**Ayr Riding Club - 2018 Terms of Membership**

**1. Membership**

1. From 1st January 2018 membership is open to Senior riders and non-riders 18 years of age and over.
2. Membership runs from 1st January to 31st December each year
3. Any members whose renewal subscription remains unpaid by 31st March each year shall be removed from the membership list.
4. Members joining after 1st October pay a reduced membership fee to purely cover the affiliation fees due on 1st January.
5. Ayr Riding club pay a per member affiliation fee to British Riding Clubs and Area 1 (South of Scotland Area) plus insurance fees based on the number of members.
6. Membership is not transferrable between riders or clubs
7. Your Membership number will be confirmed by e-mail.
8. Membership cards are issued monthly from British Riding Club Headquarters in Stoneleigh. You will need to show your membership card for member discounts and Area qualifiers /BRC finals. You do not need your membership card to start booking into training or events, but please see item 9 re Riding Club insurance start date. **Please inform the membership Secretary if your card has not arrived 2 months after your joining date**.

2. **Safety, Insurance and Vaccinations**

1. Riding hats and body protectors worn for all lessons and competitions must comply with the British Riding Club 2018 Standards. Your hat/ body protector does not need to be tagged (Aqua tag for 2018 standard), but please note that a riding club official may ask to check your hat/body protector.
2. Riding Club Insurance. You are covered by the BRC insurance at riding club events ONLY once your details are received by BRC (sent around 10th of each month). Please note that if your hat or Body protector does not meet the 2018 standards, you may not be covered by the Riding Club Insurance.
3. It is recommended that your horse/pony’s flu vaccinations are up to date and follow the BRC competition regulations. Evidence of ‘flu vaccinations will be required for any horse/pony competing in Area Qualifiers or BRC championships.

**3. Helping at Events**

1. The committee asks that members help the club by assisting at an event or training for at least 4 hours during the year of membership.

**4. Lessons**

1. Lesson costs are calculated on a non-profit basis. Ayr Riding Club have to pay instructors and venues for time booked even if each session is not full. From 1st January 2017 all lessons will be booked online via Equo and payment required at time of booking.
2. Cancellation Policy. Ayr Riding Club will make every effort to fill your space if you are unable to attend for any reason. A refund for cancelled lessons will be made if your space has been filled. Consideration will be given to the notice period and reason for canellation.

 **5. Communications**

1. **Social Media Policy.** Members are required to comply with the Social Media Policy – See section 7.
2. **E-mails** You will receive a monthly e-mail outlining training and key events during the next month, plus carefully selected emails advertising BRC, Area 1, BHS and other equine events which may be of interest.
3. **Facebook**. Ayr Riding Club Facebook page is Ayr Riding Club. Posts from members will be vetted and may be edited before posting.
4. **Photographs.** Ayr Riding Club reserve the right to use photographs of horses/ponies and riders from competitions or training to promote the club’s activities, and you consent to the club doing this.

**6. Membership Benefits**

1. Ride together, train together, compete together and have fun together.
2. Access to club and Area 1 lessons and reduced entry fees for competitions
3. Access to high quality training at an affordable cost.
4. 10% discount at First Saddlery –exclusions may apply
5. 10% discount at JetSet – Thursdays – exclusions may apply
6. Cover by BRC Insurance at Riding Club events.
7. **Social Media Policy**

Ayr Riding Club Social Media policy applies to the use of all social media including, but not limited to facebook, twitter, blogs, youtube and websites.

Please be mindful when posting articles, comments or feedback in order to protect the privacy of the riding club members/competitors and prevent allegations against them.

* Posts must not be in any way detrimental to Ayr Riding Club, BRC or BHS or call into question its reputation
* Photos, video clips and comments uploaded to the internet may remain there permanently even if you delete them. They may also be viewed by people that you may not think will see them. Make sure they are appropriate for everyone to view and adhere to BHS/BRC policy (available online at [www.bhs.org.uk](http://www.bhs.org.uk)). This applies even when your profile is set to private or friends only. A good rule of thumb is that if you know it could be damaging to you for text to be quoted or a picture to be used in a newspaper – don’t post it online
* Do not post photos of other people or their horses without permission
* If you communicate with competitors or those attending other events/ lessons etc. under the age of 18, make sure you have permission to do so from parents/ carers. Always copy another committee member into the message / communication.
* Make sure your personal network profile is set to private or for friends only
* Make sure that the facebook page is monitored and do not allow comments, posts or photos to be uploaded that may be hurtful to others

**BRC Rulebook 2016 G15.3 Social Media**

Whilst BRC acknowledges that social media can be an ideal way to communicate with both members and the wider equestrian community, any defamatory comments relating to members, officials, volunteers and staff or BRC or the BHS will not be tolerated. An online post is libellous if it is damaging to a person’s reputation. **Re posting or re tweeting can be seen as an endorsement of the original comment.** BRC clubs and members may be subject to disciplinary action if found to be in breach of this rule.

Ayr Riding Club Committee

January 2018