

## **LONDON ROWING CLUB (the “Club”)**

### **CLUB RULES (the “Rules”)**

**Adopted 15th July 2021**

**1. NAME:** The Club, which is operated by London Rowing Club Limited (the “**Company**”), shall be called “London Rowing Club”.

**2. COLOURS:** The Club colours shall be dark blue with white stripes, according to patterns registered with British Rowing.

**3. OBJECT:** The object of the Club is to promote the amateur sport of rowing, more particularly on the River Thames, and community participation in the same.

#### **4. MEMBERSHIP:**

(a) The Club may have different classes of membership and subscription (“**Subscription**”) on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The classes of membership shall consist of Full, Life, Non-Rowing, Junior, Honorary and Temporary Members (together “**Members**” and each a “**Member**”) and the new Members can choose which class of membership to take, provided they meet the requirements as set out in these Rules, including complying with these Rules and any bye-laws (the “**Bye-Laws**”) issued by the Club’s Committee from time to time (the “**Committee**”) pursuant to these Rules.

(b) Except where otherwise expressly provided, all Rules and Bye-Laws shall be equally binding on all classes of Members. Every Member shall, upon signature of the relevant form applying for membership (the “**Application**”) and upon payment of the appropriate entrance fee (the “**Entrance Fee**”) and Subscription (if any), become entitled to the benefits and privileges of the Club, save as hereinafter provided. Signature of the Application and any such payments (if any) shall be a declaration of acceptance of and submission to the Rules, Bye-Laws and Articles of Association of the Company from time to time (the “**Articles**”), whether or not such Members are shareholders of the Company.

#### **5. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP:**

A prospective Member shall apply to the Honorary Secretary of the Club (the “**Honorary Secretary**”) in writing by completing the Application giving such information as the Committee may from time to time require accompanied by payment of the Entrance Fee which shall be determined from time to time by the Committee, save in the case of Honorary Members, who do not pay such an Entrance Fee, or Junior Members, when the Entrance Fee may be paid following due compliance with any of the Committee’s requirements in connection therewith from time to time, which currently includes the obtaining of a parent’s /guardian’s permission therefor.

#### **6. CONFIRMATION OF MEMBERSHIP:**

(a) Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport of rowing, on written application, in accordance with the Equal Opportunities Policy (paragraph 20). However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.

(b) If it is considered by the Committee that the granting of membership would be detrimental to the aims and objectives of the Club, by virtue of conduct or character likely to bring the Club or the sport of rowing into disrepute or for some other similar good cause, the Committee shall

**London Rowing Club Limited**

**Registered in England & Wales under No 00004711 having its registered office at London Rowing Club  
Boat House, Embankment, Putney, London SW15 1LB**

be entitled to refuse such membership. In so doing the Committee shall provide full reasons for their decision and grant a right of Appeal to the applicant.

(c) A person who has been expelled from, or refused membership of, British Rowing shall not be eligible for membership.

(d) As soon as is reasonably practical after acceptance of an Application for membership, notice thereof shall be sent to each applicant at the address entered on the Application together with a request for payment of the first Subscription (if any) and a copy of the Rules, Bye-Laws and Articles.

#### **7. NON-PAYMENT OF FIRST SUBSCRIPTION:**

In the event of non-payment of the first annual Subscription or monthly instalment thereof, in accordance with Rule 9(c), the membership of the defaulting Member shall be cancelled and the Entrance Fee shall be forfeited, unless the delay is accounted for to the satisfaction of the Committee in its absolute discretion.

#### **8. LONDON ROWING CLUB LIMITED:**

(a) On taking up membership as a Full or Life Member, £2.00 of the Entrance Fee shall be applied to the purchase of one share of £2.00 in the capital of the Company (a “**Share**”), such Member becoming the owner of one fully paid up Share.

(b) This Rule 8(b) shall apply in relation to any person who for any reason ceases to be a Full or Life Member of the Club and who holds a Share or any other Member who holds a Share who ceases to be a Member (a “**Departing Member**”). At any time after such person ceases to be a Member and becomes a Departing Member then his Share shall be liable to be transferred to such person as may be specified by the board (“**Board**”) of directors of the Company (“**Directors**”) with no consideration payable to the Departing Member in respect of that transfer. Each Member hereby irrevocably appoints each Director from time to time as his agent to execute a Stock Transfer Form on his behalf so as to effect the transfer of any Share which he holds in the Company after he becomes a Departing Member.

(c) In the event of a Member transferring his membership to that of a Full Member from any other class of membership, £2.00 of his Entrance Fee paid under Rule 4(b) shall be credited in payment for his Share in accordance with Rule 8(a) above.

