

# GOSPORT ROAD RUNNERS CLUB CONSTITUTION (2024)

*As amended and accepted at the Annual General Meeting 20 Mar 2024*

1. The name of the club shall be Gosport Road Runners.
2. The objective of the club is to promote amateur athletics, road and off road running. Also to support the participation of members in relevant amateur race leagues.
3. The officers of the club shall be:

***The President***, who will chair the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

***The Chairman***, who will chair all other meetings

***The Vice Chair*** who will assist the Chair and stand in, in their absence

***The Honorary Secretary.***

***The Honorary Treasurer.***

4. There will also be a minimum of four ordinary members of the Executive Committee, and this number is to include the two Club Captains. The number and roles of the ordinary members will vary depending on need and will for example include the membership secretary. The Gosport Half Marathon Race Director has a standing invite to the Executive Committee in order to update the Executive Committee on key matters arising from the race sub-committee . All members of the Executive Committee must be members of Gosport Road Runners.
5. New officers are to be elected at the AGM, with the exception of the President who shall hold the post for a minimum of two years before standing for re-election. The election of the President shall be by a vote at the AGM following a recommendation from the Executive Committee after considering nominations from the membership.
6. New ordinary members of the Executive Committee are to be voted in by a paper vote as required at for example a gathering of members on a club night. Members are to be notified in advance of any voting for new ordinary members.
7. Officers or ordinary members of the Executive Committee are permitted to hold more than one position. When more than one candidate stands for a role, instead of the show of hands a paper vote will be carried out both at AGM and on normal club nights to negate any uncomfortable feeling within the membership.
8. A special meeting, termed an Emergency General Meeting (EGM), will be held for electing new officers to the committee following any mid-term resignations.
9. The AGM shall be held during March or April each year, with 21 days' notice to members. An EGM can be called by the President, Chairman or by members' requisition. Similarly, 21 days' notice shall be given. The Honorary Secretary must notify an EGM to the club members within 14 days of a requisition in writing being received. This is to be signed by a minimum of 20 paid up members, stating the business to be discussed which must be set out in a notice for the meeting.
10. The day-to-day management of the club shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committee, comprising of the Quorum. The Chairman, the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Treasurer, and one other committee member elected by the Executive Committee.
11. Any member can attend the Executive Committee meeting as an observer. Members should inform the Honorary Secretary in advance of the proposed meeting.

12. Voting at the AGM shall be by a show of hands unless a card vote is demanded by at least 10 members. Decisions shall be by a simple majority of those present and voting. In the event of a tie, the Chairman of the meeting shall have the casting vote. The quorum for decision making at an Executive Committee meeting shall be one officer and three ordinary members, and at an AGM, 20 members.
13. Membership of the club is open to anyone over the age of 18. It is also open to 14-17 year olds, who will be under the supervision of a designated club member at all times. This designated adult will be made known to the Welfare Officer. The club is confined to amateurs as defined by UK Athletics. Its definition is: "An amateur is one who has never competed for a money prize or monetary consideration in athletics, sports, games or races or in any way been interested in a staked bet or wager made in connection with any athletic competition in which he or she was an entrant or competitor; who has never engaged in, assisted or taught any athletic exercise for pecuniary consideration or in any way exploited his or her athletic ability for profit; and who has never taken part in any athletic competition with anyone who is not an amateur or other such definition set out by UK Athletics from time to time."
14. Resignation from the Committee shall be in writing to the Honorary Secretary. Resignation from the club shall be in writing to the Club Membership Secretary.
15. The annual subscription and due date shall be payable on election in the sum set by the AGM.
16. The Executive Committee shall have the power to expel any member whose subscription is three months in arrears provided a month's notice in writing shall have been sent to a member by letter or e-mail. This is to be sent to the member's last known address, informing him/her of the proposed action by the committee. The South of England Athletics Association shall be informed of any such expulsion and record the action in the Black Book. Any such person shall be suspended from competing in any meeting held under UK Athletics laws until the liability causing his/her suspension shall be discharged. Arrears of subscription beyond three months means ineligibility for club competitions and representation.
17. In the event of subscription arrears as specified above, race results will not be recorded and access to the club Facebook page for members will be suspended. Membership will be reinstated as soon as the arrears are paid.
18. The club has a Code of Conduct that members must adhere to. Further information can be found on the club website. Any member not adhering to the Code of Conduct may be subject to disciplinary action. Any disciplinary actions are the responsibility of the disciplinary sub- committee comprising of no fewer than 3 individuals one of which must be an officer of the club and 2 other nominated club members. Appeals against the decisions of the disciplinary sub-committee would be heard by a similarly constructed panel.
19. Race results will only be recorded if sent by the member to the nominated race recorder.
20. The official club colours shall be yellow and white. The club shall have:
  - a. *Vest*– Yellow top with white lower half, with the inscription 'Gosport Road Runners' on the front and back in blue lettering.
  - b. *T Shirts* – Yellow with the inscription 'Gosport Road Runners' on the front and back in blue lettering.

21. Any members entering UK Athletics permitted events, eg Hampshire Road Race league, Cross Country League, shall wear either a or b above (both of which are registered with UK Athletics). There are additional club items of clothing eg blue polo shirts, Run Leader T-shirts. These however may only be worn when not formally representing the club. The wearing of the official club colours is encouraged wherever possible.
22. Alterations or additions to the club rules may only be made at any AGM and notice of any proposed amendment must be set out in the notice of the meeting, giving text of such an amendment. Alteration of these rules shall require a two-thirds majority of paid members present and voting (of which there needs to be a minimum of 20 for an AGM to be held). Rules 13 and 16 cannot be amended without consultation with, and permission from, UK Athletics.
23. On 4 October 2005 it was voted at the AGM that there should be no club members participating in the Gosport Half Marathon. Club members where possible should be available for marshalling in order to ensure the successful running of the race.
24. The club has a policy on First and Second claim clubs as detailed on the website. Should a member that has a First and Second claim club enter the Gosport Half Marathon, the member would need to run under the auspices of their Second Claim club. For recording and club awards purposes the club will not accept times gained by Second claim participants. Additionally the participant must run in the colours of their second claim club.
25. In the event of the club not having a Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, or a resolution being passed at the AGM or EGM, the club will be disbanded. The assets to be sold, any money remaining to be divided equally between the current membership as at the last AGM.
26. The club has a formal website that is the definitive source of information on all club matters. It is also the medium to be used to contact Executive Committee members. Contact details for Executive Committee members can be found on the website. A club newsletter is also provided to members and a variety of social media platforms are used to support members and the running of the club. These include a Facebook page exclusively for members, Instagram and Twitter.
27. The club has a policy on privacy and data protection in line with the General Data Protection Requirements (GDPR). Details can be found on the website. In order for the club to adhere to the GDPR requirements, all members must complete a membership form annually.
28. The club adheres to the UK Athletics Transgender policy as published on the UK Athletics website.
29. The Honorary Treasurer is responsible for the club finances and asset management. Accurate records are kept to ensure legal compliance. The annual accounts are made available to members and are signed off at the AGM.

Gosport Road Runners Constitution 20 Mar 2024

**Next review due 2025 or via Annual General Meeting amendments**