

Northern Masters Athletic Club

Affiliated to UKA and British/England Masters

Founded by Norman Ashcroft – 1968

1. NAME

- 1.1. The club shall be called “Northern Masters Athletic Club” and its active member athletes shall be amateurs and aged 35 years or older.

2. GENERAL

- 2.1 The objectives of the Club shall be the furtherance and promotion of amateur athletics at Masters levels and to provide opportunities for athletes to compete against their peers.
- 2.2 The definition of an amateur is a person who is eligible to compete under the rules of UK Athletics (UKA).
- 2.3 The definition of a master’s athlete is a person who is aged 35 or older.
- 2.4 Club colours shall be a White Vest with Red and Blue Vertical stripes.
- 2.5 Any member is entitled to receive or read a copy of the club constitution and rules.

3. AFFILIATION

- 3.1 Subject to the provisions of these rules and the general law, the Club shall (as the case may be) become a member of or affiliate to England Athletics and any constituent body designated to it by England Athletics and the Club shall comply with and uphold the rules and regulations of England Athletics and of any such constituent body.
- 3.2 The Club shall also be a member club that is affiliated to:
British Masters Athletic Federation
England Masters Athletics Association

4. CLUB EQUALITY

- 4.1 Membership is open to individuals aged 35 years or older, from all sectors of the community regardless of their ability or background.
- 4.2 The Club is committed to ensuring that equity is incorporated across all aspects of The Club’s activities and development and acknowledges and adopts the following Sport England definition of sports equity:
Sports equity is about fairness in sport, equality of access, recognising inequalities and taking steps to address these. It is about changing the culture and structure of sport to ensure that it becomes equally accessible to everyone in society.
- 4.3 The Club respects the rights and dignity of people and will ensure that all present and future members receive fair and equal treatment within the context of their sport, regardless of age, attainment, gender, race, ethnicity, religious belief, sexual orientation, social/economic status.
- 4.4 The Club is committed to everyone having the right to enjoy their sport in an environment free from threat of intimidation, harassment and abuse.
- 4.5 All club members have a responsibility to oppose discriminatory behaviour and promote equality of opportunity.
- 4.6 The Club will deal with any incidence of discriminatory behaviour seriously according to club disciplinary procedures.

5. MEMBERS

- 5.1 Members shall be athletes who are aged 35 years or over.
- 5.2 All members shall 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 and the policies and rules of UK Athletics.
- 5.3 Application to be made on the prescribed membership form and accompanied by the appropriate fee.
- 5.4 Membership classes:
 - First Claim Member
 - Second Claim Member
 - Social Member
 - Honorary Member
 - Life Non-Competing Member

6 MEMBERSHIP FEES

- 6.1 Membership fees will be as decided at the AGM.
- 6.2 Annual membership fees shall be due on the 1st April every year, without demand, and will be valid until 31st March of the following year.
- 6.3 New members joining after 31st December will be given three months grace and membership will last effectively for 15 months on joining.
- 6.4 These members will, however, pay an additional fee of £3.00 to cover administrative costs during this time.
- 6.5 First claim members who join between January and April will not be registered with England Athletics for that year. They will, therefore, be required to pay for registering separately if they wish to compete during this period.
- 6.6 Any member not having paid their subscription by 30th June shall cease to be a member of the Club. This shall not release the defaulting member from the payment of subscription or any other liabilities to the club.
- 6.7 The General Committee may agree to waive a member's subscription for a period, providing that an appeal is made on or before any subscription falls due.
- 6.8 Should this period extend to a year or more the question of paying for the lapsed time will be at the discretion of the Committee.
- 6.9 Honorary Life Membership will be recommended by the General Committee at the AGM.
- 6.10 No member shall be eligible to compete in any Club Championship or Club Handicap, or to represent the Club in any Team Race unless their subscription for the current year has been paid.

7 TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP

- 7.1 All members will be subject to the regulations of the constitution and by joining the Club will be deemed to accept the regulations and codes of conduct that the Club has adopted and the policies and rules of UK Athletics.
- 7.2 The General Committee may refuse, remove or terminate membership of the Club only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or sport into disrepute.
- 7.3 Membership of the Club shall be terminated if a member:
 - 7.3.1 Violates the rules and regulations of the Club
 - 7.3.2 Is guilty in the sole opinion of the General Committee of any misconduct
 - 7.3.3 Whose subscription is in arrears
 - Provided the General Committee send a letter giving one month's notice to the member addressed to them at their last known address, informing them of the proposed action of the General Committee.
- 7.4 Any person whose membership is terminated shall forfeit all claims against the Club and shall cease to be a member.

8. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 8.1 An Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held not later than one calendar year from the previous AGM, except in exceptional circumstances. All paid up members of the Club shall be permitted to attend this meeting and to vote.
- 8.2 Quorum – No business shall be transacted at the AGM unless a quorum of at least 8 members eligible to vote are present.
- 8.3 The business of the AGM shall include:
 - 8.3.1 Receipt of the audited accounts and Treasurer’s Report for the previous year
 - 8.3.2 Receipt of the Chair’s Report on the activities of the Club over the previous year
 - 8.3.3 Receipt of the Secretary’s Report for the previous year
 - 8.3.4 The election and retirement of officers
 - 5. The appointment of an Auditor
 - 8.3.6 The election of Life and Honorary members
- 8.4 The Chair or Acting Chair shall have a casting vote.
- 8.5 The officers of the Club will be selected from the membership and elected to hold office on an annual basis and shall be eligible for re-election.
- 8.6 Nominations for Officers, outside of existing incumbents, must be received no later than 14 days prior to the AGM.
- 8.7 The affairs of the Club shall be managed by the Officers of the Club.
- 8.8 Notification of the Annual General Meeting will be published on the club website and via social media at least 4 weeks prior to the meeting.

