**Constitution – UK Loggers**

**1. Name**

The name of the group shall be **UK Loggers**

**2. Aims**

The aims of **UK Loggers** will be:

* To organise the annual competition to determine the UK’s precision chainsaw champion and the team to represent the UK at the following years world championship.
* To promote and support the wider UK’s precision chainsaw competition circuit.
* To provide information and support to the members to assist in the development of their skills in precision chain saw competition
* To raise public interest in precision chainsaw competition, forestry and arboriculture and attract the sponsors.

UK Loggers is a not-for-profit organisation.

**3. Membership**

Membership is open to anyone who:

* is aged over 16 old; and
* is competing at a UK Loggers event or
* judging, stewarded or provided support at a UK Loggers event.

Membership is annual and is renewed through reapplying/participating in the above.

Membership will begin as soon as UK Loggers has received their details as part of the annual UK competition.

There is currently no annual membership fee. Any membership fee will be agreed at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and will be payable by all members.

A list of all members will be kept by the Secretary.

**Ceasing to be a member**

Members may resign at any time in writing to the Secretary.

Any offensive behaviour, including racist, sexist or inflammatory remarks, will not be permitted. Anyone behaving in an offensive way or breaking any equal opportunities principles may be asked not to attend further meetings or competitions, or to resign from the group if an apology is not given or the behaviour is repeated. The individual concerned shall have the right to be heard by the committee, accompanied by a friend, before a final decision is made.

**4. Equal Opportunities**

UK Loggers will not discriminate on the grounds of gender, race, colour, ethnic or national origin, sexuality, disability, religious or political belief, marital status or age.

**5. Officers and Committee**

The business of UK Loggers will be carried out by a Committee elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee will meet as necessary and not less than twice a year.

The committee will consist of 3 officers. Up to 2 additional members may be co-opted onto the committee at the discretion of the committee.

The officers’ roles are as follows:

* Chair, who shall Chair both the AGM and committee meetings. They also represent UKL as the nominated speaker at all the IALC meetings as per Section 5.4 of the IALC Statute. The Committee can delegate this role for any IALC meeting to a suitable member of UK Loggers with the agreement of the Chair.
* Secretary, who shall be responsible for updating the constitution of UK Loggers with any agreed changes, the taking of minutes and the distribution of all papers and for keeping records of members. For ensuring good communication with the membership.
* Treasurer who shall be responsible for maintaining accounts.
* All – To organize the annual UK competition. To promote UK Loggers and up load any relevant information to social media.

In the event of an officer standing down during the year a temporary replacement will be elected by the remaining officers, until the next Annual General Meeting when a replacement will be elected by the members.

Any committee member not attending a meeting without apology in a calendar year will be contacted by the committee and asked if they wish to resign.

The committee meetings will be open to any member with an item of business on the agenda and wishes to present it to the committee.

**6. Meetings**

**6.1. Annual General Meetings**

An Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held annually or at least fifteen months since the previous AGM.

The AGM will normally be held at the end of day 1 of the annual UK Championship competition. All members will be notified on the website at least 3 weeks before the date of the meeting, giving the venue, date and time.

Nominations for the committee must be made to the Secretary before the meeting. Nominations must have a proposer and a seconder. In the event of more nominations than vacancies there will be a vote by the members present. The successful candidate will be elected through a simple majority of the number of votes cast. Should the votes be equal the chair of the meeting shall have an additional casting vote.

The quorum for the AGM will be 10% of the membership or 10 members, whichever is the greater number.

At the AGM: -

* The Committee will present a report of the work of UK Loggers over the year.
* The Committee will present the accounts of UK Loggers for the previous year.
* The officers and Committee for the next year will be elected.
* Any proposals given to the Secretary at least 7 days in advance of the meeting will be discussed.

**6.2 Special General Meetings**

The Secretary will call a Special General Meeting at the request of the majority of the committee or at least eight other members giving a written request to the Chair or Secretary stating the reason for their request.

The meeting will take place within twenty-one days of the request.

All members will be given two weeks’ notice of such a meeting, giving the venue, date, time and agenda, and notice may be by telephone, email or post.

The quorum for the Special General Meeting will be 10% of the membership or 10 members, whichever is the greater number.

