



# CONSTITUTION

Last updated at the 2025 AGM

# Northern Track & Field League

## Constitution

### 1. NAME

The name of the League shall be the "Northern Track & Field League" hereafter referred to as "The League". The name of a commercial sponsor may be added without need for a formal change.

### 2. OBJECTS

The objects of The League shall be:-

- a) To provide regional competition for Club teams of athletes, primarily in the form of a divisional league structure and Inter-Club Cup Championship.
- b) To generally foster and encourage the development of Track & Field athletics throughout the competition area and to work in conjunction with other similar organisations.
- c) To allow an increasing number of athletes from across the region to experience team-based competition, foster camaraderie and enhance their ability to compete at a regional level.

### 3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of The League shall be confined to Open Clubs who are affiliated to England Athletics or Welsh Athletics for Track & Field athletics. Composite teams will be allowed at the discretion of the League Management Committee. In the event of a composite team disbanding, its place in the league will be offered in the first instance to the lead club from the composite team (as determined at the time of joining) with the other club(s) being allowed to enrol in the lowest division. The lead club in a composite team will be responsible for paying the full league subscription fee and claiming re-imburement of the appropriate contribution from the other club(s) comprising the composite team.

The total size of membership shall be regulated by the League Management Committee, who will decide on applications for admission to The League and may require clubs which do not satisfactorily fulfil League obligations to withdraw.

### 4. MANAGEMENT

Responsibility for the management of The League shall be vested in a Management Committee consisting of:-

- a) Chairperson, Finance Officer, and Secretary. These Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting from nominations made by Member Clubs.
- b) Divisional Secretaries, appointed by the Clubs in each division.
- c) Such other Officers as may be deemed necessary, appointed at the AGM of League Clubs.

### 5. MEETINGS

- a) An Annual General Meeting shall be held in the autumn of each year in order to consult Clubs, exchange views on appropriate matters and to facilitate the election of Divisional Secretaries and other Officers. Member Clubs shall receive 28 days' notice of the Annual General Meeting. All nominations and proposals must be received in writing, on club headed paper and signed by two officers of the club, 14 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting. Any club proposal must be seconded by another member club either on or before the date of the Annual General Meeting. Both the proposer and seconder must be present at the AGM.
- b) A minimum of ten clubs must be represented at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting.
- c) Extraordinary General Meetings may be held when considered necessary by the League Management Committee or when requested by 10 member Clubs.
- d) Any proposal which fails to get passed by the majority of members at an Annual General Meeting cannot be re-proposed at the following year's Annual General Meeting

The League Management Committee will meet formally on not more than four occasions each year.

### 6. VOTING

- a) Each team represented at a General Meeting shall be entitled to ONE vote. Each delegate may represent one team only. Matters voted on shall be decided by a simple majority.
- b) All members of the elected League Management Committee shall have equal voting rights, but in the event that the majority of Elected Officers appointed under 4a (above) being opposed to a decision, which is considered significant enough to warrant it, they may refer the matter to an Extraordinary General Meeting of the League specifically called to make a decision prior to implementation.

### 7. FINANCE

- a) All funds relating to the operation of the League shall be managed by the Finance Officer with appropriate records being maintained.
- b) The League shall look to maintain a positive account balance of at least one year's budgeted operating costs, but no more than two year's budgeted operating costs. Should the balance fall below the lower threshold then the Finance Officer and League Management Committee shall look to reduce expenditure immediately and plan for ways to increase the income. Should the balance go above the upper threshold then the Finance Officer and League Management Committee shall look to invest the excess in the League or transfer it to another organisation in accordance with Clause 10 of this Constitution.

- c) Clubs shall be required to pay an annual entry fee to the League, payable by the 31st December of the year preceding the year of competition. It is the intention that no club shall travel more than 400 miles in a season to attend matches. Clubs may claim, at the end of a season, a partial refund of their annual entry fee for travel in excess of 400 miles, at a rate of 0.1% of the fee for each excess mile.
- d) It shall be within the aims of the League to obtain sponsorship, either on a regional basis for the whole League or on a local basis for individual matches, but any such local sponsors shall have the approval of the League's Management Committee.
- e) An Inspector of Accounts shall be appointed by the League Management Committee, subject to approval by a simple majority vote at the Annual General Meeting.

#### 8. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- a) Chairperson  
The chairperson will chair all General and Management Committee meetings and will undertake other appropriate duties as required.
- b) Secretary  
The secretary will co-ordinate all arrangements for the running of the League, convene all meetings and prepare minutes, prepare a basic fixtures plan each year in consultation with other appropriate bodies and maintain communications with all member clubs.
- c) Finance Officer  
The Finance Officer shall maintain financial records relating to the League, receive all entry fees and initiate all payments from the League funds. An audited financial statement shall be prepared for the Annual General Meeting.
- d) Divisional Secretaries  
Divisional Secretaries will:-
  - 1) Ensure all the arrangements for matches are satisfactory, deal with changes and other problems which occur after preparation of a basic seasonal plan.
  - 2) Check Eligibility of Athletes.
  - 3) Ensure all results are forwarded, after scrutiny, as soon as possible after the match to the League Secretary.
  - 4) Present the trophy at the last match to divisional winners.

#### 9. GOVERNANCE AND RULES OF COMPETITION

- a) All competition shall be held in accordance with U.K.A. rules.
- b) Specific rules governing the Divisional League competition shall be determined at a General Meeting of League Clubs.
- c) The safeguarding and welfare of athletes and officials, whilst participating in the Divisional League competition, shall be determined by the League Welfare Policy as agreed to by the League Management Committee.
- d) The protection of data, collected from Members during the operation of the League, shall be subject to the League Privacy Policy as agreed to by the League Management Committee.

#### 10. DISSOLUTION

- a) The League shall have the power to wind-up or to amalgamate with any other athletic organisation. Such winding up or amalgamation shall require the approval of a special resolution passed at a General Meeting of the League at which not less than two thirds of the votes cast are in favour.
- b) The dissolution shall take effect from the date of the resolution and the League Management Committee then in office shall remain in being for the purpose of winding up the League's financial affairs through discharging the Leagues debts and liabilities.
- c) Any surplus assets remaining shall be given or transferred to another Athletic Organisation, or to a registered charity associated with the sport of athletics or to the sport's governing body as decided at a General Meeting and failing such a decision as decided by the League Management Committee.