

Newport Reservoirs Fly Fishing Association Constitution

1. Name

The name of the Association shall be Newport Reservoirs Fly Fishing Association.

2. Headquarters

The headquarters of the Association shall be at Ynys-y-Fro Reservoirs.

3. Objectives

The objectives of the Association shall be:

- (a) To provide the facilities of an angling club for its members, including the organisation and provision of angling, and to promote the interests of anglers and angling.
- (b) To receive money or property by way of grant, donation, gift or any other manner provided the Committee shall have the power to disclaim any grant, donation or gift, whether subject to a trust or not.
- (c) To employ such paid assistance as may be necessary for the proper achievement of these objectives and to pay such expenses as the members, in General Meetings, decide.
- (d) To co-operate or affiliate with or contribute to organisations or bodies having similar or sympathetic aims.
- (e) To do all such things as are necessary, incidental or conducive to the objectives above or to any one of them.

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In the construction of the objectives above, none shall be deemed to be predominant and no objective shall be deemed to be subsidiary to any other.

4. Trustees

- (a) There shall be not fewer than two nor more than four Trustees of the Association, who shall be appointed, from time to time as necessary by the members in General Meeting, from the Honorary or Ordinary members who are willing to be so appointed, entitled to vote and voting.
- (b) A trustee shall hold office during his lifetime, or until a resolution removing him from office shall be passed at a General Meeting of the Association by a majority comprising two thirds of the members present, entitled to vote and voting, or until he shall resign by notice in writing to the Association Secretary.
- (c) All property of the Association shall be vested in the Trustees for the time being in their joint names so far as is necessary and practicable, for the use and benefit of the Association and to be dealt with by them as the Committee shall, from time to time determine (except cash which shall be under the control of the Treasurers).
- (d) The Trustees shall have the power to sell, lease, mortgage or sell any Association property for the purpose of raising or borrowing money for the benefit of the Association, with the consent of the Committee.
- (e) If on the death, resignation or removal of a Trustee, the number of Trustees fall below that in stated in clause 4(a), the Committee shall take immediate steps to procure the appointment, by the Honorary and Ordinary members in a General Meeting, of new Trustees in their place.
- (f) Any Trustee who has resigned or been removed by the members shall take immediate steps to execute and do all such things the Committee may deem necessary to divest any legal estate in the Association property that may be vested in him as Trustee and any new Trustee shall, immediately after appointment, execute all such deeds and documents as may be required by the Committee.
- (f) Trustees will be indemnified out of assets of the Association against any risk or expense incurred by them in pursuance of their office.
- (h) The Trustees shall be asked to attend any committee meeting at which the sale, purchase, lease, mortgage or pledge of any Association property is to be considered, and shall be entitled to vote on the matter. They may attend other committee meetings by invitation, but shall not be entitled to vote.

5. Membership

Membership of the Association shall comprise of three classes:

- (1) Honorary Life Members
 - (2) Paid Ordinary Member:
 - (3) Associate Members
- (a) The Committee shall have power to recommend a number of Honorary Life Memberships, subject to such limits as it may, from time to time, consider expedient. Such recommendations shall be subject to voting by the members at Annual General Meeting, by a majority comprising two thirds of the present, entitled to vote and voting.
 - (b) Persons wishing to become Ordinary Members shall complete a form of application which shall include an undertaking to accept and observe the Rules of this Constitution and the Fishery Regulations. Such application shall be ratified by the Committee in whom the sole power of election of members shall be vested. In the event of the application for membership being rejected; the Committee shall not be required to give reasons.
 - (c) Applications for membership may be submitted to the Membership Secretary at any time and shall be accompanied by the joining fee and the annual subscription.
 - (d) The Committee shall have power to limit the number of members as it considers appropriate.
 - (e) No Ordinary Member shall be entitled to full privileges of membership until all subscription payable by him in respect of his membership have been properly paid. The production of a membership card and current receipt for subscription. Signed by the Membership Secretary, shall be conclusive evidence of membership when produced by the person to whom it was issued. Membership renewal must be paid by 1st March and runs until the day prior to opening day of the next season..
 - (f) Ordinary members whose subscriptions have not been paid in accordance with clause 5(e) shall be deemed to have ceased to be members, notwithstanding that no express demand for payment has been made, and may only be readmitted to membership on complying with clause 5 (c) .
 - (g) A list of the names and membership numbers shall be displayed in the Association headquarters at all times.
 - (h) Persons possessing a current valid day permit to fish shall be deemed to be Associated Members for that day only, for insurance purposes. Associate Members shall not be entitled to the privileges of Ordinary Members.

6. Resignation of Members

An ordinary member may, at any time, by giving notice in writing to the Membership Secretary, resign his membership of the Association, but shall be liable for all monies due and unpaid to the end of the Financial Year in which the notice of resignation is received.

7. Suspension and Expulsion of Members

The Committee may temporarily suspend for a specified period the membership of any member who disregards the provisions of this Constitution or whose conduct, in the opinion of the Committee, is prejudicial to the interests of the Association or is injurious to its reputation.

