



## CONSTITUTION OF THE TRAIL RUNNING ASSOCIATION

(as revised by the resolutions passed at the AGMs in 2012, 2013, 2015 and 2018)

- 1 **Title.** The name of the Association is the 'Trail Running Association'. This may be shortened to 'TRA'.
- 2 **Colours.** The TRA colours shall be green on a yellow background.
- 3 **Definition of Trail Running.** In the context of Athletics, trail running is primarily conducted along footpaths and bridle paths marked on Ordnance Survey maps as public rights of way. They are highways in English law to which pedestrians have unrestricted access. Towpaths, forest drives, farm cart tracks and paths etc from which motorised traffic is excluded are also trails when the owner's permission is obtained. By their very nature trails usually include connecting stretches of public road, cross-country and/or fell.
- 4 **Objects. The TRA is established to:-**
  - 4.1 Encourage participation in the athletic discipline of Trail Running and to provide facilities for such participation throughout the United Kingdom and build links with similar organisations in other countries.
  - 4.2 Publish a regular newsletter called 'The Trailrunner'.
  - 4.3 Publish a Trail Running Code of Conduct to guide organisers and competitors.
  - 4.4 Be an associate of the National Government Body of the Sport of Athletics.
- 5 **Membership.** Membership of the TRA is open to the whole community of the United Kingdom without discrimination including sportsmen and sportswomen and organisers of events.
- 6 **Vice-Presidents.** Members who have given great service to the TRA may be elected to the position of Vice-President.
- 7 **Officers and Committees**
  - 7.1 **Officers.** The officers of the TRA shall be:-
    - 7.2.1 **President.** The titular head of the TRA.
    - 7.2.2 **Chairman.** The chief executive officer.
    - 7.2.3 **Secretary.** General administration and keeper of meeting minutes
    - 7.2.4 **Treasurer.** The TRA's accountant and bank account operator
    - 7.2.5 **Editor.** Editor of the Trailrunner.
  - 7.3 **Committee Members.** The following positions may be filled and may be combined.
    - 7.3.1 **Race Permit Secretary**
    - 7.3.2 **Membership Secretary**
    - 7.3.3 **Public Relations Secretary**
    - 7.3.4 **Race Directory Secretary**
    - 7.3.5 **Website Co-Ordinator**
    - 7.3.6 **EA Registration Secretary**
    - 7.3.7 **Deputy Chairman**
    - 7.3.8 **Deputy Treasurer**
    - 7.3.9 **Deputy Secretary**
    - 7.3.10 **Deputy Membership Secretary**
    - 7.3.11 **Deputy Trailrunner Editor**
    - 7.3.12 **Deputy Permits Secretary**
    - 7.3.13 Such other positions as the Committee may deem expedient from time to time
  - 7.4 **Co-option.**
    - 7.4.1 The Committee may co-opt others to be members of the Committee.
    - 7.4.2 Unless the Committee shall decide otherwise, each co-option under 7.4.1 shall last for a period of one year from the date of such co-option. In the absence of any renewal or extension, the co-option shall then lapse and the Committee member so co-opted shall be deemed to have retired from the Committee.
    - 7.4.3 Unless the Committee shall decide otherwise, Committee members who have ceased to hold any office in the TRA shall be deemed to have retired from the Committee once they have served on the Committee for a period of one year without holding office in the TRA.
    - 7.4.4 Nothing in this clause shall in any way restrict the power of the Executive Committee set out in Clause 7.6 to co-opt others as members of the Committee.
  - 7.5 No one may hold more than two offices at the same time.