#### **9. SUBSCRIPTIONS:**

(a) The rate of annual Subscription for Members shall be determined from year to year by the Committee at levels which will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating in the relevant category of membership. Not less than two months’ notice in writing will be given to all Members of a category of membership in respect of which it is intended to alter the rate of Subscription for the ensuing year.

(b) The annual Subscription of all Full, Non-Rowing and Junior Members shall be payable within one month of the date of acceptance as referred to in Rule 6(b) above in the case of the first Subscription and thereafter 1st August in each year provided that a Member so accepted shall pay a proportion of the first Subscription only amounting to one twelfth of the full annual Subscription for each month or part month following his acceptance up to the following 31st July.

(c) The Committee may, in its absolute discretion, permit a Member to pay the Subscription and any other payments due by not more than 12 monthly instalments by either Bank Standing Order or Direct Debit, as the Committee shall determine in its absolute discretion, but may withdraw such permission at any time, whereupon the full outstanding balance will be due and payable forthwith.

(d) Notice shall be sent to all Members whose Subscriptions (or any permitted instalment thereof) are unpaid for four months after the due date in any year and they shall be debarred from the benefits of the Club and their name posted conspicuously in the Club's premises until such Subscriptions are paid.

(e) All sums which shall be due and payable by Members by way of Entrance Fees, Subscriptions or otherwise shall be paid to the Company.

#### **10. FULL MEMBERS:**

Ladies and gentlemen over the age of 18 shall be eligible to become Full or Life Members and shall pay the full Subscription determined in accordance with Rule 9(a) (or in the case of Life Members, the payment referred to in Rule 10(d) below) provided that:—

(a) The Committee may reduce the annual Subscription payable by Members in the following categories by such amount(s) as the Committee may in its absolute discretion from time to time decide. No Member shall benefit under more than one category at one time:

(i) Members (Under 25 Members). Active rowing Members who are over the age of 19 and under the age of 25 years. On 31<sup>st</sup> July next following an Under 25 Member's 25<sup>th</sup> birthday such eligibility shall cease. The Under 25 Member may then apply for transference of membership to another class in accordance with Rule 15. If the Under 25 Member fails to do so before 31<sup>st</sup> August next following he or she shall be taken to have resigned as at 31<sup>st</sup> July.

(ii) Members participating only as coxes.

(iii) Members (Out of Town Members) who throughout the Club's Subscription year commencing on 1st August ("the Subscription Year") either have no place of work or residence within 50 miles of the Club's premises or attend as a student in residence at a university or college of further education situated more than 50 miles from the Club's premises.

(b) A Member applying for a reduced Subscription must do so in writing to the Honorary Secretary stating reasons and must supply such evidence as the Committee may in its absolute discretion require from time to time as to his/her eligibility for a reduced Subscription.

(c) Members may be selected to train with the Club's Senior Squad (the "Squad"). The Captain shall determine criteria for membership of the Squad from time to time. If any question arises as to selection of a Member for the Squad or a Member's removal therefrom the Captain's decision shall be final. The Committee may at its absolute discretion require Squad members to pay an additional sum to reflect their use of Club resources.

(d) Life Members: Life membership may be available at the absolute discretion of the Committee and on such terms as the Committee shall from time to time think fit.

#### **11. NON-ROWING MEMBERSHIP:**

(a) Ladies and gentlemen over the age of 18 years shall be eligible to become Non-Rowing Members

(b) There shall be two categories of Non-Rowing Membership:

(i) Associate Membership. A member in this category shall not be entitled to use the Club's sports equipment including without limitation boats, oars, sculls, rowing machines, and gym.

(ii) Club Membership. A member in this category shall be entitled to use only the Club's gym and the Club's sports equipment therein but shall not otherwise be entitled to use the Club's sports equipment.

(c) Members in either category shall be entitled to all the privileges and benefits of the Club save that they shall not vote at any general meeting of the Club (a "General Meeting") or the

Company, nor be eligible for election as officers of the Club (“**Officers**” and each an “**Officer**”) or Directors, nor be eligible to hold any Share or Shares.

(d) A Non-Rowing Member may at any time apply for transference of membership to another class in accordance with Rule 15.

## **12. JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP:**

(a) Boys and girls under the age of 19 shall be eligible to become Junior Members, with the consent of a parent or guardian. On 31st July next following a Junior Member’s 19<sup>th</sup> birthday such eligibility shall cease. The Junior Member may then apply for transference of membership to another class in accordance with Rule 15. If the Junior Member fails to do so before 31st August next following he or she shall be taken to have resigned as at 31st July.

