**ENGLISH CROSS COUNTRY ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION**

**1. Title and Composition**

The Association shall be called the ENGLISH CROSS COUNTRY ASSOCIATION hereinafter called the

Association and shall consist of clubs and bodies affiliated to England Athletics (or its successor authority) with a declared interest in cross country running.

**2. Objects**

The objects of the Association shall be:

(a) To manage, encourage and promote competition in cross country running in England;

(b) To promote English Cross Country Championships annually.

(c) To select and manage competitors to represent England in international cross country competition.

(d) To exercise such powers as shall from time to time be devolved to it by the body

responsible for the governance of athletics in England;

(e) To advise UK Athletics on potential changes to Rules for Competition and to provide competitions in accordance with the agreed rules.

**3. Management**

The management of the Association shall be vested in a General Committee consisting of:

(a) The Officers, consisting of the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer all of whom shall be ex officio on all committees and who shall normally be elected for a period of three years in rotation;

(b) Championship Secretary

(c) Officials Secretary

(d) President, Past Presidents, Life Vice-Presidents and Life Members of the Association;

(e) Two members nominated by Midland Counties AA, Northern Athletics and South of England AA (the England Areas).

(f) Members nominated by clubs and organisations affiliated to England Athletics to a maximum of eighteen, one third of which shall retire each year, any member retiring may offer themselves for re-election,

(g) Co-opted individuals as required, appointed to achieve the necessary balance of skills and experience;

(h) Voting members of the General Committee shall be such as are appointed or elected under 3 (a), (b), (c) (e) and (f) above;

(i) The General Committee shall meet at least twice a year;

(j) The General Committee shall call an Open Meeting annually.

(k) Voting at General Committee meetings will be determined by a simple majority. Voting will be by a show of hands but members may request a closed ballot, although this must also be determined in principle by a show of hands.

**4. Executive Committee**

The General Committee shall appoint:

1. An Executive Committee empowered to deal with any matters relating to the English National Cross Country Championships, English Cross Country Relay Championships, representative teams, and any urgent matters, which may be referred to it by General Committee or which may arise in the interval between General Committee meetings.
2. The membership of the Executive Committee will be the Chairman, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Championship Secretary, Officials Secretary plus two members nominated by each of the England Areas.

(c) Any other sub-committees as deemed necessary.

(d)The Executive Committee will meet at least twice each year, and additionally as needed.

 Meetings will be formally minuted, and any decisions reached will be communicated to the General Committee, either verbally at the General Committee meetings which follow, or by email to General Committee voting members within 1 week of the meeting.

General Committee voting members will raise any concerns or issues within one week of the date of the email issue, with the ECCA Officers.

**5. Annual Open Meeting**

The business and conduct of the Open Meeting shall be:

**(a) Notice of Open Meeting**

(i) Advance notice of the Open Meeting shall be posted on the ECCA, Areas and England Athletics web sites not less than fifty-six days before the date of the meeting;

(ii) Nominations for Officers, General Committee members and other matters to be considered shall be received by the Secretary not less than twenty-eight days prior to the meeting;

(iii) Formal notice including an agenda, shall be posted on ECCA, Areas and England Athletics web sites not less than twenty-one days prior to the meeting.

**(b) Business**

(i) To elect Officers;

(ii) To elect members of the General Committee;

(iii) To receive the current financial statement;

(iv) To receive reports on the Championships held

(v)To appoint auditors;

(vi) To consider any proposed changes to the Constitution;

(vii) To consider any other matter of which due notice has been given.

**(c) Conduct of meeting**

(i) Each club or other body affiliated to England Athletics with a declared interest in cross country running may nominate one delegate to attend, speak and vote. Such nominations shall be on the club or body’s headed paper and signed by a duly authorised person;

(ii) Each delegate shall have one vote. In the event of an equality of votes the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote;

(iii) In the event of excess nominations being received for any position the candidates with the most votes up to the number required to fill all current vacancies shall be duly elected.

(iv) Voting on elections at the Open meeting will be determined by a simple majority. Voting will be by a show of hands but delegates may request a closed ballot, although this must also be determined in principle by a show of hands.

(v) Changes to the Constitution will require a two thirds majority.

**6. Finance**

(a) The fund of the Association shall be vested in the name of the English Cross Country Association.

(b) All funds shall be applied to the furtherance of the objects of the Association;

(c) In the event of dissolution, the funds and property remaining will be devoted to other organisations whose objects are similar to the objects of the Association.