Immediately upon the temporary suspension of the membership of any member, the Committee shall:

- (a) Give notice to the said member, at the last address notified by him to the Membership Secretary, of the decision of the Committee and inform him that, if he desires, he may be present at the next Committee meeting.
- (b) At the meeting convened under Rule 7(a), the matters concerning the member shall be related to the meeting. A reasonable adjournment may be granted at the discretion to enable him to prepare his answer. He may, if he desires, be accompanied by another member. The decision of the Association at the said meeting or at any adjournment thereof to suspend, cancel or continue the membership of the said member shall be taken by vote, by a simple majority, and shall be final and conclusive.
- (c) The member shall be informed of the decision in writing.

(d) An expelled member shall forfeit all rights and privileges of membership, but shall remain liable for any dues or debts to the Association which were incurred or became payable before the date of expulsion.

8. President, Vice-Presidents

(a) The Association shall, at the Annual General Meeting, elect a President who shall have no executive powers and shall hold office during his lifetime or until a resolution removing him from office shall be passed at a general meeting of the Association, or until he resigns. The President shall take the chair at the Annual General Meeting during the election of the Chairman.

(b) The Association shall, at the Annual General Meeting, elect such Vice-Presidents as it considers expedient. They shall have no executive powers.

9. The Committee

(a) Nominations and election of the Committee shall take place at the Annual General Meeting and their election will be by a simple majority. The Committee to be elected shall consist of:

1. Association Chairman
2. Secretary
3. General Treasurer
4. Fishery Treasurer
5. Web Site Administrator
6. Membership Secretary
7. Fishery Stocking Officer
8. Fishery Recorder
9. Head Bailiff
10. 4 Committee Members

(b)(i) Members of the Committee who leave during their term of office shall be replaced by Members as detailed in clause 9(e)(vi)

(b)(ii) the Committee cannot be re-elected en bloc. All nominations shall be made, with names of Proposer and Secunder on the official notification, which will be displayed at the Association Headquarters from the 1st September to the 17th October each year, with election taking place, by simple majority, at the Annual General Meeting. Nominees must have held continuous membership for the previous two years.

(c) Members of the Committee shall act in all matters in accordance with the directions or wishes of the Committee.

(d) The Association Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes of all meetings of the Association. During the fishing season, notice of each forthcoming meeting shall be displayed in the Association's Headquarters. Following each meeting, a concise account of the meeting will also be displayed in the Association's Headquarters.

(e)(i) The Committee shall meet when necessary and shall have executive powers. All the affairs of the Association, except such matters as are otherwise provided for by this Constitution, shall be managed by the Committee.

(ii) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt any Honorary or Ordinary Member who, in its opinion might further the interests of the Association. The appointment will not carry any voting rights and will last as long as is deemed necessary.

(iii) The Committee shall have power to appoint one or more Sub-Committees for such purposes as it may deem appropriate.

(iv) The quorum for meetings of the Committee shall be at least seven, but must include four officers of the Association, and for a Sub-Committee it shall be at least three.

(v) Irrespective of the number of posts held by an individual committee member, they shall only be able to cast one vote, in the event of a tied vote, the Chairman shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.

(vi) The Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancy arising on the Committee. Any person so appointed shall serve until the next Annual General Meeting.

(vii) The Association Secretary shall be responsible for the safe keeping of documents of title, securities of any kind, insurance policies and other similar documents.

(viii) The Committee shall cause an inventory to be kept of all Association property, whether or not vested in the Trustees.

(ix) The Committee shall be empowered to maintain such bank accounts as appear expedient and to invest funds in such manner as it may consider appropriate.

(x) The Committee shall, at its discretion, reimburse any member, out of Association funds, all expenses properly incurred by him, in and about the business of the Association. Honoraria shall be paid in accordance with the decision of the Annual General Meeting and shall be limited to one honorarium per individual, regardless of the number of posts held.

(xi) The Committee shall have the power to appoint one or more Honorary or Ordinary Members to attend meetings of affiliated bodies and others to which the Association subscribes and in the absence of express mandate to vote in any way which best serves the interests of the Association.

10. Fishery Operations

(a) The Committee shall have power to make regulations governing the fishing at its reservoirs and to appoint such bailiffs as necessary.

(b) The Committee shall fix permit prices as necessary.

(c) A copy of the fishery regulations shall be given to every person successfully applying for Ordinary Membership. These regulations will also be displayed at the reservoirs.

11. Breaches of Fishery Regulations

(a) Any person disregarding the fishery regulations may be banned from fishing at the reservoirs for such a period as the Committee considers appropriate and may be liable to prosecution.

(b) Upon receipt of a written complaint against a member, the Committee will follow the procedures laid out in clause 7.

12. Finance and Accounts

(a) The financial year shall be from 1st November to 31st October.

(b) Subscriptions for the following year shall be determined by the members at the Annual General Meeting.

(c) The Treasurers shall keep such proper books of account as will enable them, at every Annual General Meeting, or at any other time if required (given reasonable notice) by the Committee to give an accurate report and statement of the finances of the Association.

(d) The books of account shall be made available for inspection by the Committee as requested and to the members at any Extraordinary General Meeting called under clause 14 if applicable.

