

EAST DEVON METAL DETECTING CLUB RULES

1. The Club shall be known as the "The East Devon Metal Detecting Club".
2. The object of the Club is to provide a forum for the discussion and practice of metal detecting and allied subjects, and to promote a responsible attitude towards the hobby.
3. Acceptance of membership by the Committee will assume acceptance of the Club rules by all members. Membership of the Club is limited to fifty members.
4. The Club shall be governed by the Committee, which shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. There must be a minimum of 51% of the membership present for the election of officers. A Committee quorum shall consist of not less than six members of the current Committee of ten.
5. The Committee shall consist of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Secretary, two appointed Sites Officers, a Sites Liaison Officer, a Sites Recording Officer and Social Secretary, totalling ten in all. The former positions of Librarian and Raffle Officer/PRO shall be discontinued. The monthly raffle will henceforth be conducted *ad hoc* by any available member, the proceeds going to Club funds. The members' library shall be dispersed free amongst members at forthcoming monthly meetings on a first come first served basis, any immediate residue being sold on E-Bay for Club funds and any final residue passed to a local charity shop.
6. An Extraordinary General Meeting can be convened by written request of not less than five members, or by the Committee.
7. The AGM will be held on the first Tuesday of February. Other meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of each month, to which guests are welcome. The Secretary will keep an attendance register and minutes of all meetings. At least fourteen days' notice must be given to all members of an AGM or an EGM. Non-attendance at three consecutive meetings without contacting an officer of the Club will result in the forfeiture of membership.
8. Any proposals that affect the running of the Club must be given in writing to the Committee for consideration before being put to the membership.
9. Changes to the Club rules can be agreed at any monthly meeting, provided at least six members of the Committee of ten and at least 51% of members overall are present. Proposed changes must be notified in writing to all Club members prior to the meeting.
10. Membership fees are due at the AGM, in return for membership cards which members should be prepared to produce at any time. Anyone not having paid by the meeting following the AGM (March) shall cease to be a member. Present membership fees are £30.00 for adult members and £5.00 for those aged sixteen years and under. Further occasional payments may be required for social or site activities (see rule 12 below). Any cheques presented by the Club shall require the signatures of any two from amongst the Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer of the Club.
11. The Club's financial year shall run from 1st January to the 31st December. All accounts will be produced at the AGM and the treasurer will keep accurate books of accounts at all times, which must be checked and passed by an independent auditor no later than one month after the AGM.
12.
 - a) The Club shall make available to a Sites Officer an allowance of up to £20.00 per Club dig negotiated on behalf of the members, claimable when the dig takes place.
 - b) This shall replace the previous system of claims based upon motor-vehicle mileage which is hereby discontinued.
 - c) A similar allowance of £20.00 shall be made available to any member of the Club who negotiates a Club dig-site on

behalf of members, claimable when the dig takes place.

13. a) The Club shall make available an allowance of up to £15.00 to any member who is selected to represent the Club at any agricultural show, village fair, museum exhibition or similar event.
b) This shall replace the previous system of claims based upon motor-vehicle mileage for such activity which is hereby discontinued.
14. The Club shall discontinue the previous practice of any other claims based upon motor-vehicle mileage
15. Nothing under Rules 12 or 13 shall inhibit members from submitting a claim upon Club funds to reimburse themselves for *bona fide* purchases made on behalf of the Club, such as equipment, advertising, postage or reasonable refreshment, provided that the Chairman or Secretary and Treasurer approve the purchase and that appropriate receipts are produced to validate the expenditure.
16. The Club may at the end of each financial year vote an honorarium to officers of the Club by way of acknowledgement of the latter's freely given time and personal expense in managing the affairs of the Club, the value of such honoraria being from time to time reviewed by the members.
17. A charge of £10.00 for adults, and £2.00 for those aged 16 and under, will be levied on all members attending the fortnightly digs or similar events intermittently arranged. Only fully paid-up members are permitted to attend such digs. The Chairman and Sites Officers can agree to non-members occasionally attending club digs, (limited to three visits per guest in any one season). Non-members must show evidence that they are fully insured either with the Association for the Metal Detecting Sport (ADMS), National Council for Metal Detecting (NCMD) or the Federation of Independent Detectorists (FID). Non-members invited to such digs will be required to pay a fee of £15.00 per event. Honorary life members of the Club are not required to pay a dig fee.
18. All finds from Club events shall be reported to the relevant landowner and disposed of as agreed by the landowner and East Devon Metal Detecting Club (normally on a 50-50 basis between the landowner and finder/s). Potential Treasure must be reported to the relevant coroner in compliance with the Treasure Act 1996. All significant finds shall be recorded with the Portable Antiquities Scheme and a copy sent to the relevant farmer or landowner. Sites Liaison Officers will, wherever possible, seek a written agreement with providers of land for members' searching. An appropriate payment will be made by the Club to the landowner or farmer, to be determined from time to time by the Committee. Any agreement will indicate that items found during the dig of a value up to £100 may be retained by the finder but that items of a value beyond that threshold must be the subject of a 50/50 percentage sharing with the grantor of the searching permission. Notwithstanding that requirement, all members are encouraged to take every opportunity to offer some of their lower valued finds to landowners, including voluntary payments of modest sums to foster goodwill. In the interests of transparency, the Club will provide at each dig a display table on which to lay out morning (and, wherever practical, afternoon) finds for other members and landowners to view.
19. On Club digs ALL members are responsible for reporting back all finds to the Site Recording Officer by 12.30pm so that all finds may be recorded. Significant objects found later in the day may be recorded by phone to a Committee member the same day, should the SRO leave early, and reported at the next Club meeting. On Club Digs, all finds which are not obvious rubbish are to be brought forward as soon as practicable for identification and appropriate recording by the Club
20. All members will at all times respect and adhere to the Portable Antiquities Scheme's *Code of Practice for Responsible Metal Detecting in England and Wales (2017 Revision)* and not bring the Club into disrepute. Any member proven to be on a scheduled or an archaeological site currently being excavated, disturbing it or using or carrying a metal detector without official permission from the relevant authorities will immediately cease to be a member of the Club.