



THE FERGUSON CLUB

Constitution and Rules

Version 2026 / V4; 03.08.26

Reference Rule change approval at the 2026
AGM - Changes to Tenure of Chairperson &
General Secretary

THE CLUB

- 1 The Club shall be called The Ferguson Club.
- 2 **Objectives:**

The Club shall be an International Club to promote and disseminate information and interest in Harry Ferguson, Ferguson products and the Ferguson System, encourage the formation of national branches of the Club throughout the world and may assist with the initial financial expenditure and any other help at the discretion of the General Committee.
- 3 The Club shall be a Members' Club
- 4 The Club shall not be affiliated or in any other way connected to any political party, commercial company or organisation connected with such company or party.

MEMBERSHIP

- 5 **Categories of Membership:** There shall be five categories of membership.

Full	For individuals 18 years of age or more.
Family	For full members and their families living at the same address but not including children 18 years or more.
Junior	For individuals under 18 years of age and students in full time education.
Honorary	For individuals elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting
Life	For individuals, 18 years of age or more, electing to make forward payment equal to 10 (ten) times the current annual Full Members' fee.

- 6 Potential members shall be entitled to such information necessary for a sufficient understanding of the aims and obligations of Club membership.
- 7 Applications for membership shall be sent in the form prescribed from time to time by the General Committee, together with appropriate subscription to the *Ferguson Club* for approval by the General Committee, whose decision shall be final as to the eligibility of any person for membership of the Club, and the General Committee shall not be required to give reasons for its decisions.
- 8 Applicants must conform to and abide by Rule 11.

- 9 Should any member cease to be eligible for membership such membership shall be rescinded by a decision of the General Committee.
- 10 Any proposal to discontinue the membership of any person for reasons other than non-payment of a subscription as defined within these rules shall be decided by the General Committee and in the event that a member shall be declared persona non grata, then their membership shall cease forthwith.
- 11 No person shall be admitted to membership until they shall have paid to the Treasurer the subscription agreed at the AGM for the current year.
- 12 The Club in compliance with the Equality Act 2010 (the "Equality Act"), will pursue and promote equality of status for all members, volunteers, visitors, and providers of services at the Club, as well as for all applicants for membership.
- 13 The Club will endeavour to ensure that every person, as identified above, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage, civil partnership, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, pregnancy, and maternity (the "protected characteristics") has a genuine opportunity to participate to their full potential at all levels and in all roles within the Club.
- 14 Spare

MANAGEMENT

- 14 a **General Committee.** There shall be a General Committee and it shall consist of not less than twenty Area Representatives elected or co-opted by local members. It shall be responsible for the direction and management of the Club according to the provisions of Schedule A to the Constitution. All Area Representatives shall be full members.
- 14b Spare
- 14c **Executive Committee.** The General Committee shall include an Executive Committee comprising:
- Chairperson (Chair)
 - Vice-Chairperson (Vice Chair)
 - General Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Membership Secretary

All officers shall be honorary appointment nominated full members and elected according to the provisions of Rules 5 to 11 inc. They shall carry out the day- to- day administration of the Club and implement the policies and decisions of the General Committee in accordance with the guidelines in Schedule B of the Constitution.

- 14d The Executive Committee may co-opt members, by agreement as editorial staff, technical advisers, coordinators of merchandise, advertising and events, auditors and overseas correspondents.
- 14e Archivist. An Archivist shall be co-opted with their agreement to acquire, maintain and account for the Club's archive material in accordance with Schedule H to the Constitution. They shall be a member of the General Committee.
- 14f The Executive may appoint one or more Sub-Committees for such purposes as it may deem appropriate.
- 14g The affairs of the Club in all matters not in these Rules reserved for the Club in General Meeting shall be managed by the Executive Committee.
- 15 If it is not possible to elect three full members to the Executive Committee at the AGM, the meeting may authorise the members elected to co-opt sufficient full members to bring the membership of the Executive Committee to strength.
- 16 Any full member elected for membership of the Executive Committee or any other elected office shall be proposed and seconded by full members and shall declare their willingness to be so nominated. Persons so nominated or co-opted shall disclose any conflict of interest to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee and Rule 4 above.
- 17 The Committee, through the Executive, may engage professional services, including catering and general staff, as may be necessary for the efficient and economical running of the Club and may lawfully terminate any such engagement.
- 18 **Tenure of Elected Officers.** All elected Executive Officers shall retire from office at the Annual General Meeting next following. They shall be eligible for re-election subject to the following constraints:
- The Chairperson and General Secretary shall serve for no more than three consecutive years with an option of two annual increments, 1+1, giving a maximum of 5 years.
- N.B. The extension of 1+1 is at the discretion of the Governance Officer and General Committee and will only be used in the event of NO nominations received for the Executive Positions of Chairperson and General Secretary.
- The Membership Secretary and Treasurer may serve for up to three consecutive years in the first instance, after which the membership shall decide if either may serve further terms.
- 19 **Executive Functions.** The functions and responsibilities of the Executive Officers shall be as entered in the Schedules to the Constitution as follows:
- | | |
|-------------------|------------|
| Chairperson | Schedule C |
| Vice Chairperson | Schedule D |
| General Secretary | Schedule E |

Membership Secretary Schedule G

- 24 The Treasurer will see to the keeping of such proper books of account as will enable them to present at every Annual General Meeting of the Club, or at any time if required (on reasonable notice to them) by the Executive Committee, an accurate report and statement concerning the finances of the Club for the preceding year or the current year as the case may be and shall present such report and statement accordingly. The Club's financial year shall run from 1st January to 31st December.
- 25 Each member shall pay an annual subscription, the amount of which can be decided upon by the General Committee and implemented at the start of a membership year. Changes to be announced to the Membership via The Club Journal and on the Web Page. Honorary members shall not be liable to pay a subscription. Subscriptions may be paid by various methods.
- 26 Annual membership shall run from 1st January – 31st December.
Those who join after 1st October, shall have free membership for the remaining period if they have paid the subscription for the following year.
- 27 The appropriate subscription shall be payable upon application as provided for in Rule 7 and thereafter without demand in every year before the AGM, or as may be resolved hereafter and notified to the members. Failure to pay the annual subscription by the AGM shall result in the cancellation of membership.
- 28 **Overseas Members.** The subscription for overseas members may be varied to take account of Airmail postage and packaging costs.