**6.3 Committee Meetings**

Committee meetings may be called by the Chair or Secretary. Committee members must receive notice of meetings at least 7 days before the meeting.

The quorum for Committee meetings is three Committee members.

**7. Rules of Procedure for meetings**

All questions that arise at any meeting will be discussed openly and the meeting will seek to find general agreement that everyone present can agree to.

If a consensus cannot be reached a vote will be taken and a decision will be made by a simple majority of members present. If the number of votes cast on each side is equal, the chair of the meeting shall have an additional casting vote.

**8. UK team selection for World Logging Championships**

The UK team will consist of 3 competitors in the Professional class, 1 in the Under 24 class, 1 in the Women class, a Team Leader, and a Technical Leader.

Qualifying for team selection will take place in the year preceding the World Logging Championship (WLC.)

All competitors must achieve the following minimum scores at the UK Loggers Competition to qualify for the final selection competition:

* For Professional’s - 1200 points
* For U24’s and Women (should the class continue,) 1000 points.

Should a competitor not meet the minimum score the committee will review the score and decide whether there are specific circumstances that warrant relaxing this selection criteria. Should the competitor be a member of the committee then they will not participate in the decision. The remaining committee will make the decision. If there are circumstances that warrant this threshold to be relaxed this must be agreed unanimously by the committee, which will be recorded and shared with the membership.

Qualifying will consist of:

1. At the UK Loggers Competition:
* The top 6 competitors in the Professional class from the UK Loggers competition will go forward to the final selection competition.
* The top 2 competitors in the U24 class from the UK Loggers competition will shortlist to go forward to final selection.
* The top 2 competitors in the Women’s class from the UK Loggers competition will shortlist to go forward to final selection.
1. The final selection competition will be held over a weekend in the same year as the qualifying UK Loggers competition. This will be organised and date advertised well in advance. At the final selection competition there will be a further 2 rounds (competitions.). This is will result in an overall cumulative score per competitor over the 3 competitions. The highest cumulative scores will determine qualification to be a team member.

The top 3 Professional competitors following the final selection competition will qualify to represent the UK in the Professional class. The highest place competitor in the U24 class will also qualify to enter the WLC. The highest placed female will also qualify to enter the WLC for the Women's class. (In the case of the Women’s class this will only carry forward to the World Logging Championships if the host country or IALC send an invitation.)

If a qualifying competitor does not wish to enter the WLC or has any doubts about being able to attend, they should make this known as soon as possible to the Committee. In this situation, a replacement will be found by working backwards through the rankings until a willing competitor is found. In accepting a place in the team as a competitor, it should not be assumed that the cost of flights and transportation of chainsaws will be met by UK Loggers. You may have to pay for one or both depending on levels of sponsorship.

The Technical and Team Leader positions will be chosen by the UK team members and the UK Loggers Committee, called the Selection Committee. Ideally, the selection will be made at the team selection competition venue, but the decision can be made after the competition to allow time for discussion. If any of the committee are candidates then they will not participate in the decision. The views of the competitors will take primacy in the decision.

Those who have an interest in fulfilling either of the positions of Team Leader or Technical Leader may present their nomination to the UK Loggers committee prior to the team selection competition so that the selection committee is aware of willing volunteers who may not be at the team selection competition.

**9. Finances**

An account will be maintained on behalf of the Association at a bank agreed by the committee. One cheque signatory will be nominated by the Committee (default should be the Treasurer).

All payments will be signed by the signatory.

* For cheque payments, the signatory will sign the cheque.
* For other payments (such as BACS payments, cash withdrawals, debit card payments or cash payments), a requisition note will be signed by the signatory, and held by the treasurer.

Records of income and expenditure will be maintained by the Treasurer and a financial statement given at each meeting.

All money raised by or on behalf of UK Loggers is only to be used to further the aims of the group, as specified in item 2 of this constitution.

**10. Amendments to the Constitution**

Amendments to the constitution may only be made at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting.

Any proposal to amend the constitution must be given to the Secretary in writing. The proposal must then be circulated with the notice of meeting.

Any proposal to amend the constitution will require a two thirds majority of those present and entitled to vote.

**11. Dissolution**

If a meeting, by simple majority, decides that it is necessary to disband UK Loggers it may call a Special General Meeting to do so. The sole business of this meeting will be to debate the proposal and if there is agreement through two thirds majority of the attendees then UK Loggers will be dissolved.