9. CLUB OFFICIALS

- 9.1 The officers of the Club are:
 - President (mandatory)
 - Chair (mandatory)
 - Club Secretary (mandatory)
 - Treasurer (mandatory)
 - Membership Secretary (mandatory)
 - Welfare Officer (mandatory)
 - Fixtures Secretary
 - Social Media Secretary
 - Endurance Secretary
 - Track and Field Secretary
 - EMAA Officer.
- 9.2 Any Officer of the Club can lose their position by a two-thirds majority vote of the members attending an Extraordinary General Meeting called for the purpose. They shall be eligible for re-election should they wish to seek it.
- 3. In the absence of nominations, the AGM will have the power to accept nominations at the meeting.
- 4. Nominations of Club Officials should be proposed and seconded by paid up members.
- 9.5 Club Officers are exempt from Northern Masters membership fees for the duration of their role as a Club Officer. If a first claim member, they are still required to pay their England Athletics membership fee.

10 GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- 10.1 The Club officials who will hold general committee meetings on regular basis, as required, normally every month. These meeting may be held in person or virtually.
- 10.2 In addition to the Club officials, up to six other ordinary members of the Club could be elected to the Committee. The four ordinary committee members could, with their agreement, assist the secretaries of Endurance and Track and Field.
- 3. Additional members may be co-opted onto the General Committee to assist in any capacity as required by the Club.

4. The quorum for business to be transacted at a General Committee meeting is a minimum of five officers present.
5. The Chair or the Acting Chair shall have a casting vote.
6. Decisions of Committee meetings shall be minuted and recorded in the Club's Minute Records by the Club Secretary.
7. The General Committee has the power to create additional Committee roles as required. These roles will be approved at the next AGM.
8. The General Committee shall have the power to appoint a subcommittee for special projects from their own body with the addition of other paid-up members of the Club.
9. The Club Secretary shall be an ex-officio member of all sub-committees and sections.
10. If a committee member has resigned or has otherwise relinquished office, The General Committee shall have the right to appoint a suitable member to the vacant office without being elected by the members.
- 10.11 A member of the General Committee who is absent from three consecutive meetings without a reasonable explanation shall cease to be a member of that committee.

11. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS

- 11.1 An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called by either of the following, and must be held within 28 days:
The Chair or Secretary of the General Committee
On receipt of a written request signed by 10 paid up members
- 11.2 The quorum for business to be transacted at an EGM is 8 paid up members.
- 11.3. The Chairman or Acting Chair will have a casting vote.
- 11.4 The Secretary shall notify the members at least 14 days prior to an EGM stating the date, time and venue of the EGM and the business to be transacted. No other business may be brought forward at the meeting.

12. FINANCE

- 12.1 The Club Treasurer will be responsible for the finances of the Club.
- 12.2 All members of the Club and the General Committee shall be jointly and severally responsible for the financial liabilities of the Club.
- 12.3. An audited statement of annual accounts will be presented by the Treasurer at the AGM.
- 12.4 The Treasurer is responsible for payment of the Club's regular running expenses, under delegated authority from the General Committee and for keeping proper books of the Club accounts.
5. The Treasurer is responsible for presenting financial reports at General Committee Meetings.
6. If the Treasurer is unable to attend, a financial report must be sent to the Secretary for presentation to the Committee in their absence.
7. The financial year shall end on 31st March each year.
8. An independent auditor shall audit the books each year.
9. The auditor may be nominated by the Treasurer but must be approved at the Annual General Meeting.
10. Alternative auditors may be proposed and elected at the AGM.

2. LIABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1. All the property of the Club shall be vested in the Trustees representing and acting for the whole of the members of the Club.
2. The Trustees are deemed to be the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer of the Club.
3. No personal liability shall attach to any Trustee except to the extent of such monies, securities or property of the Club as actually be received by the Trustee.

4. Members and guests acknowledge and accept that playing or participating in sport of any kind can be dangerous and may result in injury or damage to property. Members and guests shall take personal responsibility for their own actions and participate in the Club's sporting activities at their own risk.

2. DATA PROTECTION

- 14.1 The Club recognizes that privacy is important to everyone and wishes to be compliant with the General Data Protection Regulations that became law on 25th May 2018 (and as amended).
- 14.2 NMAC will only hold the personal data you provide us on Application, Renewal or Race Entry Forms whilst they retain their membership.
- 14.3 The data will be stored in a secure filing system that is ISO 2001 compliant.
- 14.4 Application for Membership Forms will require signature(s) to confirm applicants' consent to store and use their data as prescribed above.
5. Similarly, annual Renewal Forms will require members to sign to renew consent to use the data provided.
6. Any member, wishing to change their personal data or consent at any time, should inform the Membership Secretary, who will make appropriate amendments in the database.
- 14.7 Other members of the General Committee may have access to appropriate details to allow them to carry out their responsibilities.
8. NMAC will not provide or sell any data to third parties.

2. DISSOLUTION

- 15.1 If the number of ordinary members of the Club at any time falls below ten, the Club may be dissolved.
2. The Club will be dissolved if at an AGM a resolution is passed, by a majority of two thirds or more eligible voters, to dissolve the Club.
3. The General Committee, or failing them, The Trustees shall take immediate steps to convert into money all the assets of the Club.
4. They have the power to postpone or delay conversion of any particular property of the Club if the General Committee shall so authorise.
5. From the proceeds of any such conversion, the Trustees shall discharge all debts and liabilities of the Club, including the expenses of such conversion.
6. The Trustees shall dispose of any balance remaining in accordance with the rules and laws of the governing bodies of UK Athletics.

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