



## READING ROYALS ARTISTIC SWIMMING CLUB CONSTITUTION

1. **NAME:** The name of the Club shall be **READING ROYALS ARTISTIC SWIMMING CLUB.**
  
2. **OBJECTS**
  - 2.1. The objects of the Club shall be the teaching, development and practice of artistic swimming for its members and shall, where appropriate, be to compete. In the furtherance of these objects:
    - 2.1.1. The Club is committed to treat everyone equally within the context of its activity and with due respect to the differences of individuals. It shall not apply nor endorse unlawful or unjustified discrimination and shall act in compliance with the protections afforded by the Equality Act 2010.
    - 2.1.2. The Club shall implement the Swim England Equalities policy (as may be amended from time to time)
  - 2.2. The Club shall be affiliated to Swim England South East Region and shall adopt and conform to the Rules of this Association, and to such other bodies as the Club may determine from time to time.
  - 2.3. The business and affairs of the Club shall at all times be conducted in accordance with the Laws and Technical Rules of Swim England (“Swim England Regulations”) and in particular:
    - 2.3.1. All competing members shall be eligible competitors as defined in Swim England Regulations and
    - 2.3.2. the Club shall in accordance with Swim England Regulations adopt Swim England’s Child Safeguarding Policy and Procedures (“Wavepower”); and shall recognise that the welfare of children is everyone’s responsibility and that all children and young people have a right to have fun, be safe and be protected from harm.
    - 2.3.3. members of the Club shall in accordance with Swim England Regulations comply with Wavepower.
  - 2.4. By affiliating to Swim England SER, the Club and all its members acknowledge that they are subject to the laws, rules and constitutions of:
    - 2.4.1. Swim England SER and
    - 2.4.2. Swim England (to include the Code of Ethics); and
    - 2.4.3. British Swimming (in particular its Anti -Doping Control Rules and Judicial Code); and
    - 2.4.4. FINA, the world governing body for the sport of swimming in all its disciplines (together “the Governing Body Rules”) and
    - 2.4.5. Berkshire and South Buckinghamshire ASA
  - 2.5. In the event that there should be any conflict between any rule or by-law of the Club and any of the Governing Body Rules then the relevant Governing Body Rule shall prevail.
  
3. **MEMBERSHIP**
  - 3.1. The total membership of the Club shall not normally be limited. If however the Committee considers there is a good reason to impose any limit from time to time then the Committee shall put forward proposals for consideration at a General Meeting of the Club. The members shall have a right to impose (and remove) from time to time any limits on total membership (or any category of membership) of the Club

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- 3.2.** All persons who assist in any way with the Club's activities shall become members of the Club and hence of Swim England and the relevant Swim England membership fee shall be paid. Assisting with the Club's activities shall include, but not be restricted to, administrators, associate members, voluntary instructors, teachers and coaches, Committee members, helpers, Honorary members, life members, Officers, patrons, Presidents, technical and non-technical officials, temporary members, Vice Presidents and verifiers or tutors of Swim England's educational certificates.
- 3.3.** Paid instructors, teachers and coaches who are not members of the Club must be members of a body which accepts that its members are bound by Swim England's Code of Ethics, Swim England Regulations relating to Wavepower those parts of the Judicial Regulations and procedures necessary for their implementation and whilst engaged in activities under the jurisdiction of Swim England shall be subject to all the constraints and privileges of the Judicial Regulations

### **3.4. CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP**

- 3.4.1.** All members shall be registered as required by Swim England and fees levied by Swim England or its sub-bodies shall be paid when due
- 3.4.2. SWIMMING MEMBERSHIP** is open to all applicants who meet the standards determined by the Club to be appropriate to their age and stage of development
- 3.4.3. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** is open to all parents or guardians of swimmers, and at least one parent or guardian of every swimming member under the age of eighteen is expected to become an Associate Member. Further, any person who regularly assists with the Club's activities in any way shall become an Associate Member.
- 3.4.4. TEMPORARY, CASUAL OR LEISURE MEMBERSHIP** may be granted at the discretion of the Committee for specific purposes, such as (but not limited to) attending training or courses organised by the Club. Such membership will convey limited rights such as insurance cover but shall not convey voting rights
- 3.4.5. HONORARY POSITIONS**  
See 8