(b) A Junior Member shall be entitled to all the privileges and benefits of the Club save that they shall not be entitled to vote at any General Meeting of the Club or the Company, nor be eligible for election as Officers or Directors, nor be eligible to hold any Share or Shares.

(c) The Committee may from time to time in its absolute discretion make any regulations it may think proper in relation to Junior Members and if any Junior Member disobeys any such regulations he/she may be expelled from membership of the Club by an order to that effect by the Committee and Rule 18 shall not apply.

## **13. HONORARY MEMBERSHIP:**

(a) The Committee shall have the power to appoint as Honorary Members distinguished oarsmen/oarswomen and such other persons as the Committee may think proper. The appointment shall be by resolution duly proposed to a meeting of the Committee:

(i) of which one clear week’s notice shall have been given to every member of the Committee of the intention to propose the Honorary Member; and

(ii) which is attended by not less than ten members of the Committee,

and shall require a majority of three-quarters of the members of the Committee present and voting at such meeting.

(b) An Honorary Member who has, immediately prior to appointment as such, been a Full Member shall for all purposes under these Rules be deemed to remain a Full Member and in particular shall retain his/her Share, save only that he/she will pay no further Subscription.

(c) An Honorary Member not falling within Rule 13(b) above shall pay neither Entrance Fee nor Subscription and shall be entitled to all the privileges and benefits of the Club save that he/she shall not vote at any General Meeting of the Club or the Company, nor be eligible for election as Officers or Directors, nor be eligible to hold any Share or Shares.

(d) Any Honorary Member may transfer to become a Non-Rowing or Full Member on applying in writing to the Honorary Secretary and on payment of the appropriate additional Subscription he/she shall be deemed to have become a Member in the class applied for.

## **14. TEMPORARY MEMBERSHIP:**

(a) The Committee may confer Temporary Membership at its discretion for a period not exceeding six months.

(b) A Temporary Member shall pay, in advance, a Subscription determined by the Committee but not less than one-twelfth of the annual Subscription for Full Members for each month or part month during which he/she shall remain a Member. He/she shall be entitled to all the privileges and benefits of the Club save that he/she shall not vote at any General Meeting of the Club or the Company, nor be eligible for election as Officers or Directors, nor be eligible to hold any Share or Shares.

## **15. TRANSFERENCE OF MEMBERSHIP:**

Any Member may transfer to a different class of membership on applying in writing to the Honorary Secretary and on payment of the appropriate additional or reduced Subscription he/she shall be deemed to have become a Member in the class applied for.

## **16. RESIGNATIONS:**

A Member wishing to resign shall deliver his resignation in writing to the Honorary Secretary before the 1st August in each year and cease thereafter to make use of the benefits and privileges attached to membership of the Club, otherwise he/she shall (unless the Committee in its absolute discretion decides otherwise) be liable for the current year's Subscription. The Honorary Secretary's acknowledgement shall be held to constitute proof of such resignation.

## **17. CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP:**

(a) Any Member violating any Rule, Bye-Law or Article or being adjudged guilty of unsatisfactory conduct may, by resolution of the Committee, be suspended or expelled. Any member so suspended or expelled may appeal to an independent Hearings Panel if such an appeal is approved by a majority of the Officers of the Club. The Panel may be drawn from the membership of the Club or from other clubs in the region. The Panel will hear and receive evidence, reach a conclusion, affirm or reject the sanctions imposed as appropriate.

(b) Any Hearings Panel must give a fair and independent hearing to the appellant within an appropriate timescale. Hearings must not contravene the Human Rights Act 1998 or any other policies of the Club and British Rowing.

## **18. GRIEVANCE AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES:**

An individual or Member with a complaint about treatment by the Club should set out their grievance in writing, in the first instance to the Chairman. The Club will seek to deal with complaints in a fair and timely manner, with reference to British Rowing's Guidelines on Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures in Rowing.

## **19. NON-PAYMENT OF AMOUNTS DUE TO CLUB**

Should any Member fail to pay the Club his/her Subscription (or any permitted instalment thereof) and/or any other amount properly due to the Club for six months after the due date then he/she shall cease automatically to be a Member of the Club while remaining liable for such payment and such Member shall be a Departing Member for the purposes of Rule 8(b) above. The Committee shall have power to re-admit such a Member if satisfied with his/her explanation for the default.

## **20. PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES:**

(a) Except as otherwise provided in the Rules, Bye-Laws and Articles, all classes of Members shall enjoy equal rights and privileges. Except at such times as the Committee may determine, Members may introduce guests in their company for whose conduct they shall be responsible. While on the Club's premises guests shall at all times be subject to the Rules, Bye-Laws and Articles.

