RULES AND CONSTITUTION includes GADP

1. The club shall be known as HARDLEY RUNNERS and hereinafter referred to as the club.

2. The object of the club is the promotion and enjoyment of running and similar sports through fellowship between members.

3. The racing colours of the club shall be purple and gold.

4. The management of the club is vested in a Committee consisting of a President, Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Membership Secretary, DBS Verifier and two welfare officers to be known as the main Officers (aligned with EA standards) and at least 6 other members.

5. The committee will meet at least 4 times per annum and a quorum shall consist of 5 Committee members including at least 2 main officers. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt other members of the club at any time and to fill any vacancy which may arise from time to time provided that at least 2/3rds of the Committee agree to the nomination.

6. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held in January or February each year for the presentation and (if accepted) the passing of accounts for the financial year ending on 31st December prior to the meeting, the election of officers and Committee and any other business communicated to the Secretary and included in the notice of meeting sent to members.

7. Extraordinary General Meetings (EGM) may be called at any time within 21 days of a request in writing to the secretary by the Committee or not less than 10 ordinary members, stating the purpose for which such meeting is required.

8. Membership of the club is open but confined to amateurs as defined by the UK Athletics rules for competition. Candidates for membership must apply on a form provided for the purpose. Persons may join only as an individual member. Persons living outside of the county of Hampshire may join at a reduced subscription as Out of County members. Each individual member shall each be entitled to one vote at an AGM or EGM. Members under the age of 18 and Out of County members are not entitled to vote. Members may not vote by proxy but may submit email or postal votes.

9. A quorum at an AGM or an EGM shall consist of 10% of the members of the club who are entitled to vote.

Hardley Runners

10. An annual subscription for membership types will be determined at an AGM or EGM and will be payable on acceptance of a member and subsequently on the 1st April each year. Subscriptions will not be refundable.

11. No member whose subscription is more than three months in arrears is eligible to take part in any competition promoted by the club, or to which the club has an affiliation and his/her membership will be considered as lapsed.

12. Any club emails containing member's personal views or seeking votes are to be approved by the committee prior to sending.

13. The Committee shall have the power to expel any member of the club who offends against any of the Rules or Bye-laws of the club or whose conduct shall, in the opinion of the Committee, render him/her unfit for membership of the club. However no member shall be expelled without first having an opportunity to appear before the Committee and answering the complaints made, nor unless at least 2/3rds of the Committee then present, vote in favour of his /her expulsion.

14. Any internal dispute within the club shall be brought before the club Committee. The decision of the Committee on these matters will be final and binding.

15. The Committee may amend and introduce Bye-laws (consistent with this constitution) deemed necessary for the benefit of the club and its members. All such Bye-laws shall be binding on the members of the club until repealed by the Committee or set aside by a resolution of an AGM or EGM.

16. All concerns, allegations or reports of malpractice or abuse relating to the welfare of children or vulnerable adults will be recorded and responded to swiftly and appropriately in accordance with the Club's and England Athletics' safeguarding policy and procedures.

17. The Welfare Officer shall be the lead Officer for all Members in the event of any safeguarding concerns.

18. Any complaints of serious misconduct (including, without limitation, theft, doping violations, fraud, physical violence, safeguarding policy breaches, serious breach of applicable health and safety, gambling and/or ticketing regulations or any act or omission of the Member or Officer which in the opinion of England Athletics, acting reasonably, brings or is likely to bring the sport of athletics into disrepute) regarding the behaviour of Members or Officers shall be reported and dealt with by England Athletics in accordance with its Disciplinary Procedures.

19. An account in the name of the club shall be opened at a bank. Additional accounts may be opened to cover special activities (e.g. Solent Half Marathon). Cheques written against the club funds shall be signed by any two of the club Treasurer, Chairman and Secretary. All activities requiring financial commitment from the club shall be agreed by the Committee in advance.

20. The Solent Half Marathon shall be organised on behalf of the club by separate co-opted sub-committees.

21. Amendments to this constitution may only be made at an AGM or EGM and by a 2/3rds majority of those present and entitled to vote. Any proposed amendment shall be submitted to the Secretary in writing at least 28 days before the meeting and detailed on the agenda of the meeting

22. Any decision to close the club shall be taken at either an AGM or EGM. Any remaining assets (after the payment of proper debts and liabilities) shall be transferred to a similar, England Athletics affiliated local running club or club(s) which welcomes all individuals over the age of 15.

This constitution was agreed at the AGM on **23rd February 2025**.