



Constitution

Preston & South Ribble Rabbitohs RFLC

Name

The club will be called **Preston & South Ribble Rabbitohs Rugby Football League Club** and will be affiliated to the Rugby Football League.

Aims and Objectives

The main objective of the club is to provide facilities to promote participation in the sport of rugby league in the districts of Preston and South Ribble.

We aim to ensure that all members adhere to the RFL RESPECT policy.

Membership

Membership of the club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport on application regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs. However, limitation of membership according to available facilities is allowable on a non-discriminatory basis.

The club will have different classes of membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating.

The Club Committee may refuse membership, or remove it, only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the club or sport into disrepute. Appeal against refusal or removal may be made to the members.

All members will be subject to the regulations of the constitution and by joining the club will be deemed to accept these regulations and codes of conduct that the club has adopted.

Members will be enrolled in one of the following categories:

- Full member
- Associate member or part time member (typically this will be a student, person living or working away)
- Junior member

Membership Fees

Membership fees are used to cover costs associated with the running of the club.

Examples of club costs that membership fees are used for include (list is not exhaustive):

- Rent of changing rooms & energy bills
- Rent & maintenance of training facilities
- Governance requirements such as safeguarding and disclosure & barring service checks (DBS)
- Club registration with RFL
- Training equipment
- Match official costs
- Communication channels such as website, advertising.

Membership fees **do not** include RFL player registration which is a requirement for playing members and has to be under by each individual.

Membership fees will be set annually by the Management Committee at the Annual General Meeting.

Part time members may pay a weekly or match-based subscription or make a donation to the running of the club.

All members will be notified of membership fees following the AGM.

Officers of the club

The Officers of the Club will be:

- Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Team Manager(s)
- Youth Development Officer
- Child Protection & Safeguarding Officer
- General Committee members

Officers will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. All officers will retire each year but will be eligible for re-appointment. These posts will form the **Management Committee**.

Management Committee

The club will be managed through the Management Committee. Only these posts will have the right to vote at meetings of the Management Committee.

The Management Committee will be convened by the Secretary of the club and held no less than 4 times per year. The quorum required for business to be agreed at the Management Committee meetings will be 4.

The Management Committee will be responsible for adopting new policy, codes of conduct and rules that affect the organisation of the club. It will have powers to appoint sub-committees as necessary and appoint advisors to the Management Committee as necessary to fulfil its business.

The Management Committee will also be responsible for appointing a Disciplinary Committee (consisting of 3 members of the Management Committee) for disciplinary hearings of members who infringe the club rules/regulations/constitution.

The Management Committee will be responsible for taking any action of suspension or discipline following such hearings.

Finance

All club monies will be banked in an account held in the name of the club and the Treasurer will be responsible for the finances of the club.

The financial year of the club will end on 31st March and an audited statement of annual accounts will be presented by the Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting.

Any cheques drawn against club funds should hold the signatures of the Treasurer plus up to two other officers.

All surplus income or profits are to be reinvested in the club and no surpluses or assets will be distributed to members or third parties.

Annual General Meetings

Notice of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be given by the Club Secretary. Not less than 21 clear days' notice to be given to all members.

The AGM will receive a report from officers of the Management Committee and a statement of the audited accounts.

Nominations for officers of the Management Committee will be sent to the Secretary prior to the AGM. Elections of officers are to take place at the AGM and all members have the right to vote at the AGM.

The quorum for AGMs will be 5 full members of the club.

The Management Committee has the right to call Extraordinary General Meetings (EGMs) outside the AGM. Procedures for EGMs will be the same as for the AGM.

Discipline and Appeals

All complaints regarding the behaviour of members should be submitted in writing to the Secretary. The Disciplinary Committee will meet to hear complaints within 14 days of a complaint being lodged. The committee has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action including the termination of membership.

The outcome of a disciplinary hearing should be notified in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made within 7 days of the hearing.

There will be the right of appeal to the Management Committee following disciplinary action being announced. The appointed Appeals Committee should consider the appeal within 7 days of the Secretary receiving the appeal. The Appeals Committee will normally be made up of The Club Chairman or Vice Chairman, the Coach Coordinator and one other person appointed by the chair.

Dissolution

A resolution to dissolve the club can only be passed at an AGM or EGM through a majority vote of the membership.

Upon dissolution of the club, any remaining assets shall be given or transferred to another RFL club, a registered charity, South Ribble Borough Council or the Rugby Football League for use by them in related community sports.

Any unused grant funding will be returned to the funding body

Amendments to the Constitution

The constitution will only be changed through agreement by majority vote at an AGM or EGM.

Declaration

Preston & South Ribble Rabbitohs Rugby Football League Club hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members.