

PRESTON AND DISTRICT RIFLE AND PISTOL CLUB

Incorporating

PRESTON GRASSHOPPERS SHOOTING CLUB

CONSTITUTION OF THE CLUB

1. The Club shall be called the Preston and District Rifle and Pistol Club/ Preston Grasshoppers Shooting Club with headquarters in Preston.
2. The Club shall be affiliated to the national Small-Bore Rifle Association and any other Shooting Association the Committee may consider necessary.
3. The object of the Club is to encourage skill in rifle and pistol shooting by providing instruction and practice in the use of the small-bore and full-bore rifle and pistol to any of her Majesty's subjects so that they will be better fitted to serve their country in the Armed Forces, Territorial Army or any other organisation in which their services may be required in the defence of the realm in times of peril.
4. The range is open for use only at the times specified by the committee in the Standing Orders.
5. The Club shall be managed by a Chairman and Committee (five to form a quorum) who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting each year. All Officers of the Club – Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Captains, Vice Captains, Match Secretaries and all other Officers of the Club to be ex-officio members of the Committee. Vacancies in the Committee or Officers occurring during the year may be filled by the committee. The Secretary may convene Committee Meetings as and when required, upon giving seven days notice.
6. Applications for membership shall be made to the Membership Registrar. Such applications shall be considered at the next meeting of the committee. Applicants for membership must serve a probationary period of SIX months and make a minimum of TWELVE range attendances during that time. These attendances will be recorded on a probationary log and signed off by a range officer on each visit. These conditions may be waived for holders of current firearms Certificates at the discretion of the Committee.
- 6a. Junior members are defined as being 10 or over and under 19 at the age of renewal. Application for children under 10 will not be accepted. Juniors 10-15 shall be supervised by a range officer and/or other experienced club members whilst on the range. Juniors 10 -15 must have a parent or guardian chaperoning them (within the building) and must not be dropped off and picked up later.
- 6b. All members attending Altcar will need to complete a competency test to attend and before one to one supervision can be relaxed at the preston grasshoppers range. The test details is still under debate at Altcar (June 08) but will be update here as and when finalised.
Requirements are likely to include:-
 - Knowledge and understanding of range safety protocols
 - Proving that a firearm is clear
 - Loading, firing and unloading procedures
 - Misfire procedures
 - Emergency stop procedures
 - Zeroing
 - Handling and accuracy
- 6c "when attending *any* range or club activity, (unless suitable prior exemption to this clause has been sought from and granted by the Duty Shooting/Activity Director), the participating member shall be required to declare them self to be sufficiently fit and deemed able to participate in non-shooting activities, that facilitate the smooth and safe operation of the range and shooting activities that are being undertaken by the club and third parties (including but not limited to: the General Public; the NRA; Certified Rifle and Pistol Clubs; NWRFCAs; HM Forces and Police Forces of the United Kingdom). By doing so, the member shall perform and fulfil one or

more of the following duties (subject to being suitable qualified/certified as appropriate) as allocated by the Duty Shooting/Activity Director:

- RCO
- Butts Officer
- Safety Supervisor
- First Aid
- Look out
- Target Marker
- Score Keeper
- Communication operator"

- 6d. No person with a criminal record shall become a member of the club and no person who is prohibited under section 21 of the firearms act shall become a member.
- 6e. If any member allows a third party who is not a member of the club and who does not hold a current valid Firearms certificate to use their weapon their membership will be withdrawn with immediate effect.
7. The subscription shall be fixed by the Committee in April of each year having regard to the precept levied by Preston Grasshoppers rugby football Club and may include differential fees depending on the activities in which the member is involved. Any member whose subscription is not paid by the due date is debarred from the privileges of membership.
- 8a. The Committee may remove from the Roll of Members any member whose conduct on the range or upon any premises occupied by the Club, or elsewhere, is unseemly, objectionable or calculated to bring the club into disrepute, and such a Member shall have no claim on the club for any subscription or entrance fee paid. Such a member may have the right of appeal to a Special General Meeting providing 14 days notice is given to the Secretary.
- 8b. The club shall report to the Firearms Registry the name of any Member who fails to make the minimum number of range attendances which are required by the home office regulations in force at that time and the Member's name may then be removed from the Roll of Members at the discretion of the Committee.
- 8c. That any Member shall inform the Committee if he/she is the subject of a prosecution under the firearms Acts in force at the time.
9. The Secretary or an Officer or Member receiving any money on behalf of the club shall forthwith hand the same to the Treasurer.
10. The Annual General Meeting shall be held during the autumn, (at least seven days notice of such a meeting shall be given to the Members) at which the following business shall be transacted. Election of officers (including Auditor or Auditors) and committee, receive the balance sheet and the Reports of the Committee and Officers, revise and amend the Rules and Regulations (if necessary) and to consider any other business relevant to an Annual General Meeting of which fourteen days notice in writing has been given to the secretary.
11. The Auditor or auditors shall examine the accounts at least once annually with the invoices and vouchers prior to the annual general Meeting, and shall approve thereto a certificate to the effect that such are correct and fairly represent the expenditure and receipts of the club, and its Assets and liabilities, and they may at any time inspect any book, document or property of the club, in the possession of any officer or member, and make a report thereon in writing to the committee. For now the financial year of the Club shall be to 31st October, to which date the accounts are to be balanced.
12. All monies received on behalf of the club shall forthwith be paid into the account of the club at a recognised bank or building society, at the discretion of the Treasurer who alone shall have power to draw on such an account, subject to there being at least two authorised signatories (other than husband/wife relationships) on any withdrawal of club funds. No cheques greater than £250 shall be drawn unless previously sanctioned by a quorum of the committee. No prizes or other such articles shall be purchased or

