



**4 Strides &**  
**United Kingdom Barrel Horse Association (UKBHA)**  
**Club Members Handbook 2026**

Policy issue date: January 2026

Policy review date: January 2027 or when a significant change occurs

## **Introduction**

This handbook is issued with the intention of providing a guide to the expectations and standards to be met by club members along with expectations regarding horse welfare and human behavior and conduct.

By Joining the Club, you hold membership for all of the following associations: 4 Strides Equestrian UK Barrel Racing (and mounted shooting) AND The United Kingdom Barrel Horse Association (UKBHA).

## **Governors Mission Statement**

- ▯ To act as the Official Governing Bodies for the sport of Barrel Racing in the UK
- ▯ To promote the sport and increase participation
- ▯ To provide competing opportunities for members in competitions.
- ▯ To improve performance of both riders and horses through training and coaching programs
- ▯ To recognise the success of members and their horses.
- ▯ To promote the highest standards of care and welfare for all Barrel Racing horses

## **Association / Club Structure**

The association / club is headed by the President of the association / club, Sally Heron

The Treasurer of the Association / club is Ollie Crowder and he will be responsible for all financial outlay and incomings.

Additional Governors of the Association / club Luke Burridge, Judy Dame.

emails and correspondence for all associations should be to: [info@4stridesequestrian.co.uk](mailto:info@4stridesequestrian.co.uk)

## **Objectives**

1. To promote the sport of Barrel Racing and increase participation in the sport.
2. To provide coaching and riding opportunities for Barrel Racers around the UK
3. To provide clinics and shows for all levels of rider around the UK.
4. To provide training opportunities with higher level professionals.
5. To provide a support network that enables an increase in quality and quantity of riders, horses and

competitions in barrel racing.

6. To provide regular communication with its members via email correspondence and social media platforms

7. To publicise the sport through press and other organisations.

### **Constitution**

The Association / club shall be run by a President, Sally Heron assisted by an Ollie Crowder who will dedicate their time to achieving and maintaining the objectives of the Association / club.

The Association / club will maintain a suitable insurance policy.

Subscription rates shall be decided annually and shall be renewable on the 1st January each year.

All members must have adequate third-party insurance and up to date vaccination/passport for their horse which must be available on demand.

The Association / club will have a dedicated Child Protection and Welfare Officer - currently Sally Heron

The Association / club will have a dedicated First Aid Officer - currently Sally Heron

There will be an Annual Association / club meeting each year in December where members may raise any matters they wish to be discussed.

On completing and signing the membership application form, you will be deemed to have agreed to abide by this constitution and any other rules or regulations that are put in place in the future.

### **Membership**

Membership shall be for one year and shall be renewable on the 1st of January each year.

Membership subscription rates shall be decided by the Association / club President.

Upon becoming a member of the 4 Strides /UKBHA association / club, you acknowledge that you agree to abide by these terms and conditions of membership as well as the code of conduct and the members ethos and values.

## **Code of Conduct**

No member shall:

Act in an unsportsmanlike manner.

Conduct themselves in a manner which is detrimental to the character and/or prejudicial to the interests of the Association / club, or brings it into disrepute.

Conduct themselves at an event in a manner which is offensive to other members or the public.

Mistreat or abuse in any way a horse at an event or elsewhere.

Discriminate against any person on the grounds of age, gender, disability, race, language, ethnic origin, nationality, colour, parental or marital status, pregnancy, religious belief, class or social background, sexual orientation, gender reassignment or political belief.

## **Members Ethos and Values**

*(Written by the members for the members).*

Members will support a “No cowboy left behind” teamwork culture and rally round to ensure inclusivity and protect a true family feel about the club.

The club is a community in itself and a safe space where everyone can ride and not be judged by others on any level.

All members will demonstrate good sportsmanship behavior, they will support, encourage and cheer each other regardless of level and ability.

All members will be welcoming and friendly to new members.

All members will behave and act with respect, fairness and integrity, to all and remain open minded and adopt a “can-do” attitude in all situations.

All members will have empathy with each other, and show compassion, be understanding of each other and be nonjudgmental.

All members will accept and celebrate others achievements and be gracious in defeat. Members will encourage each other to be proud of their own achievements at all levels.

All members will ensure the horses welfare goes ahead of their own and executes good horsemanship principles. Horse welfare and high standards of horse care are a member's priority.

## **Disciplinary Procedures**

### **Penalties and / or disqualifications**

Membership and participation in our events is a privilege, not a right. Behaviour which is damaging to our Association / club or its membership will not be tolerated. Violation of any of the following provisions may subject a member to disqualification from our events, being denied entry to events or suspension from the Association / club.

1. Any act in connection with an approved show or other business in violation of this section by a member of the family of a member may be deemed to have been committed by the member and subject him or her to penalties.