(e) The year end accounts of the Association shall be audited annually, by a minimum of two persons appointed by the members at the Annual General Meeting. All vouchers, invoices, receipts, tickets and every other document or book shall be made available to the auditors.

13. The Annual General Meeting

The Association shall, in each year, during the month of November, hold a general meeting of members as its Annual General Meeting and shall specify it as such in the notice convening it. It shall be held at such time and place as the Committee shall decide.

The Annual General Meeting shall be opened by the President of the Association and the business shall be as follows:

(a) To read, if not previously circulated, and approve the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and any Extraordinary General Meetings.

(b) To receive the Chairman's report.

(c) To receive the Secretary's report.

(d) To receive the Membership Secretary's report.

(e) To receive the Auditors' report.

(f) To receive the General Treasurer's report.

(g) To receive the Fishery Treasurer's report.

(h) To receive the Fishery Recorder's report.

(i) To receive the Stocking Officer's report.

(j) To receive the Head Bailiff's report.

(k) To receive the Web Administrator's report.

- (l) To fix the subscriptions for ordinary members for the following year.
- (m) To authorise subscriptions to other bodies.
- (n) To fix and grant Committee expenses.
- (o) To elect a President and Vice-Presidents as required.
- (p) To elect committee members.
- (q) To elect auditors
- (r) To transact any other business of which due notice has been given. Due notice being by 17th October.

14. Extraordinary General Meetings

All general Meetings other than the Annual General Meeting shall be Extraordinary General Meetings and may be called at any time by the Committee, or as soon as possible upon a minimum of 10% of the membership delivering to the Association Secretary, a written request for such a meeting, stating the business to be transacted.

15. Notice of Meetings

At every General Meeting of the Association, every Honorary Member and paid up Ordinary Member, shall be entitled to be present. Notice shall be given in such manner as the Committee shall consider expedient or convenient, provided that such notice shall be given not less than seven days before the Annual General Meeting and not less than seven days before any other General Meeting. When notices are served by post, they shall be deemed to have been served two days following the date of posting. Accidental failure to serve notice on any member(s) shall not invalidate the proceedings of at the meeting to which the notice relates.

16. Voting

- (a) At all meetings, voting shall be by show of hands, unless the Chairman proposes and the members agree that a written ballot be taken.
- (b) At general Meetings, each honorary member and fully paid up ordinary member present, shall be entitled to one vote, provided that they are over the age of eighteen. In the event of a tied vote, the Chairman shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.
- (c) No objections shall be raised to the validity of any vote(s), except at the meeting at which the vote was cast. Every vote not disallowed, shall be valid for all purposes; any such objections made shall be referred to the Chairman, whose decision shall be final and conclusive.
- (d) All questions arising at any meetings which have to be decided by vote shall, except for those requiring a specific majority as set out in this Constitution, be decided by a simple majority of those present, entitled to vote and voting.

17. Exclusion of Liability

Neither the Association, nor any officer thereof, shall be liable to any member, guest or any other person whatsoever, for any loss or damage to any property occurring from whatever cause, nor for any injury sustained, in or about the Association's premises or at any other place at which the Association's events or activities may be organised. A notice to this effect shall be prominently displayed at all times at the Association's headquarters.

18. Interpretation of Constitution and Fishery Regulations

Should there be any dispute concerning the purport or interpretation of these matters, or should any matter arise which is not covered, the decision of the Committee shall be binding on the members, until the matter is decided by the members at the next general meeting.

19. Alteration of the Constitution

The Constitution may be revoked, added to, amended, altered or revised by a majority consisting of two thirds of the honorary and fully paid up ordinary members present, entitled to vote and voting at a general meeting of the Association, of which due notice has been given under Rule 15, specifying the intention to propose the revocation, addition to, amendment, alteration or revision of the Constitution.

20. Dissolution of the Association

If at any time, the Association shall pass, in general meeting, by a majority comprising three quarters of the honorary and fully paid up ordinary members present, entitled to vote and voting, a resolution of its intension to dissolve the Association, the Committee, or failing it, the Trustees, shall take immediate

steps to convert into money, all the property of the Association, with power, however, to postpone or delay the conversion of any particular property, if the Association shall, in general meeting, so authorise. Out of the proceeds of such conversions the Committee, or the Trustees, shall discharge all debts and liabilities, including the expenses of conversion. Any balance remaining shall be disposed of as the Association shall, in general meeting direct, but failing such a direction, within six months of the resolution to dissolve, the balance shall be distributed between the persons who were paid up honorary members and fully paid up ordinary members at that time, taking into account the duration of their membership. Thereupon, the Association shall for all purposes be dissolved. The action of the Trustees under this rule shall not be subject to Rule4(d).

21. Availability of the Rules

All existing honorary and ordinary members, on acceptance, shall be supplied with a copy of this Constitution and any subsequent amendments, etc. further copies shall be available on request, at a charge to be decided by the Committee. A copy of this Constitution shall be exhibited at all times in a prominent position at the Association's Headquarters.

22. Additions, Amendments, Alterations

23. Date of Revised Constitution

November 2017