(b) The Club will ensure that the talents and resources of all Members are utilised to the full and that no Member receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, marital status, social class, religion or other philosophical beliefs, nor is disadvantaged by conditions or requirements which cannot be shown to be necessary as a consequence of the requirements of the sport of rowing and/or those of health/safety.

(c) In principle the Club's paid coaches shall be primarily responsible for training the Squad and shall not provide coaching for other Members save as directed by the Captain. No

individual Member shall have a right to coaching the management of which is at the Captain's discretion.

**21. OPENING AND CLOSING OF CLUB'S PREMISES:**

The Club's premises and any part of them shall open and be closed at such hours as the Committee shall from time to time determine.

**22. OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY:**

The legal ownership or possession of all property to which the Club is or may be entitled or of which it shall from time to time have charge shall vest in the Company.

**23. DAMAGE TO PROPERTY:**

Any Member who wilfully or negligently damages in any way any property of the Club or the Company or any property entrusted to the Club or the Company shall, at the discretion of the Committee, be called upon to make good such damage.

**24. EXCLUSION OF LIABILITY:**

(a) Neither the Club nor the Company nor their respective Officers, Directors, Members, servants, agents or subcontractors (together "Representatives") shall be responsible for the loss of or damage to any articles or property whatsoever brought into the Club's premises by any Members or their guests whether or not the same shall have been given into the care of the Company or the Club or their respective Representatives, or whether or not such loss or damage is due to the negligence of the Company or the Club or their respective Representatives. Letters or parcels addressed to Members at the Club's premises are received at the addressee's own risk.

(b) Nothing in these Rules shall limit or exclude the Club's or the Company's liability for: -

(i) death or personal injury caused by their respective negligence or the negligence of their Representatives; or

(ii) fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation.

(c) Neither the Club nor the Company nor any of their Representatives shall under any circumstances whatsoever be liable to any Member, whether in contract, tort (including negligence), breach of statutory duty, or otherwise, for any loss of profit, or any indirect or consequential loss arising under or in connection with any Member's membership and use of the Club or any of its facilities or equipment.

(d) Except as set out in these Rules, all warranties, conditions and other terms implied by statute or common law are, to the fullest extent permitted by law, excluded.

**25. WATER SAFETY ADVISER:**

The Committee shall appoint a Safety Adviser whose duty it will be to understand the guidance and the requirements in regard to water safety published from time to time by British Rowing and any other relevant body and advise the Committee as to their observation and implementation.

**26. OFFICERS:**

The Officers shall consist of a Chairman, Captain, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Membership Director, Strategy Director, Honorary House Steward (Property) and Honorary House Steward (House/Events).

## **27. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

(a) The Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club and shall hold office for the following terms:

(i) in the case of the Captain until the next succeeding Annual General Meeting when he/she shall retire; and

(ii) in the case of all other Officers until the third Annual General Meeting following their election when they shall retire

(b) The Annual General Meeting shall be held not earlier than the 15th July nor later than the 15th October in each year.

(c) A Member intending to stand for election to an office must be proposed and seconded by Members entitled to vote, and must give notice of his/her candidacy and the names of the proposer and seconder to the Hon. Secretary at least 7 days before the General Meeting. In proposing a candidate for election, the proposer and seconder shall satisfy themselves that the candidate's qualifications, skills and experience relevant to the role are suitable for the role for which the candidate is being proposed. Election shall be by ballot provided that in the event of there being only one candidate nominated for any office the election may be by a show of hands unless a ballot be demanded. Retiring Officers shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) Any casual vacancy occurring in any of the offices other than President or Vice-President may be filled as resolved by the Committee but such appointment shall last until the next General Meeting of the Club at which an election for such office is due to take place.

(e) All the Officers elected or appointed in accordance with this Rule 26 shall be appointed Directors of the Company. The Honorary Secretary shall also be the Secretary of the Company.

(f) Nominations for the positions of the Officers shall be posted prominently in the Club's premises and published on the Club website together with a statement by each candidate of his/her qualifications, skills and experience relevant to the role for which he/she has been nominated.

## **28. THE COMMITTEE:**

The general management of the Club shall be entrusted to a Committee composed of the Officers elected under Rule 26 in accordance with the powers and procedures specified in the Articles. The Chairman shall chair meetings of the Committee. The President may attend any meeting of the Committee but shall not vote thereat.

## **29. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE:**

(a) The Committee shall have power to make, alter and rescind such Bye-Laws as it may consider necessary for the internal management and well-being of the Club which shall be binding on all Members.