### **3.5. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

- 3.5.1.** Application for membership will be by the submission of a signed form. Where the applicant is under the age of eighteen the form must also be signed by the swimmer's parent or guardian. All applications shall be submitted to the Secretary. In appropriate cases submission will be via the Novices Administrator or such other person as the Committee shall appoint. Election to membership shall be determined by the Committee or such person(s) as authorised by the Committee

The Committee, Secretary or Novices Administrator shall be required to give reasons for the refusal of any application for membership. Any person refused membership may seek a review of this decision before a review panel appointed by the Committee comprised of not less than three members (who may or may not be members of the Committee). The Panel shall (wherever practicable) include one independent member nominated by Swim England SER. The person refused membership shall be entitled to make representations to the Panel. The procedures for review shall be at the discretion of the Panel whose decision shall be final and binding

- 3.5.2.** The right to refuse membership is reserved by the Committee
- 3.5.3.** In its consideration of applications for membership, the Club shall not act in a discriminatory manner and in particular, shall adhere to the Equality Act 2010 (as may be amended). Accordingly, the Club shall not refuse membership on the basis of a Protected Characteristic within the Act, such as disability; gender or gender identity; pregnancy; race; religion or belief; or sexual orientation. Neither may refusal be made on the grounds of political persuasion
- 3.5.4.** The Club may refuse membership only for good and sufficient cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or the sport into disrepute, or, in the case of a swimmer, being unable to achieve the entry standards as laid down and provided by the Club to the applicant for membership
- 3.5.5.** Membership shall be renewed annually

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## 4. SUBSCRIPTIONS AND OTHER FEES

- 4.1. Upon acceptance of an application for membership (including an application to change from temporary, casual or leisure membership to full swimming membership) an appropriate entrance fee will be charged. With the exception of Honorary Members an annual membership subscription shall be paid by all members, such subscription to be appropriate to the type of membership.
- 4.2. The annual members' subscription and coaching and squad fees (as applicable) shall be determined from time to time by the Committee and the Committee shall in so doing make special provision for different classes of membership as it shall determine
  - 4.2.1. **SWIMMING MEMBERS:** in determining the appropriate fees the Committee may take into account the annual subscription, club sessions, competition entry fees, assessment fees, music licence, registration and affiliation fees, insurance and overheads. Fees must be paid in advance, preferably by monthly standing order
    - 4.2.1.1. For swimmers who do not attend the normal full programme (e.g. swimmers away at University) fees will be determined by the Committee on a case by case basis upon application by the swimmer.
    - 4.2.1.2. Other non-regular payments, such as for accommodation or for transport to and from competitions or regional assessments, must be paid by the date requested on the notice about such payments.
      - 4.1.1.1. A quarterly invoice will be presented which will detail fees due in the next quarter as well as all outstanding payments from the previous quarter. These outstanding amounts must be settled within one month
  - 4.2.2. **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS** pay an entry fee and thereafter an annual fee with their membership renewal. The renewal payment will be added to invoices for swimmer's fees at the discretion of the Secretary and Treasurer.
    - 4.2.2.1. This subscription and fees may be waived at the discretion of the Committee for those who are Associate Members by virtue only of their regular assistance with the Club's activities
    - 4.2.2.2. Only paid up members, or those whose payment has been waived, have voting rights at General Meetings
  - 4.2.3. **TEMPORARY, CASUAL OR LEISURE MEMBERS** shall pay fees determined by the Committee to be appropriate to the activities in which they participate, and shall include a subscription that covers any fees required by Swim England
  - 4.2.4. **HONORARY MEMBERS** do not pay a fee or subscription, and have no voting rights at GMs unless any such person shall have retained their ordinary membership of the Club
- 4.3. **EXTENDED PAYMENT:** Any member who has or anticipates difficulties in paying fees or invoices within the specified time MUST immediately contact the Treasurer who has powers delegated from the Committee to agree extended payment arrangements where appropriate.
- 4.4. **OVERDUE PAYMENT:** Any member whose subscription is unpaid by the date falling 30 days after the due date for payment may be suspended by the Committee from some or all Club activities from a date to be determined by the Committee and until such payment is made
- 4.5. **SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES** The Executive Officers (or the Committee) shall have the power in special circumstances to remit the whole or part of the fees, including the Swim England membership fees, to address issues of social inclusion.

