Looe Pioneers Running Club Constitution

1 **Name of Club**

The club will be called Looe Pioneers Running Club (Hereinafter will be referred to as The Club) and may also be known as Looe Pioneers or Pioneers. Looe Pioneers Running Club will be affiliated to ARC (The Association of Running Clubs).

2 **Aims and Objectives**

The aims and objectives of the club will be:

- To offer coaching and competitive opportunities in Road and Trail Running
- To promote the club within the local community
- To ensure a duty of care to all members of the club
- To provide all its services in a way that is fair to everyone

3 **Membership**

(a) Membership of the club is open to anyone interested in promoting, coaching, volunteering or participating in Road and Trail Running, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs.

(b) The membership shall consist of the following categories:

- Full member
- Junior member

(c) All members will be subject to the regulations of the constitution and by joining the club will be deemed to accept these regulations and codes of practice that the club has adopted.

(d) Members in each category will pay membership fees, as determined at the Annual General Meeting.

(e) Individuals shall not be eligible to take part in the business of the Club, vote at general meetings or be eligible for selection of any Club team unless the applicable subscription has been paid by the due date and/or membership has been agreed by the Club committee.

4 **Sports Equity**

(a) This Club is committed to ensuring that equity is incorporated across all aspects of its development. In doing so it 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 them. It is about changing the culture and structure of sport to ensure it becomes equally accessible to everyone in society.

(b) The Club respects the rights, dignity and worth of every person and will treat everyone equally within the context of their sport, regardless of age, ability, gender, race, ethnicity, religious belief, sexuality or social/economic status.

(c) The Club is committed to everyone having the right to enjoy their sport in an environment free from threat of intimidation, harassment and abuse.

(d) All club members have a responsibility to oppose discriminatory behaviour and promote equality of opportunity.

(e) The Club will deal with any incidence of discriminatory behaviour seriously, according to club disciplinary procedures.

5 **Committee**

(a) The affairs of the Club shall be conducted by a Committee which shall consist of the Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Minutes Secretary, Membership Secretary, Social Secretary, Safeguarding Officer, Coaching, Media and General Members, who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

(b) All committee members must be members of the Club.

(c) The term of office shall be for one year, and members shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) If the post of any officer or ordinary committee member should fall vacant after such an election, the Committee shall have the power to fill the vacancy until the succeeding Annual General Meeting.

(e) The Committee will be responsible for adopting new policy, codes of practice and rules that affect the organisation of the club.

(f) The Committee will have powers to appoint any advisers to the Committee as necessary to fulfil its business.

(g) The Committee will be responsible for disciplinary hearings of members who infringe the club rules/regulations/constitution. The Committee will be responsible for taking any action of suspension or discipline following such hearings.

(h) The committee meetings will be convened by the Chair of the Club and be held no less than 12 times per year.

(i) Only the posts listed above in (a) will have the right to vote at committee meetings.

(j) The quorum required for business to be agreed at Management Committee meetings will be 5 members**.**

6 **Finances**

(a) The club treasurer will be responsible for the finances of the club.

(b) The financial year of the club will run from 31st March and end on 30th March

(c) All club monies will be banked in accounts held in the name of the club.

(d) A statement of annual accounts will be presented by the treasurer at the Annual General Meeting.

(f) Any cheques drawn against club funds should hold two signatures of the treasurer plus up to two other officers.

7 **Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings**

(a) General Meetings are the means whereby the members of the Club exercise their democratic rights in conducting the Club's affairs.

(b) The Club shall hold the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in the month of April to:

- Approve the minutes of the previous year's AGM.
- Receive reports from the Chair
- Receive reports from the Treasurer and approve the Annual Accounts.
- Elect the officers on the committee.
- Agree the membership fees for the following year.
- Consider any proposed changes to the Constitution.
- Deal with other relevant business.

(c) Notice of the AGM will be given by the club secretary with at least 20 days' notice to be given to all members.

(d) Nominations for members of the committee will be sent to the Chair prior to the AGM.

(e) Proposed changes to the constitution shall be sent to the Chair and Vice Chair prior to the AGM, who shall circulate them at least 7 days before an AGM.

(f) All members have the right to vote at the AGM.

(g) The Chair of the Club shall hold a deliberative as well as a casting vote at general and committee meetings.

(h) An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) shall be called by an application in writing to the Members Secretary supported by at least 10% of the members of the Club. The committee shall also have the power to call an EGM by decision of a simple majority of the committee members.

(i) All procedures shall follow those outlined above for AGMs.

8 **Amendments to the constitution**

The constitution will only be changed through agreement by majority vote at an AGM or EGM.

9 **Discipline and Appeals**

a) All concerns, allegations or reports of poor practice/abuse relating to the welfare of children and young people will be recorded and responded to swiftly and appropriately in accordance with the safeguarding procedures. The Club Safeguarding Officer is the lead contact for all members in the event of any child protection concerns.

b) All complaints regarding the behaviour of members should be presented and submitted in writing in line with the club's complaints procedure.

10 **Dissolution**

a) A resolution to dissolve the club can only be passed at an AGM or EGM through a majority vote of the membership.

b) In the event of dissolution, all debts should be cleared with any club funds. Any assets of the club that remain following this will become the property of East Looe Town Trust and West Looe Town Trust.

11 **Declaration**

Looe Pioneers Running Club hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members.

Name		Position	Chair
Sign		Date	