

COWBOY CHALLENGE NORTH AUCKLAND

CONSTITUTION

1. Constitution and Name

The Constitution outlines the structure, duties and responsibilities of Cowboy Challenge North Auckland Incorporated. The name of the Club is the Cowboy Challenge North Auckland Incorporated ("the club").

2. Objects

The primary object for which the Club is established is to regulate, oversee and promote the sport of Cowboy Challenges in Waikato and to protect the assets owned by the club.

2.1 More specifically, the Clubs objects are to:

2.1.1 To encourage Cowboy Challenges as a sport in the Waikato and surrounding areas, to promote good sportsmanship/fellowship amongst riders and to improve and maintain the standard of competition and horsemanship;

2.1.2 To provide a framework for the sport of Cowboy Challenges by adopting rules and guide lines set out in an official rule book to keep competition safe, fun and consistent for everyone;

2.1.3 To promote unity amongst those conducting or competing in Cowboy Challenges;

2.1.4 To do any other thing which the members consider necessary or helpful to promote the objects of the Club.

2.2 Notwithstanding any other provision, the Club shall not expend any money:

(a) Other than to further the objects of the Club, nor

(b) On any purposes out of New Zealand, nor

(c) For the sole personal or individual benefit of any Member.

3. Powers

In addition to the powers provided by the general law of New Zealand or contained in the Incorporated Societies Act 1908, the powers which the Club may exercise in order to carry out its objects are as follows:

3.1 Events and Activities:

To facilitate the running or hosting of events, training, workshops, competitions and any other activities which promote the sport of Cowboy Challenges in the Waikato and surrounding areas;

3.2 Affiliations:

To work with and/or support any other organisations involved with this or any related sport;

3.3 Use of Funds:

The Club may use its funds to pay the costs of expenses of furthering or carrying out its objects, and for that purpose may employ or contract such people as may seem expedient;

3.4 Receive Donations:

To accept any property, goods, services or money donated to the Club, provided that it is not subject to any condition that is inconsistent with the achievement of the objects of the Association;

3.5 Solicit Funding and Fees:

To solicit, receive, enlist and accept financial grants, fees or other support from individuals and groups, authorities and government, provided that this is not subject to any condition that is inconsistent with the achievement of objects of the Club;

3.6 Deal with Land and Property:

To purchase, take on, lease or in exchange or hire or otherwise acquire any real or personal property and any rights or privileges which the Association thinks necessary or expedient in order to attain the objects of the Club and to sell, exchange, let, bail or lease, with or without option of purchase or, in any other manner, dispose of such property, rights or privileges;

3.7 Contracts:

Liaise, negotiate, work with, affiliate with, enter into and be party to contracts and agreements with any party or organisation and on any terms as the Club thinks fit;

3.8 Payment of Members' Costs and Expenses:

Subject to Clause 3.12 of this Constitution, to pay or reimburse from the Clubs funds any costs or expenses incurred in the course of the Club Members, general Members or volunteers discharging or exercising any of their powers and duties;

3.9 All Other Things:

To do all things as the Club may consider necessary or desirable to give effect to and attain the objects of the Association.

3.10 Pecuniary Gain Prohibited:

3.10.1 Notwithstanding any other provision, the Association shall not expend any money:

- (a) Other than to further purposes recognised by law, nor
- (b) For the private pecuniary profit of any Member or any associate of a Member.

3.10.2 Any transactions between the Association and any Member of the Association, or any associated persons shall be at arms' length and in accordance with prevailing commercial terms on which the Association would deal with third parties not associated with the Association, and any payments made in respect of such transactions shall be limited to:

- (a) A fair and reasonable reward for services performed,
- (b) Reimbursement of expenses properly incurred, (c) Usual professional, business or trade charges, and
- (d) Interest at no more than current commercial rates.

3.10.3 No Member of the Club or any Member associated with a Member shall participate in or materially influence any decision made by the Association in respect of a payment to or on behalf of a Member or associated person of any income, benefit or advantage.

4. Membership

4.1 Members:

4.1.1 Any person may apply to become a member of the Club provided,

- (a) that person agrees with the objects of the Club, and
- (b) That person agrees to comply with any current membership rules and policies of the Club.

4.1.2 All Members shall upon request be given a copy of the Clubs current constitution, together with any other relevant policies, bylaws or rules, at the time they join the Club.