## 5. RESIGNATION OR TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- 5.1. **RESIGNING FROM THE CLUB:** A member wishing to leave the Club must give to the Secretary written notice of their resignation, which will only take effect when this rule (5.1) has been complied with. Any trophies belonging to the Club or other external body must be returned upon resignation.
- 5.2. The member who resigns from the Club in accordance with Rule 5.1 above shall not be entitled to have any part of the annual membership fee or any other fees returned. **They will be required to pay swimmer fees up to the date of their resignation.**

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- 5.3. **TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP:** Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 5.1 above a member whose subscription is more than two months in arrears shall be deemed to have resigned. Where the membership of a member shall be terminated in this way he/she shall be informed in writing that he/she is no longer a member by notice handed to him/her or sent by post to his/her last known address
- 5.4. The Swim England Membership Department shall be informed should a member resign or leave when still owing money or goods to the Club

### 6. EXPULSION AND OTHER DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- 6.1. The Committee shall have power to expel a member when, in its opinion, it would not be in the interests of the Club for the individual to remain a member. The Club in exercising this power shall comply with the provisions of Rules 6.3 and 6.4 below
- 6.2. Upon expulsion the former member shall not be entitled to have any part of the annual membership fee refunded and must return any Club or external body's trophy or trophies held forthwith. In exercising this power the Club will comply with the provision of Rules 6.3 and 6.4 below
- 6.3. The Club shall comply with the relevant Judicial Regulations for handling Internal Club Disputes Procedures ("the Procedures") as the same may be revised from time to time. (A copy of the current Rules may be obtained from the Swim England website, Swim England Handbook or from the Office of Judicial Administration)
- 6.4. A member may not be expelled or (subject to Rule 6.5 below) be made the subject of any other penalty unless the panel hearing the complaint shall by a two-thirds majority vote in favour of the expulsion of (or other penalty imposed upon) the member
- 6.5. The Officers of the Club (or any person to whom the Committee shall delegate this power) may temporarily suspend or exclude a member from particular training sessions and/or wider club activities, when in their opinion, such action is in the interests of the Club. Where such action is taken the incident or matter will thereafter be dealt with in accordance with the appropriate Judicial Regulations

### 7. COMMITTEE

- 7.1. **THE COMMITTEE** The Committee shall consist of the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer (together "the Executive Officers of the Club"), 3 appointed members and up to nine other elected members all of whom must be members of the Club. All Committee members must be not less than 18 years of age though the Committee may allow younger member(s) to attend their meetings without power to vote

#### 7.2. APPOINTED MEMBERS

- 7.2.1. The Committee shall appoint a member of the Club as Welfare Officer who must be not less than 18 years of age, who should have an appropriate background and who is required to undertake appropriate training in accordance with Wavepower. The Welfare Officer will have a right to attend Committee meetings without a power to vote
- 7.2.2. The President who will have full voting rights– see Rule 8.1
- 7.2.3. A member of the Coaching Management Team shall be appointed by the Committee, with full voting rights. Should the appointed member be unable to attend a Committee meeting, a deputy from the CMT should attend in his/her place

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### 7.2.4. ELECTED MEMBERS

**7.2.4.1.** The Chair, Secretary and Treasurer (together 'the Officers of the Club') having been duly proposed, seconded and elected by ballot at the AGM each year, will remain in office until the following AGM

**7.2.4.2.** Up to nine other members, having been duly proposed, seconded and elected by ballot at the AGM each year, will remain in office until the following AGM. All ordinary members will be expected to undertake functions appropriate to their talents and experience. (Details of these are in the Club Jobs file.)

**7.2.5. PERIOD OF OFFICE** Elected members will take up office following the closure of the AGM at which they have been elected and will remain in office until the close of the following AGM. All persons retiring from office who are members of the Club shall be eligible for re-election. The President will serve a term of 3 years.

**7.2.6. THE CLUB COACH** shall be required to attend Committee meetings regularly to report on activities and progress and to bring to the Committee any matters requiring agreement and approval by the Committee S/he shall not be required to be present when matters not affecting her/him are discussed and s/he shall not have voting rights, nor be counted in the quorum

**7.2.7. THE CLUB CAPTAIN** (and Vice-Captain where acting as deputy) shall be appointed by the Committee having been elected by those swimming members who have been members of the Club for six months or more, at a time and in a manner approved by the Committee. The Club Captain and Vice-Captain are elected annually and must be aged 16 or over at time of election. A report will be requested from them for each committee meeting and they may request or be requested to attend committee meetings to discuss specific items. These will be discussed at the beginning of a meeting to allow the Club Captain / Vice Captain to leave following the discussion.

