

# Reeth & District Angling Club (RADAC)

## Constitution

### Title

The club shall be called Reeth and district angling club.

### Objectives

The club's aims and objectives are to:

- protect the ecology of the river.
- promote the sport of angling.
- improve the fishing on club waters.
- collaborate with other organisations to combat pollution, reduce litter, prevent illegal fishing, reduce rural crime and to protect the environment.
- promote inclusivity and diversity.

### Membership

The club shall consist of the following types of members:

Type of membership	Eligibility
Full	Available to council taxpayers and their immediate relatives who live in the parishes of Reeth, Fremington and Healaugh, Ellerton Abbey, Marrick, Arkengarthdale and Melbecks.
Associate	Available, by application to the club, to anyone irrespective of place of residency. Places are limited to 30 associate members at any one time. A waiting list will be applied in the event of places being unavailable.
Honorary	Awarded at the discretion of the committee.

A club member is anyone who has paid their relevant annual subscription.

Subscription payments are due 1<sup>st</sup> January each year.

New members can join at any time of the year on payment of the subscription fee.

Only Full members and committee members can vote at an AGM.

Membership fees shall be set by the committee on an annual basis. Concessionary rates for under twenty-one-year-olds and those over sixty-five years may be applied by the committee.

Only those over 16 years of age are entitled to vote at an AGM/EGM.

Associate membership can only be renewed if you have submitted a catch return for the previous season.

The committee can refuse to grant membership to any individual at its discretion.

The committee can decide to sell day tickets for the club waters. The fee for these tickets will be decided by the committee.

Those buying day tickets will be bound by all club rules in place at the time of issue.

### **The Committee**

The committee are responsible for managing the affairs, assets and finances of the club.

The business of the club will be conducted by a committee elected at the Annual General Meeting. The committee will meet as necessary and not less than twice a year.

The Committee will consist of three officers of the club and up to seven committee members.

The officers' roles are as follows:

- Chair – responsible for leading meetings, ensuring fair process, setting agendas with secretary, and acts as spokesperson for the club.
- Secretary – handles administration, convenes meetings, takes minutes, manages correspondence, and keeps records of activities, ensuring smooth communication.
- Treasurer – manages all finances, keeps records, reports on funds, and handles bank accounts.

Committee members may not have specific roles but will be expected to assist the officers in the smooth running of the club.

In the event of an officer standing down during the year a replacement can be elected by the committee. This appointment must be ratified at the next AGM.

A member can be invited to join the committee at any time provided there is a vacant position. They must have a proposer and a seconder and be accepted by majority vote of those present at a regular committee meeting.

The committee can appoint a president to be an ambassador of the club. This is an honorary position which will be reviewed three yearly by the committee.

Committee members will abide by the *Committee Code of Conduct*.

The officers and committee will retire annually at the AGM.

The committee can at its discretion, issue guest tickets and offer discounts and incentives to reward endeavour, help boost membership etc and to thank individuals who are not members.

The committee can form project groups for specific purposes. A project group must be led by a committee member or officer but can include members of the club. The committee member or officer in charge of the project group is responsible for reporting back to the main committee.

Committee members are expected to attend meetings, contribute ideas, accept responsibility and take an active role in managing the affairs of the club in accordance with the *Committee Code of Conduct*.

Leave of absence can be granted for up to three months if a committee member needs time off due to illness or other extenuating circumstances.

Any committee member not attending a meeting without apology for three months will be contacted and asked if they wish to resign.

The committee meetings will be open to any member of the club who may speak but not vote.

The quorum required for committee business to be agreed is three members including at least two officers.

The committee have the discretion to award lifetime honorary memberships to reward a member who has performed some outstanding service for the club.

The president will be appointed to serve a 3-year term. At the end of this time the committee can either invite them to continue for a further three years or appoint another candidate to assume their role. The president can resign at any time.

The committee will have an emergency response plan in place to ensure that critical incidents can be reacted to and dealt with swiftly and efficiently.

### **Equal Opportunities**

The club will not discriminate on the grounds of sex, race (including colour, ethnic or national origin), sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, religious or political belief, pregnancy or maternity, marital status or age.

### **Communication**

The chair is the official spokesperson for the club. No committee member or member can discuss or make comments or statements about the club's affairs and policies with a representative of an external organisation, riparian owners, reporters, officials or anyone else without the permission of the Chair.

No committee member or member can post content on social media about the club's affairs and policies without the permission of the Chair.

The committee will use social media and electronic messaging to inform members; this will include updates on the club's website.

Emails and newsletters will be sent out from time to time.