4.1.3 The classes of membership and the method by which Members are admitted to different classes of membership are as follows:

(a) Adult Member:

An Adult Member is an individual aged 19 years or over, who has been admitted to membership under Rule 4 and who has not ceased to be a Member under any other Rule.

All financial Adult Members shall be entitled to:

- (i) attend the Annual General Meetings of the Club,
- (ii) be notified of the Annual General Meetings of the Club,
- (iii) cast one vote at the Annual General Meetings of the Club,
- (iv) propose notified motions for consideration at the Annual General Meetings of the Club, (v) receive a newsletter of the Club if available,
- (vi) be given copies of any amendments to the Clubs constitution, bylaws, rules or policies;

(b) Youth Member:

A Youth Member is an individual aged up to 18 years (inclusive), who has been admitted to membership under Rule 4 and who or which has not ceased to be a Member under any other Rule. Youth age shall be computed as from 1st August each year and shall be maintained throughout the entire year.

All financial youth members shall be entitled to:

- (i) attend the Annual General Meetings of the Club,
- (ii) be notified of the Annual General Meetings of the Club,
- (iii) propose notified motions for consideration at Annual General Meetings of the Club, (iv) receive a newsletter of the Club if available,
- (v) be given copies of any amendments to the Clubs constitution, bylaws, rules or policies;
- (vi) Have access to the minutes of meetings (other than meetings held "in Council") of the Club.

(c) Life/Honorary Member:

A Life Member is a person honoured for meritorious services to the Club after recommendation by the Council and election as a Life/Honorary Member by resolution of a majority of Members present and voting at an Annual General Meeting. A Life Member shall have all the rights and privileges of an Adult Member and shall be subject to all the same duties except of paying subscriptions or fees.

4.2 Membership Details:

The Secretary shall keep a membership register of all Members recording their names, addresses, email addresses and telephone numbers and any other information which the Club consider relevant to membership.

All Members shall advise the Secretary of any change of contact details. The Club shall not be responsible for any lost notices if this has not been observed.

4.3 Membership Applications:

Applicants for membership as Adult Members or Youth Members shall complete any membership application form provided by the Club and supply such information as may be required.

All membership applications shall be made in writing on the form provided by the Club.

The Club shall consider the application for membership and shall advise the applicant of its decision.

The applicant shall be entitled to appeal a Club decision to refuse membership. The applicant must notify the Club in writing of his or her decision to appeal and provide details of his or her objection to the decision. The Council shall reconsider the application however any decision made arising out of the appeal shall be final.

4.3.1 Conduct of Members:

All Members shall promote the interests and the objects of the Club and shall do nothing to bring the Club into disrepute.

4.3.2 Cessation of Membership:

Any Member may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Secretary. The Secretary will maintain a record of resignations. Reimbursement of fees will be paid at the discretion of the committee. Written application from the existing member is to be forwarded to the committee with the request for reimbursement if required. The committee will discuss either by written conversation or at a meeting provided the request is received no later than 7 days prior to scheduled committee meeting.

Any Member who has, in the opinion of the Club:

- (i) Wilfully disobeyed any of the rules of the Club, or
- (ii) Acted in a way which is derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests and objects of the Club, may be suspended, expelled, or censured by a two-thirds majority of the Club present and voting at a Club Meeting.
- (iii) Any disciplinary action shall be taken in accordance with the disciplinary policies of the Club.

4.3.3 Any Full Member whose subscription is three (3) calendar months overdue will cease to be a Member in accordance with rule 4.6.3.

4.4 Subscriptions and Membership Fees:

An annual subscription or membership fee may be charged for each class of membership. The amount of any subscription or membership fee shall be set by resolution of the members at the Annual General Meeting of the Club.

The annual subscription shall be payable from the 1st June.

Any Member failing to pay the annual subscription or any levy within three (3) calendar months of the date the same was set shall be considered as nonfinancial and shall have no membership rights and shall not be entitled to participate in any Association activity until all the arrears are paid. The Member in arrears shall have his or her name removed from the membership list after written notice to that effect has been sent to his or her. He or she shall be deemed to have ceased to be a Member until all arrears are paid in full.

5. Meetings

5.1 The Club may hold Club Meetings, Annual General Meetings, and Winding Up Meetings in accordance to rule 16.1.1. Annual General Meetings may be attended by all Members of whatever class of membership.