MEETINGS

- 29 **Definitions:** The phrase General Meeting used above, in this section and in paragraph 38 herein-after, shall be taken to mean a General Meeting, an Annual General Meeting, an Extraordinary General Meeting or all of them according to context.
- 30 The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than 30th April each year at a time and place appointed by the Executive Committee. The business of an Annual General Meeting shall comprise presentation of the Chairperson's Annual Report, presentation of the audited accounts, election of the Executive Committee for the coming year, fixing of membership subscriptions for the following year, and any other business that shall have been notified to the Executive Committee not less than 30 days prior to such meeting. Nominations shall be received by the General Secretary not less than 60 days prior to such meeting.
- 31 Extraordinary General Meetings may be called for specific purposes during the year by the Executive Committee on its own behalf, or following a request by not less than twenty percent (20%) of the full members for the time being. Where an Extraordinary General Meeting is requested by full members, then the Executive Committee shall be required to call such a meeting within two months of any such request.
- 32 Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings and General Meetings shall be called by at least twenty-one days' notice in writing.
- 33 **Voting.** At any General Meeting every category of member shall be entitled to be present and every full member shall be entitled to one vote in person, by proxy or by post, or electronically, upon every question raised. In the case of equality of voting the Chairperson shall have a second or casting vote. The General Secretary or another appointed for the purpose shall take minutes of the proceedings at all General Meetings of the Club.
- 34 A quorum for a General Meeting shall be thirty (30) persons being full members entitled to vote at the starting time of each meeting.

NOTICES

- 35 Each member shall keep the Membership Secretary informed of that member's business/home address or of some other address at which communications can be addressed to them.

ALTERATION OF RULES

- 36 These rules may be added to, altered, or revoked according to the special resolution approved by postal ballot of all members of the Club on 5th March 1994, specifically:

“A Special Resolution to adopt, amend, add to, or delete any Rule or Rules of the Ferguson Club shall be passed by a majority of three quarters (3/4) of the votes cast by the members. Each member shall have one vote which may be exercised in writing, by post or by facsimile delivered to the Chairman [sic] or General Secretary at least 24 hours before the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting at which such Special Resolution is proposed.”

Electronic voting was permitted from 2020 due to the COVID global pandemic and the need for virtual voting and was formally adopted to continue from 29th February 2024.

Such a notice must be submitted in writing to the General Secretary specifying the intention to propose the revocation, addition, or alteration together with full particulars thereof. Such notifications to be submitted by not later than 31st December in any year and the same to be decided at the following Annual General Meeting.

EXCLUSION OF LIABILITY

- 37 Neither the club nor any officer thereof shall be liable to any member or guest of a member for loss of or damage to any property occurring from whatever cause.

DISSOLUTION

- 38 If:
- a) the number of members of the Club shall fall below twenty-five (25) then if a resolution to dissolve the Club be passed in General Meeting according to Rule 36, or
 - b) at any time, a resolution to dissolve the Club be passed in General Meeting by a majority comprising three quarters (3/4) or more of the full members present and entitled to vote, or
 - c) the Executive Committee shall so recommend and the resolution to dissolve the Club be passed in General Meeting by a majority comprising three quarters (3/4) or more of the full members present and entitled to vote hereinafter (a), (b) and (c) shall be referred to as:

‘the first resolution’ then the Executive Committee shall take immediate steps to convert into money all the property of the Club with power however to

postpone or delay the conversion of any particular property if the Club in General Meeting shall authorise. Out of the proceeds of such conversion the Executive shall discharge all debts and liabilities of the Club including the expenses of such conversion and any balance remaining in their hands shall be disposed of by them as the Club in General Meeting shall resolve: and thereupon the Club shall for purposes be dissolved. Provided that if the Club shall not within six months after that date of the first resolution resolve upon the disposition of any such balance, the same shall be divided equally between all persons who were full members of the Club at the date of the first resolution.

d) all debts disclosed at any time are to be jointly and severally liable only to the membership listed at the end of the last year of full operation.

39 **Notification**

A copy of the Notice convening any General Meeting under these Rules shall be sent by the General Secretary or acting Secretary by post to every member at their address last notified to the Club under rule 35, but any accidental omission to send such copy or the non-receipt of same shall not invalidate any proceedings or resolution.

Schedule A	Terms of Reference of the General Committee
Schedule B	Terms of Reference of the Executive Committee
Schedule C	Functions of the Chairperson
Schedule D	Functions of the Vice-Chairperson
Schedule E	Functions of the General Secretary
Schedule F	Functions of the Treasurer
Schedule G	Functions of the Membership Secretary
Schedule H	Acquisition and Maintenance of Club Archives
Schedule I	Editor
Schedule J	Election of Officers, Co-option of Members and Methods of Voting
Schedule K	Liaison with DVLA to claim Registration Marks
Schedule L	Functions of Advertising Manager
Schedule M	Functions of the Internet/Social Media Coordinator

Schedule N	Functions of Webpage Coordinator
Schedule O	Functions of the Area Rep Coordinator and Area Representatives
Schedule P	Functions of the Technical Team Advisor
Schedule Q	Functions of the Governance Officer