### **AGM**

The AGM will be held in January each year. Members will be notified of the date, time and location at least two weeks in advance.

A new committee will be elected at the AGM. Anyone wishing to serve as a principal officer must have a proposer and seconder. Applications must be made in writing to the secretary at least one week prior to the AGM. Applicants must have a proposer and seconder.

Existing officers and committee members can be returned on bloc providing they wish to continue and if no other applicants come forward.

Where there are several applicants for a post or if there are more applicants than posts then election will be by ballot. In the event of a tie the chair will have the casting vote.

If a member wishes to submit a motion for the AGM it must be received by the secretary in writing three weeks prior to the AGM. The motion must be in writing and have a proposer and a seconder.

The business of the AGM will include the following:

- Ratification of last year's minutes.
- Chair's report.
- Secretary's report.
- Treasurer's report and balance sheet.
- Any motions received from members and the committee.
- Election of officers
- Election of committee members
- Election / ratification of president

Motions must have a majority vote to pass. In the event of a tie the chair has the casting vote.

All full members and committee members are entitled to vote at an AGM/EGM. Voting can only take place in person at an AGM/EGM.

### **EGM**

An Extraordinary General Meeting can be called to deal with any emergency situation or when the committee needs to consult the members on an important issue.

Members will be notified of the date, time and location at least one weeks in advance.

The members can call for an EGM providing it is supported by at least fifty percent of the membership. The secretary must be notified in writing by a representative of the members

involved stating the reasons for the meeting. The secretary will then arrange a mutually convenient date, time and location. All members of the club will be notified at least one week in advance.

### **Code of conduct**

All members, committee members and officers are expected to treat each other with respect at all times.

Everyone should be polite and courteous to each other and to any members of the public, farmers and anyone they come into contact whilst out fishing.

Offensive language, verbal abuse, racism, homophobia, misogynistic and threatening behaviour will not be tolerated.

### **Angling rules**

Anyone fishing club waters must abide by the angling rules which will be published on the club website.

When fishing anglers must have with them:

- Proof that they are a member, guest or have purchased a day permit.
- Proof that they have purchased an Environment Agency fishing licence.

The above must be produced if requested by a committee member, water bailiff, another member or a riparian owner. Anyone not in possession of the above must leave club waters immediately.

### **Disciplinary procedure**

The committee can suspend or ban an individual or revoke their membership if they:

- Are suspected of being involved in unlawful activities.
- Have acted in a way that could bring the club into disrepute.
- Have been verbally abusive or used threatening behaviour.
- Have broken the angling rules.
- Are in breach of the club's code of conduct.

A committee member or water bailiff can issue a bankside warning if an angler is not complying with the rules.

Should an infringement of the rules be reported to the committee it will instigate the club's disciplinary procedures to ensure that the matter is dealt with fairly and if proven, that any penalty is appropriate to the nature of the offence.

### **Insurance**

The club will take out public liability insurance to protect itself from any claims made against it and its officers.

### **Health and Safety**

Members must adhere to the club's health and safety policy and guidelines.

### **Finances**

An account will be maintained on behalf of the club at a bank agreed by the committee. At least two cheque signatories will be nominated by the committee (one to be the Treasurer). The signatories must not be related nor members of the same household.

All payments will be signed or electronically authorised via on-line banking by two of the signatories.

Records of income and expenditure will be maintained by the treasurer and a financial statement given at each meeting.

All money raised by or on behalf of Reeth and district angling club is only to be used to further the aims of the club as described in this constitution.

### **Amendments to the Constitution**

The committee can on behalf of the members review and update the angling rules, grievance procedure, safety guidelines, constitution and any other policies if it is deemed necessary to do so. The committee will notify the members of any such changes.

Any changes to the constitution must be ratified at the next AGM or an EGM.

Any proposal to amend the constitution must be given to the secretary in writing. The proposal must then be circulated with the notice of meeting.

Any proposal to amend the constitution will require a two thirds majority of those present and entitled to vote.

### **Dissolution of the Club**

If the committee decide that the club should be wound up the chair will call an EGM. If after a vote, seventy five percent of those present agree to the dissolution of the club the officers and

committee shall realise the assets, pay off any debts and liabilities then decide how to dispose of any remaining funds.

This constitution was agreed at the Annual General Meeting of Reeth and district angling club held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026. This document supersedes all other previous versions of the Reeth and district angling club constitution.

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Brian Sedgwick, Chair

Signed:  .....

Stephen McCormack, Secretary

Signed:  .....

Stephen Clough, Treasurer

Signed:  .....