If it is agreed to dissolve the group, all remaining money and other assets, once outstanding debts have been paid, will be donated to a charitable organisation. The beneficiary organisation will be agreed at the meeting which agrees the dissolution.

**12. This constitution was agreed at the Special General Meeting of the UK Loggers on:**

Date …06/09/2019

Name and position in group …Andrew Campbell…Chair……….

Signed ………………………………………….

Name and position in group …Peter Fox…Treasurer…………….

Signed ……………….……….

Name and position in group …Richard Siddons…Secretary…….

Signed ………………………………………….

**End of the Constitution**

**Guidance on the Selection of the Team and Technical Leader(s) and on the**

**UK Team Roles**

**Selection of UK Team Leader and Technical Leader**

In considering the Team Leader and Technical Leader positions, the Selection Committee will aim to ideally achieve a balance between:

* -maintaining consistency and experience that can be passed on to new members and used to support the team, by selecting somebody who has been to the WLC previously.
* -allowing all competitors, judges and helpers who have not been to the WLC, a chance to form part of the team. This is important to increase understanding and experience beyond the few.
* giving preference to those people who have shown commitment to helping run the UK competition both in preparation and the running of UK events.
* recognising the efforts of those who are striving to improve their performance in the competition, whether they be competitors or judges.

Whilst recognising the importance of the above, particularly the desire to include those who have not been to the WLC before, the selection committee may decide to re-elect a previous Team or Technical Leader. This is because previous experience may over-ride the other considerations depending on the make-up of the team. E.g. the qualifying team consisting entirely of competitors who have not been to the WLC before.

All representatives of the UK travelling to the WLC will be expected to conduct themselves in a courteous and professional manner at all times.

**UK Team Roles**

Competitors

Those who qualify will be expected to put in a reasonable amount of practice to perform at their best. However, there will be no expectation or unspoken team pressure for any individual to achieve a World Class score in any event. The expectation is to gain experience, do your best and not allow the weight of an expected high team performance to cause any undue pressure. Future performances can be improved by learning from your mistakes as well as observing other seasoned competitors on the world stage.

Competitors are expected to support each other by being on time for meals, transportation and sharing any information or experience that can help.

Team Leader

Prior to the WLC, the Team Leader will be expected to co-ordinate and ensure that arrangements for travelling, accommodation, transportation of saws etc is clear for all. Information will need to be requested and distributed in a timely manner. Information will usually flow from the International Association of Logging Championships (IALC) in good time prior to the WLC. The first point of contact is normally the Secretary of the UK Loggers who will forward on information to the Team Leader as it is received from the IALC. Equally, the UK Loggers committee will help and support the Team Leader with these responsibilities if required.

During the WLC, the Team Leader will need to be proactive in gathering relevant information such as scrutineering locations, itineraries, event orders, start times, meeting places, storage and collection of saws etc. and distributing these to team members. The Team Leader will usually be expected to attend an IALC meeting at the start of the WLC where most of the relevant information above will be issued.

The Team Leader can usually escort competitors to the arena and be present during their event. Assistance can be given by helping carry any equipment, keeping nerves steady and reminding competitors that there is no pressure or expectation of a medal on them. The Team Leader needs to have a thorough understanding of the rules and monitor the competitor’s performance and judges evaluation/measuring. This will prove useful if the Team Leader helps the competitor to check their score form for errors prior to signing it. It may be possible to rectify errors at the time rather than raising a protest later on and competitors may not be in the right frame of mind to check forms carefully.

Ideally, the Team Leader needs to be someone with the following qualities: proactive, alert, good communication skills and sensitive to the teams needs e.g. supportive and encouraging, to keep morale high.

Technical Leader

The Technical Leader will also be expected to support the Team Leader and wider team throughout the event. They will usually be expected to attend an IALC meeting at the start of the WLC. The main role of the Technical Leader is to provide support to the IALC by observing the measuring of the events to check that the judges are applying the rules and measurement conventions correctly.

The Technical Leader ideally needs to have the same qualities as the Team Leader but will also need a complete understanding of the WLC rules and be assertive enough to challenge or raise any concerns they have with the judges and if need be, the IALC representatives.

5 September 2019