

## **Tortoise Club – Constitution**

### **Club Purpose**

The Tortoise Club, a members' club affiliated to British Rowing, has as its purpose:

- The recognition and celebration of outstanding Oriel oarsmanship
- The financial support of the OCBC.

### **Membership**

Membership is restricted to Orielenses, excepting Honorary members. All members are bound by the Constitution.

Membership is by election: proposal is by the Men's Captain of Boats, Women's Captain of Boats and President of the Tortoise Club. Election is by every Club Officer's emailed approval. Membership ceases on resignation or death.

Club Members are admitted as Ordinary Members. Club Members who support the Oriel College Boat Club financially by committing to a £100 p/a or more (preferably by Direct Debit payable on 1<sup>st</sup> April or 1<sup>st</sup> September in favour of Oriel College), collectively referred to as Blades, have additional privileges as determined by Council.

### **Honorary Members**

In exceptional cases Club Officers may unanimously appoint Orielenses and non-Orielenses as non-voting Honorary Members. Honorary membership ceases on resignation or Council decision.

### **Club Officers**

The Club is run by its Officers. Officers include:

- President
- Secretary & Treasurer
- Captains of Boats ex-officio (Communications & new members)
- Period representatives (three or more)
- Events organiser.

The Officers comprise the Council. The Council decides the Officer positions required. The number of Officers shall be not less than six nor more than fifteen.

The Council shall cause proper membership and financial records to be kept, such records always being open to Officer inspection.

Officers, who must be members, are elected by members at the AGM for a period not to exceed five years. An Officer may be re-elected for a second term not to exceed five years, but is obliged to stand down after ten years. The Council can co-opt an Officer until the next AGM, when that Officer must seek election.

### **Club President**

The Club has a President, nominated by the Council and elected at the AGM. The president, a Tortoise of exceptional talent, is a Club Officer and may be re-elected for a second term not to exceed five years, but is obliged to stand down after ten.

### **Council Meetings**

The Council meets (either physically or electronically) no less than twice a year. The Secretary is responsible for scheduling meetings and meeting minutes. All decisions not

within the authority of an individual Officer will be recorded in minutes and all minutes are available to members. Members are welcome to attend Council meetings.

**The Club Year**

1<sup>st</sup> October to 30<sup>th</sup> September.

**Annual General Meeting**

The AGM will be held within three months of the Club's year end, normally in conjunction with the annual Tortoise Dinner, with three weeks notice given by email and on the Club's website. Member motions must be submitted two or more weeks in advance of the AGM, and all motions will be emailed to members and shown on the Club's website one week before the AGM.

Voting at the AGM, restricted to those present, will be by show of hands.

**The Council**  
**02 November 2017**