2. Any act deemed prejudicial to the best interests of the club may result in the suspension of a member, including but not limited to the following.

a. Using abusive or intemperate language or attempting to threaten, bribe, influence or harass any contestant, show official or show official. Also, any remarks made with the intent to cast aspersions on the character or integrity of a official or show official.

b. Moving or attempting to move markers at any time.

c. Use of electronic and/or remotely controlled devices to alter the outcome of a run.

d. Abuse of a horse in any way.

e. Competing while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

f. Misidentifying a horse in any class will disqualify a contestant.

g. Other conduct that is not in the best interest of the club or its members.

i. Show Management and/or other officials at their sole discretion shall have the authority to disqualify or deny entry to any horse they deem dangerous to the rider, or to other individuals, animals or property.

3. A member who has been suspended or disqualified under this section may appeal. The date, time, and location of such meeting will be determined by the President. The decisions of such appeals committee shall be final and binding on all parties.

### **Notices**

Any notice to be given to any person in accordance with these Rules, shall be given in writing. A notice may be given to any member either personally or by email or by sending it by post to their registered address.

Where a notice is sent by post, service of the notice shall be deemed to be affected 24 hours after posting of such letter.

### **Protests and Complaints**

Persons who believe a rule violation or infraction has occurred at an event, may file a written protest with 4 Strides Equestrian UK LTD, Willow Farm, Brant Road, Fulbeck Lincolnshire NG323JA  
The written protest must be accompanied by a £50 protest fee.

The protest must be made within 7 days of the incident which is being protested. If the protest proves to be valid, the £50 protest fee will be returned to the person filing the protest. If the protest proves to be invalid, the protest fee will not be returned. This is the ONLY manner in which a protest or complaint will be accepted.

In certain cases, determined by the President, the club may reserve the right to return the £50 protest fee even if the protest proves to be invalid.

*(NOTE: This rule does not prevent Directors and Show Managers from correcting obvious problems brought to their attention, without the submission of a written protest fee.)*

Any situation not covered under these rules shall be decided by the president or other staff officials on site.

### **Forfeitures**

Any rider participating in a class or division in which he/she is not eligible will forfeit the earnings or awards.

It is the responsibility of the ineligible and or disciplined member and/or owner to return all forfeited earnings and awards.

Upon receipt of any forfeited earnings and awards the club we will make corrections to the class placings and earnings in the records.

### **Notice of Findings, Penalties and Appeals**

The Association / club will, within 30 days, notify the complainant and the accused in writing of the findings of the investigation, of any penalties imposed and the right of appeal as provided for in the rules.

Other than as provided for in the above rules, the findings of and penalties imposed by the association / club shall be final and binding on all parties in every case.

### **Publication of Findings and Penalties**

The Association / club may at their absolute discretion publish any disciplinary ruling or direction made concerning any personal matter in such manner as they shall think fit, whether in the public press

circulating throughout or in any part of the United Kingdom, or abroad and/or on television or sound broadcasting, and/or to and through any news of broadcasting agency or agent, or otherwise and every member of the Association / club shall be deemed to have consented thereto.

### **Agreement to Be Bound by the Rules**

Membership in the Association / club carries certain responsibilities as well as rights. Any member of the Association / club may be disciplined, fined or suspended upon a showing of good cause.

Any non-member may be denied membership and the privileges attached thereto, whenever it shall be established by satisfactory evidence that such non-member is not a worthy candidate.

Every member of the Association / club, by the completion of their membership payment, agree to be bound by the Constitution of the Association / club and all rules, regulations and bylaws made hereunder.

### **Amendments**

Any amendments made during the course of the year must be sent out to all members to inform them of any changes that may affect them.

### **Safeguarding Children and Adults.**

The association / club is fully committed to and accepts its legal and moral obligations to comply with its duty of care, to protect all children and vulnerable adults and safeguard their welfare.

Members need to be aware that the association does NOT allow the videoing of its events. Videoing of personal runs is allowed for personal use.

If any parent or youth has any concerns of the videoing of events then they should contact the show organisers and if need be, the Association / club President. Any member with a concern at any time relating to child protection should make contact the Association / club's President.

### **Horses**

Horses taking part in competition must be healthy and compete on their inherent merits.

The use of a prohibited substance might influence the horse's performance or mask an underlying health problem and could falsely affect the outcome of competition.

If any Horse or competitor is found using prohibited substances they will be subject to elimination from competition and also possible expulsion from the Association / club.

## **Policies**

The Association / club adopts the policies as set out by 4 Strides Equestrian UK LTD. Therefore the Association / club also has a Complaints and Appeals policy in place.

All policies are subject to constant review and are therefore not contained in this Handbook.

Those currently in force can be viewed on [www.4stridesequestrian.co.uk](http://www.4stridesequestrian.co.uk) and can be downloaded from the site.

**THE END**