(b) The Rules and Bye-Laws from time to time shall be printed and posted on the notice board in the Club's premises.

(c) The Committee shall have power to appoint sub-committees for such purposes as they may deem expedient, to appoint Members to those sub-committees, and to delegate to such sub-committees the functions and power of the Committee relating to such purposes.

(d) The Committee may co-opt any Vice-Captain appointed under Rule 30 or such other Members as they think fit to attend their meetings and assist the management of the Club provided that such co-opted members of the Committee shall not become Directors nor shall they be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Committee.

(e) No Member may contend for any prize under the name of the Club without the consent of the Captain.

### **30. VICE-CAPTAINS:**

With the approval of the Committee the Captain shall appoint at least two Members as he/she may select as Vice-Captains (at least one for male rowing and one for female rowing) to assist in the administration of the Club.

### **31. PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT(S)**

(a) At the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting the Club shall elect a President and may elect one or more Vice-Presidents who shall hold office until the next succeeding Annual General Meeting when they shall retire. The President and Vice-President(s) shall be eligible for re-election.

(b) A Member intending to stand for election to the office of President or Vice-President must be proposed and seconded by Members entitled to vote and must give notice of their candidacy and the names of their proposer and seconder to the Hon. Secretary at least 7 days before the General Meeting. Election shall be by ballot provided that in the event of there being only one candidate nominated for any office the election may be by a show of hands unless a ballot be demanded.

(c) Nominations for the positions of President and Vice-President shall be posted prominently in the Club's premises and published on the Club website.

### **32. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

(a) A General Meeting of the Club shall be held every year. Not less than 14 days' notice of the time, date and place of such General Meeting shall be given to the Members.

(b) The business of such General Meeting shall be the election of Officers and other business of which due notice shall have been given by the Honorary Secretary.

### **33. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS:**

The Committee shall, within 21 days of receipt of a request in writing signed by not less than fifteen Full Members or other Members entitled to vote, and may on their own authority, call an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club of which not less than 14 days' notice specifying the object, time, date and place of such General Meeting shall be given to every Member. No business shall be transacted whatsoever except that of which due notice shall have been given as provided above.

### **34. PROCEDURE AT GENERAL MEETINGS:**

(a) At all General Meetings the President or in his/her absence the Chairman or in his/her absence a member of the Committee who is present at the meeting to be chosen by a simple majority of those attending and entitled to vote at the General Meeting, shall chair the meeting.

(b) The quorum at all General Meetings shall be fifteen Full Members or other Members entitled to vote.

(c) Every question (unless otherwise expressly provided by the Rules) shall be decided by a majority of votes of Full Members or other Members entitled to vote and in the case

of equality of votes the chairman of the General Meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

- (d) Every Full Member or other Member entitled to vote shall have one vote. Non-Rowing, Junior and Temporary Members shall not be entitled to vote at any General Meeting of the Club.
- (e) The Committee may make whatever arrangements it considers appropriate to enable those attending a General Meeting to exercise their rights to speak and vote at it, including voting by proxy.
- (f) In determining attendance at a General Meeting, it is immaterial whether any two or more Members attending it are in the same place, if they are otherwise able to participate.
- (g) Two or more persons who are not in the same place as each other attend a General Meeting if their circumstances are such that if they have (or were to have) rights to speak and vote at that meeting they are (or would be able) to exercise them.
- (h) The Committee may require proxy notices to be delivered in a particular form and may specify different forms for different purposes.

### **35. PRIORITY**

(a) Where there is any conflict between any of the Rules and the Bye-Laws, the Rules will prevail.

(b) Where there is any conflict between any of the Rules and the Articles, the Articles will prevail.

### **36. ALTERATIONS TO THE RULES:**

Alterations to the Rules may be made at the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club called under Rule 33 by the vote of two-thirds of the Full Members and other Members entitled to vote present at such General Meeting. Notice of any proposed alteration in or addition to the Rules must be communicated in writing to the Honorary Secretary and posted by him/her in the Club's premises at least 15 clear days before such General Meeting; and no amendments to any such proposed alteration or additions may be moved at the General Meeting unless they shall have been notified in a similar manner at least 24 hours before such General Meeting.

### **37. CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES:**

The Club accepts the policy and procedures relating to Child Protection and the Protection of Vulnerable Adults, as set out by British Rowing, and requires all Members to accept them as a condition of membership.

### **38. INTERPRETATION:**

Where necessary in these Rules: –

- (a) The singular shall include the plural and vice versa;
- (b) The masculine shall include the feminine; and
- (c) Rowing shall include sculling.