5.2 At least thirty (30) days' notice of Annual General Meetings shall be given to all Members eligible to attend that meeting. The notice will include the date, time and place of meeting. Notification will also describe in a general way all matters that will arise for consideration. Notice may be in writing, or by phone or email. The failure for any reason of any Member to receive such notice shall not invalidate the meeting or its proceedings.

5.3 The quorum for Annual General Meetings would be 3 members of the Committee plus 2 others.

5.4 All meetings shall be chaired by the President. In the absence of the President the meeting will be chaired by the Vice President.

5.5 All questions will, if possible, be decided by consensus. Where a consensus cannot be reached, a decision will be made by majority vote. Each Member eligible to attend that meeting shall be entitled to one vote, if eligible to vote. The President will have both a deliberative and a casting vote if the vote is tied.

5.6 Voting at all Meetings shall be by show of hands unless Members indicated an alternative preference. If any member requests a secret ballot, then a secret ballot will be held.

5.7 Any Member wishing to give notice of any motion for consideration at the Annual General Meeting must forward written notice of the same to the Secretary no fewer than twenty-one (21) days before the date of the meeting. The Club may consider all such notices of motion and provide recommendations to Members in respect of these. In accordance with Rule 7.2G.

5.8 Any full adult member unable to attend an annual general meeting or special general meeting may elect another full adult member to take a proxy vote on their behalf.

5.9 A member may take a maximum of (5) proxy votes at one time.

6. Entry by Non-Members at Cowboy Challenges

Non-Members may be allowed to compete at Cowboy Challenges, provided they agree to comply with the rules and regulations of the Association as outlined in the rulebook. However, they will not be eligible for accruing points in the National Standings.

7. Annual General Meetings

7.1 The Annual General Meeting shall be held within 60 days of the end of the financial year at a date, time and place to be fixed by the Club.

7.2 The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be:

- (a) To receive, and if approved, adopt the minutes of the previous AGM,
- (b) To receive, and if approved, adopt the Annual Report of the President,
- (c) To receive, and if approved, adopt a statement of the Association's Accounts to the end of the preceding year,
- (d) Election of Council,
- (e) Election of Officers,
- (f) Setting of the subscriptions for the year,
- (g) Motions of which notice has been given,
- (h) General business,
- (i) Appointment of any auditor, if required, and
- (j) Conduct of any other business which may be properly brought before the meeting with the approval of the Club.

7.3 Copies of the annual report and statement of accounts shall be available to all members immediately prior to the commencement of the Annual General Meeting.

8. The Executive Club

8.1 The Club will be composed of the following office holders:

- (a) President;
- (b) Vice President;
- (c) Secretary;
- (d) Treasurer;

The positions of any two of the officers may be combined. The term of all officers shall be one year.

The Club shall have the power to co-opt additional members to serve on the committee for any special purpose or purposes. The Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancies that arise on the Committee or among its named officers until the next Annual General Meeting. The council shall be comprised of at least 5 people.

8.2 The Annual General Meeting shall elect the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and in accordance with rule 8.1.

8.3 Nominations for Office Holders and Council are to be provided by way of written nomination signed by a current Member and endorsed with the consent of the nominee and given to the Secretary at least seven (7) days before the day of the Annual General Meeting. Oral nominations may be received from the floor at the Annual General Meeting provided that there are insufficient written nominations to fill the vacant positions on the council, and provided that no Member will be elected who has not consented to being nominated.

- 8.4 Elected members shall retire at the end of their term at the Annual General Meeting but can, at the end of their term, be eligible for re-election at the same or subsequent Annual General Meetings. Newly elected Club members will take office immediately upon their election.
- 8.5 The quorum for executive meetings is four.
- 8.6 All Club meetings shall be chaired by the President of the Council. In the absence of the President, the meeting will be chaired by the Vice President.
- 8.7 All questions will, if possible, be decided by consensus. Where a consensus cannot be reached, a decision will be made by majority vote. Each eligible member attending that Club meeting shall be entitled to one vote. The President will have a casting vote if the vote is tied.
- 8.8 Voting at all Club Meetings shall be by show of hands unless Members indicated an alternative preference. If any member requests a secret ballot, then a secret ballot will be held.
- 8.9 A Club member shall cease to hold office if he or she is no longer a financial member of the Club.
- 8.10 The Club may appoint sub-Committees, and delegate work to them, but such sub-Committees shall have no power to commit the Club to any financial expenditure without the express authority of the Club.
- 8.11 No act or proceeding of the Club shall be invalidated as a result of:
- 8.12 There being a vacancy in the membership on the Committee or
 - 8.12.1** There being a defect in the entitlement for office of any Member of the Club provided that any decision made by that Committee is ratified by the membership at the next Annual General Meeting of the Club.
 - 8.13** The Secretary will ensure that a minute book is maintained which is available to any member of the Association and which, for each meeting of the Club's, records:
 - 8.13.1 The names of those present
 - 8.13.2 All decisions which are required by the Constitution or by law to be made by the Club; and
 - 8.13.3 Any other matters discussed at the meeting, other than those discussed in Committee.
- 8.14 Any resolution of the Club will be binding on all Members. The Club will at all times be bound by the decisions of the members at Annual General Meetings.
- 8.15 Other than as stated in law or in this Constitution, the Club may regulate its proceedings as it thinks fit.