**7.3. VACANCIES:** Any vacancy occurring by resignation or otherwise may be filled by the Committee. All members of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election or re-appointment. If there is a contest for the Officer positions, any candidate who is not successful shall be eligible for election as an ordinary Committee member. Where any elected members are unable to regularly attend Committee meetings, they may be asked to step down from the Committee, which may appoint voting replacements until the next AGM.

**7.4. MEETINGS:** Committee meetings shall be held not less than once a quarter but may be more frequent. They may be called as needed at the discretion of the Chair or Secretary. The Secretary shall give members not less than two days oral or written notice of a meeting. Decisions of the Committee shall be made by a simple majority and in the event of equality of votes the Chair (or acting Chair of that meeting) shall have an additional or casting vote. The Secretary, or a person appointed by the Committee, shall take minutes.

**7.5. THE QUORUM** at a Committee meeting shall be such number as shall represent not less than a simple majority of the Committee members (to include not less than one Executive Officer). The Chairman and the Secretary shall have discretion to call further meetings of the Committee if they consider it to be in the interests of the Club. The Secretary shall give all the members of the Committee not less than two days written notice of a meeting. Decisions of the Committee shall be made by a simple majority (and in the event of equality of votes the Chair (or the acting Chair of that meeting) shall have a casting or additional vote.) The Secretary, or in his/her absence a member of the Committee, shall take minutes. In the event that a quorum is not present within 30 minutes of the published start time, a meeting shall stand adjourned to the time and date falling seven days after the date of the meeting, or such other date and time as may be determined by the Chair. If a quorum is not present at the adjourned meeting then those Committee members attending may act for the purpose of calling a Special General Meeting of the members, to which the provisions as to minimum notice contained in Rule 11.1 shall not apply.

**7.6. CO-OPTING TO COMMITTEE OR SUB-COMMITTEES:** The Committee may from time to time appoint from among their number such sub-committees as they may consider necessary (and to remove (in whole or in part) or vary the terms of reference of such sub-committees) and may delegate to them such of the powers and duties of the Committee as the Committee may determine. All sub-committees shall periodically report their proceedings to the Committee and shall conduct their business in accordance with the directions of the Committee

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- 7.7. POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:** The Committee shall be responsible for the management of the Club and shall have the sole right of appointing and determining the terms and conditions of service of volunteers and employees of the Club. The Committee shall have power to enter into contracts for the purposes of the Club on behalf of all members of the Club. The Committee shall be responsible for ensuring that the Accounts of the Club for each financial year be examined by an independent examiner to be appointed by the members at the AGM.
- 7.8. INDEMNITY:** The members of the Committee shall be indemnified by the members of the Club against all liabilities properly incurred by them in the management of the affairs of the Club
- 7.9. ACCIDENT BOOK:** The Welfare Officer, on behalf of the Committee, shall maintain an Accident Book in which all accidents to Club members at swimming related activities shall be recorded. Details of such accidents shall be reported to the insurers in accordance with the Accident/Incident Notification guidelines. The Club shall make an annual return to the Swim England Membership Department indicating whether or not an entry has been made in the prescribed online form.
- 7.10.** The Committee shall have power to make regulations, create by-laws (see Rule 13) and to settle disputed points not otherwise provided for in this Constitution

## 8. CEREMONIAL POSITIONS AND HONORARY MEMBERS/LIFE-MEMBERS

- 8.1. PRESIDENT** The Annual General Meeting of the Club will elect a President. The period of office will be 3 years. The President will serve on the Committee as an appointed member. See 7.2.2
- 8.2. HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP (HLM)** The Committee may elect any person who has rendered notable services to the Club or to Artistic Swimming as an honorary life member of the Club, and they shall be entitled to all the privileges of membership except that they shall not be entitled to vote at meetings and serve as Officers or on the Committee unless any such person shall have retained in addition their ordinary membership of the Club. Such honorary members and Life Members must be included in the Club's annual return as to membership
- 8.3. HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTIAL LIFE MEMBERSHIP (HVP)** may be conferred at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) by the recommendation of the Committee upon any person who has rendered notable services to the Club or to Artistic Swimming. A Vice-President need not be a member of the Club on election but shall, ex officio, be an honorary member of the Club and must be included in the Club's annual return as to membership