- 7.6 **Executive Committee.** The day to day organisation of the TRA shall be in the hands of an Executive Committee consisting of the Chairman, the Treasurer, the Secretary, the Website Co-Ordinator and the Membership Secretary. The Executive Committee co-opt other persons as it thinks fit.
- 8 **Accounts.** The financial year shall end on 31<sup>st</sup> January. The Treasurer shall make the accounts available to the auditors in time for their report to be attached to his own at the AGM.
- 9 **Indemnity**
- 9.1 The liability of each member of the Committee of the Association shall be restricted to the annual subscription for one year for that member.
- 9.2 Each member of the Committee of the Association shall be accountable in respect of his or her acts only and shall not be accountable for any acts done or authorised to which he or she shall not have expressly assented. No member of the Committee shall be under any personal liability in respect of any loss or damage incurred through any act, matter or thing done, authorised, or suffered by him or her if done in good faith for the benefit of the Association.
- 10 **General Meetings.**
- 10.1 **Annual General Meetings (AGMs)**
- 10.1.1 **Timing.** AGMs shall be held on the evenings before major trail races or at such other times as the Committee shall decide.
- 10.1.2 **Announcements.** The date and place shall if possible be announced in Trailrunner last issued prior to the AGM and on the TRA website as soon as the date and venue of the AGM have been decided by the Committee
- 10.1.3 **Items for the Agenda.** Items for the Agenda must reach the Secretary at least 30 days before the AGM
- 10.1.4 **Publication of the Agenda.** The Agenda shall be published 21 days beforehand
- 10.1.5 **Obligatory Agenda Items.** The AGM shall:-  
 Receive the Annual Report.  
 Receive either the audited annual accounts or the written confirmation of an independent examination of the accounts by professional chartered accountants.  
 Elect Officers, committee members and the Auditor (if appropriate).  
 Set annual subscriptions.  
 Consider propositions made under Rule 10.1.3
- 10.1.6 **Voting**  
**In person.** Each member at an AGM or EGM shall have one vote.  
**Postal.** Members unable to attend may send postal votes to Secretary.  
**Email.** Members unable to attend may email their vote to Secretary.
- 10.1.7 **Quorum.** A quorum shall be 15 members. In counting the members present at a meeting for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is a quorum, there shall be included, in addition to the members present in person, all members who have appointed a proxy where that proxy is in attendance. In the event of one person being appointed as a proxy by more than one member, each member appointing that same proxy shall be deemed to be separately in attendance for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is a quorum.
- 10.2 **Extraordinary General Meetings (EGMs).** EGMs may be called by the Chairman or demanded by 10 members by writing to the Secretary. Rules 10.1.2, 10.1.3, 10.1.4, 10.1.6 and 10.1.7 shall apply to EGMs
- 11 **Donations.** The TRA can make donations to charities and/or good causes provided that such donations do not jeopardize its main objectives.
- 12 **Ethos**
- 12.1 The TRA must be run on an amateur basis.
- 12.2 The TRA must be non-profit making in that any surplus generated by its activities shall be re-invested in the TRA's activities or in the objects set out in Clause 4 (apart from donations permitted in Clause 11). Any such surplus must not be distributed to members of the TRA or third parties (again subject to the rule on donations).
- 13 **Fees**  
 Membership fees (or any fees that may be levied for use of the TRA's facilities) must be set at a level that does not pose a significant obstacle to membership or use of the TRA's facilities.

- 14           **Constitution**  
The TRA may change its Constitution by a Resolution passed at a General Meeting of the TRA (whether Annual or Extraordinary) subject to 55% of the TRA members attending the meeting (or deemed to be attending) voting in favour of the Resolution
- 15           **Dissolution**
- 15.1         If at any General Meeting or Committee Meeting of the Association a resolution is passed calling for the dissolution of the Association, the Chairman or Secretary shall immediately convene an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association to be held at least 28 days thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.
- 15.2         If at the Extraordinary General Meeting the resolution is carried by at least two thirds of the members present at the meeting, the Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall be specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets of the Association and to discharge all debts and liabilities of the Association.
- 15.3         After discharging all debts and liabilities of the Association, the remaining assets shall not be paid or distributed to members of the Association, but shall be given to the National Governing Body for the time being of the Sport of Athletics.