added to officers and/or included within the committee as the club develops.
- 10.2. The Club Committee will be responsible for the management of 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 sub-committee and to co-opt any person to serve on such committee.
- 10.3. 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.
- 10.4. 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.

## 11. Election of Committee

- 11.1. 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.
- 11.2. 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.
- 11.3. 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 office; the candidate with a simple



majority will be elected.

## **12. Annual General Meetings (AGM)**

- 12.1. 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.
- 12.2. Nominations for vacant club officers of the Club Committee will be sent to the Club Secretary at least 14 days before the AGM.
- 12.3. The business of an AGM shall include:
  - a report of the Club chairperson reviewing the previous year;
  - a report of the Club secretary reviewing the previous year;
  - a report of the Club's finances and accounts over the previous year;
  - a report of the Club's membership position;
  - review and vote on changes to the club constitution;
  - the election and retirement of Officers; and
  - any other business.
- 12.4. 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.
- 12.5. 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.
- 12.6. 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.
- 12.7. 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.

## **13. Altering the Constitution**

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.

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.

#### 14. 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.

Any property remaining after the discharge of debts and liabilities of the Club shall be paid to or distributed to another community amateur sports club for road running or athletics, or to UK Athletics Limited for use in community-related road running initiatives, or to a charitable organisation having similar objects and affiliations, as nominated at the SGM.

#### 15. 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
Kerry Howell	12/04/2024	Club Chairperson
Bjorn Edney	12/04/2024	Club Secretary