## 9. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

- 9.1. AGM:** The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held in May or June each year. The date, time, and venue for the Annual General Meeting shall be fixed by the Committee.
- 9.2. PURPOSE:** The purpose of the Annual General Meeting is to transact the following business:
- 9.2.1.** To receive the Chair's report of the activities of the Club during the previous year
  - 9.2.2.** To receive and consider the Accounts of the Club for the previous year and the report on the accounts of the independent examiner and the Treasurer's report as to the financial position of the Club
  - 9.2.3.** To remove and elect the independent examiner (who must not be a member of the Committee or a member of the family of a member of the Committee) or confirm that he/she remain in office
  - 9.2.4.** To elect the Executive Officers and other members of the Committee
  - 9.2.5.** To review the position of Custodians and confirm or replace them as necessary.
  - 9.2.6.** To decide on any resolution which may be duly submitted in accordance with Rule 9.4

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**9.3. NOMINATIONS** for election of members to any office or for membership of the Committee shall be made in writing submitted by the proposer and seconder to the Secretary not less than 21 days prior to the Annual General Meeting. The nominee shall be required to indicate in writing on the nomination form his/her willingness to stand for election. must confirm on the form their willingness to stand for election.

**9.4. RESOLUTIONS:** Notice of any resolution proposed to be moved at the Annual General Meeting shall be given in writing to the Secretary not less than 21 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

### **10. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING**

A Special General Meeting may be called at any time by the Committee. A Special General Meeting shall be called by the Club within 28 days of receipt by the Secretary of a requisition in writing signed by not less than seven members entitled to attend and vote at a General Meeting or, if greater, such number as represents one-tenth in number of such members, stating the purposes for which the meeting is required and the resolutions proposed

### **11. PROCEDURE AT THE ANNUAL AND SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

**11.1. NOTICE OF MEETINGS:** The Secretary shall personally be responsible for the handing out or sending to each member at his/her last known address a written agenda giving notice of the date, time and place of the General Meeting together with the resolutions to be proposed thereat at least 14 days before the meeting and in the case of the Annual General Meeting a list of the nominees for the Committee posts and a copy of the examined accounts. The Secretary may, alternatively, with the agreement of member(s) concerned distribute these materials by e-mail or similar form of communication. The Notice of Meeting shall in addition wherever possible be displayed on the Club Notice Board where one exists

**11.2. THE QUORUM:** The quorum for the Annual and Special General Meetings shall be seven members entitled to attend and vote at the Meeting or, if greater, such number as represents one-tenth in number of such members

**11.3. THE CONDUCT OF MEETINGS:** The Chair, or in the Chair's absence a member appointed by the Committee, shall take the chair. Each member present shall have one vote and resolutions shall be passed by a simple majority. For the procedures for submitting resolutions to be considered at a General Meeting, members are referred to Rule 9.4. In the event of an equality of votes the Chair shall have a casting or additional vote. Only paid up members who have reached their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday shall be entitled to be heard and to vote on all matters. (Members who have not reached their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday shall be entitled to be heard and vote only on those matters determined by the Chairman as matters concerning juniors, such as the election of club captains.)

**11.4. MINUTES:** The Secretary, or in his/her absence a member of the Committee, shall take minutes at the Annual and Special General Meetings.

**11.5. AUTHORITY:** The Chair shall at all General Meetings have unlimited authority upon every question of order and shall be, for the purpose of such meeting, the sole interpreter of the Rules of the Club

### **12. ALTERATIONS OF THE RULES AND OTHER RESOLUTIONS**

**12.1.** The Rules may be altered by resolution at an Annual or Special General Meeting provided that the resolution is carried by a majority of at least (two-thirds) of members present and entitled to vote at the General Meeting. No amendment(s) to the Rules shall become effective until such amendment(s) shall have been submitted to and validated by such person as is authorised to do so by the South East Region

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**12.2.** Such number of members as represent one-tenth in number of the members entitled to attend and vote at a General Meeting shall be entitled to put any proposal for consideration at any General Meeting provided the proposal in writing shall have been handed to or posted to the Secretary of the Club so as to be received by him/her not later than 21 days before the date of the meeting in the case of the Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting, and thereafter the Secretary shall supply a copy of the proposal or resolution to the members in the manner provided in Rule 11.1

**13. BY-LAWS** The Committee shall have power to make, repeal and amend such by-laws as they may from time to time consider necessary for the well being of the Club which by-laws, repeals or amendments shall have effect until set aside by the Committee or at a General Meeting.