9. Registered Office

The Registered Office of the Club shall be at such place as the Club shall from time to time decide.

10. Control and Use of Funds

- 10.1** The financial year of the Club will be from the 1st June to 31st May the following year.
- 10.2** The Treasurer shall keep such books of account as may be necessary to provide a true record of the Association's financial position, report on the Association's financial position as required at Council meetings, and present an annual Statement of Accounts (Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet) to the Annual General Meeting.
- 10.3** The Club shall maintain New Zealand based bank accounts in the name of the Club and all cheques and withdrawal forms shall be signed by any two of the following: The President, Treasurer or Secretary + one other elected official.
- 10.4** All money received on account of the Club shall be banked as soon as reasonably possible in accordance with any financial policies of the Club.
- 10.5** All accounts paid or for payment shall be submitted to the Committee for approval of payment in accordance with any financial policies of the Club.
- 10.6** The Club may appoint an auditor or reviewer to check the annual accounts of the Association and provide a certificate of correctness of the same. Alternatively, a member may request that a reviewer check the annual accounts of the Club and provide a certificate of correctness of the same.

11. Indemnity

- 11.1** No Officer or Member of the Club shall be liable for the acts or defaults of any other Officer or member of the Club or any loss occasioned thereby, unless caused by their wilful default or wilful acquiescence.
- 11.2** The Officers and Committee Members shall be indemnified by the Club for all liabilities and costs incurred by them in the proper performance of their functions and duties, other than those resulting from their wilful default.

11.3 It is deemed to be a term of every contract entered into by or on behalf of the Club that the Club alone is liable for any debts or obligations under the contract, and that no Member or Officer of the Club is under any personal liability.

12. Alteration of Rules

12.1 These Rules may be amended by a notified motion at the Annual General Meeting passed by a majority of those members present and voting, provided that no change shall be made resulting in a change of the Clubs status as an organisation established mainly for the promotion of an amateur game or sport conducted for the recreation or entertainment of the general public and no part of the funds of the Club is used or is available to be used for the private pecuniary profit of any Member or associate of any Member.

12.2 If the Club is an incorporated entity, alterations shall be registered with the Registrar of Incorporated Societies.

13. Contracting by the Club

Any written contract entered into by the Club shall be signed by the President and one other member of the Committee.

14. Payment for Rulebook

Rule books will be sent via electronic mail or may be posted at member's expense if required.

15. Interpretation

In the event of any question arising as to the construction of any of the provisions in the Constitution or as to any matter not provided for by this Constitution, the Club shall have power to decide the same and its decision shall be final.

16. Winding Up

16.1 The Club may be wound up if:

16.1.1 A resolution is passed that the Club be wound up by a majority of Members present and voting at an Annual General Meeting and the resolution is confirmed at a subsequent Winding Up Meeting, called for that purpose which is held not earlier than fifteen days after the date on which the resolution to be confirmed was passed, or

16.1.2 The objects of the Club shall fail or be frustrated.

16.2 On the winding up of the Club all surplus assets after the payment of costs, debts and liabilities will be;

16.2.1 Returned to those who donated them or given to some other organisation within New Zealand having similar purposes to the Association and which is exempt from income tax under Section CW 46 of the Income Tax Act 2007 or any amendment thereof, and/or

16.2.2 Give to a charity or charities; and/or given to any other charitable purpose recognised under New Zealand law.

16.2.3 If the Members are unable to make a decision as to distribution, the remaining assets will be disposed of in accordance with the directions of the High Court.

16.3 No surplus assets may be applied for or to the private pecuniary profit of any member.