debts or liabilities incurred on behalf of the club by a person without the previous sanction of a resolution of the committee, general meeting of the club, or by agreement of a quorum of the committee.

13. The Club is a non-profit making organisation. All profits and surpluses will be used to maintain or improve the clubs facilities or events. No profit or surplus will be distributed other than to members on winding up or dissolution of the club. A proposal to dissolve the club shall be dealt with in the same manner as a proposal to alter or add to the constitution. On dissolution of the club its surplus property and funds shall be divided equally among current properly paid-up Members

14. The committee may pay any accounts and incur any normal liabilities on behalf of the club. The committee and the Officers are hereby indemnified by the club against any claim or demand in respect of any liability properly and bona-fide incurred on behalf of the club.

The Executive Committee shall manage the affairs of the Club. Financial or legal liability incurred in the rightful exercise of their office shall not, however, be the personal liability of the Committee, but shall be the responsibility of the Club as a whole. All members or other persons who attend the club do so at their own risk, and neither the Club nor its officers can accept any liability for any loss or injury of any kind sustained at headquarters or whilst on a Club activity.

15. The Club will ensure that appropriate third party public and civil liability indemnity cover is maintained to provide indemnity to committee members who become engaged in activities on behalf of the Club, which could include being involved in court proceedings. The Club will take advice and follow the recommendations of the NFRA.

In the event of the committee member being awarded damages or costs in the course of the proceedings taken by him in his representative capacity, then such damages or costs will become the property of the Club and not the committee member personally, and forthwith, upon receipt by the committee member, that member will pay them to the Club treasurer.

16. Upon the requisition in writing, duly setting out the purposes, signed by twelve members and delivered to the secretary, the committee shall within 14 days notice convene a special General Meeting of the club.

17. Upon such a requisition being duly served and not complied with within 14 days the requisitionists may themselves convene a Special general Meeting of the club by giving seven days notice in writing to the members, duly setting out the purposes of which such a meeting is called and any resolutions passed shall have the same force and effect as if they were passed at a meeting convened by the committee.

18. Any Officer or Member of the Committee may be removed by the majority of two thirds of the Members present at any General Meeting convened under rules 11,14,15 and such vote may be taken by ballot.

19. The Committee may make Range standing Orders and Range Orders in regard to the use of the range during club hours and may draw up conditions of all competitions, arrange handicapping and shooting in such competitions and cards must be completed by the date specified. Failure to do so entails disqualification but relief may be granted at the discretion of the Committee in exceptional circumstances.

20. The decisions of the committee are deemed to be final in relation to all matters including Range Standing Orders and Standing Orders.

21. The Chairman of the Club and the Committee shall have a casting vote in the case of a tie.

22. The Committee shall have the power to legislate upon any point not provided for in these rules.

23. All property of the club shall be vested in the Committee for the time being.

24. All shooting shall be governed by the regulations of the National Rifle Association and any particular regulation of the shooting Association to which the club is affiliated.

25. In the event of the club being wound up the property and assets of the club shall be disposed of at the discretion of a Special General Meeting called for that specific purpose.
26. Any guest or visitor to the club shall upon payment of the approved range fee, (waived for guests of the club) be deemed to be a Member of the Club and to have all the rights, privileges and duties of membership for the duration of the shooting session.
27. Any law passed by Parliament or any regulations issued by the Home Secretary concerning firearms and/or Shooting clubs shall automatically be deemed to be part of the Club constitution and may be included therein by the club Secretary without the necessity of voting thereon at a General Meeting of the Club.

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