### **14. FINANCE**

**14.1.** All moneys payable to the Club shall be received by the Treasurer and deposited in a bank account in the name of the Club. No sum shall be drawn from that account except by cheque signed by two of four designated signatories, one of whom is the Treasurer along with the Chair, Secretary or Competitions Secretary or another member of the Finance Committee or Committee. Electronic payments may be made to agreed suppliers. Any monies not required for immediate use may be invested as the Committee in its discretion think fit

**14.2. TREASURER RESPONSIBILITIES** The Treasurer shall be responsible for issuing invoices or similar accounts to members or to others for whom the Club has provided or will provide services, for receiving all moneys paid to the Club, and for depositing such moneys into a bank account in the name of the Club. The Treasurer shall keep the Committee informed at regular intervals of the financial position of the Club and advise the Committee on appropriate actions to maintain the financial integrity of the Club. The Treasurer will prepare the annual accounts of the Club, present them to the examiner in sufficient time for them to be examined before the AGM, and present the examined accounts to the AGM together with a report on the year covered by the accounts, and recommendations for any action to be taken in the following year

**14.3.** The financial transactions of the Club shall be recorded by the Treasurer in such manner as the Committee thinks fit.

**14.4. CLUB ASSETS:** The income and property of the Club shall be applied only in furtherance of the objects of the Club and no part thereof shall be paid by way of bonus, dividend or profit to any members of the Club, (save as set out in Rule 17.3.)

**14.5. EXPENSES AND RENUMERATION:** The Committee shall have power to authorise the payment of remuneration and expenses to any Officer, member or employee of the Club and to any other person or persons for services rendered to the Club

**14.6. THE FINANCIAL YEAR AND THE SUBSCRIPTION YEAR:** The financial year of the Club shall be the period commencing on 1<sup>st</sup> January and ending on 31<sup>st</sup> December. Any change to the financial year shall require the approval of the members in a General Meeting

**14.7. FINANCIAL RECORDS:** The Committee shall retain all financial records relating to the club and copies of Minutes of all meetings for a minimum period of six years.

### **15. BORROWING**

**15.1.** The Committee may borrow money on behalf of the Club for the purposes of the Club from time to time at their own discretion up to such limits on borrowing as may be laid down from time to time by the General Meeting for the general upkeep of the Club or with the (prior) approval of a General Meeting for any other expenditure, additions or improvements.



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**15.2.** When so borrowing the Committee shall have power to raise in any way any sum or sums of money and to raise and secure the repayment of any sums or sums of money in such manner or on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit, and in particular by mortgage of or charge upon or by the issues of debentures charged upon all or any part of the property of the Club.

**15.3.** The Committee shall have no power to pledge the personal liability of any member of the Club for the repayment of any sums so borrowed.

### 16. PROPERTY

**16.1.** The property of the Club, other than cash in the bank, shall be vested in not less than two but not more than four Custodians. They shall deal with the property as directed by resolution of the Committee and entry in the minute book shall be conclusive evidence of such a resolution.

**16.2.** The Custodians shall be elected at a General Meeting of the Club and shall hold office until death or resignation unless removed by a resolution passed at a General Meeting

**16.3.** The Custodians shall be entitled to an indemnity out of the property of the Club for all expenses and other liabilities properly incurred by them in the discharge of their duties

### 17. DISSOLUTION

**17.1. PROCEDURE:** A resolution to dissolve the Club shall only be proposed at a GM and shall be carried by a majority of at least three quarters of the members present and entitled to vote. A specific date for the dissolution shall be included in the resolution.

**17.2. EFFECTIVE DATE:** The dissolution shall take effect from the date specified in the resolution and the members of the Committee shall be responsible for the winding-up of the assets and liabilities of the Club

**17.3. DISPOSAL OF BALANCES:** Any property remaining after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the Club shall be given to a charity or charities (or other non-profit-making organisation having objects similar to those of the Club) nominated by the last Committee

### 18. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**18.1.** The members acknowledge that these Rules constitute a legally binding contract to regulate the relationship of the member with each other and the Club.

**18.2.** The following statement must appear on Club membership forms and is to be signed by the member. It must also be countersigned by the parent or a person having parental responsibility for the member if under 18 years of age:

***"I acknowledge receipt of the rules of Reading Royals Artistic Swimming Club and confirm my understanding and acceptance that such rules (as amended from time to time) shall govern my membership of the Club. I further acknowledge and accept the responsibilities of membership upon members as set out in these rules."***

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