**HARROW ATHLETIC CLUB**

**POLICY FOR VAULTING POLES 2018**

**Background**

Harrow is one of the UK’s leading athletic clubs, currently ranked 9th (men) and 13th (women), based on British League and UK Women’s league positions. Both teams are on an upward trajectory with two promotions for each team in the last few years. Maintaining, or improving on, these achievements are important Club priorities. The Club has a pole vault fund (currently £2,000), provided by a former coach. This may be augmented by the Club committee.

**Buying New Poles**

The Club has several poles suitable for beginners, and intermediate vaulters, but elite vaulters require specialist poles. Elite vaulters are those who can operate at national league level (BAL and UKWAL). The committee has defined this to mean male vaulters above 3.50 and female vaulters above 3 metres.

**Club Policy**

Elite vaulters, as defined above, may submit requests for poles, and/or for roof racks to transport poles, to be part funded by the Club. The following conditions apply:

1. The athlete commits to providing 25% of the cost.
2. Requests are limited to one pole per athlete per year.
3. The Club retains ownership of the poles, which must be returned if the athlete retires, gives up vaulting, needs to upgrade their poles, or leaves the Club.
4. These poles are also made available to other Club athletes as appropriate.
5. The athlete provides secure storage for the pole(s) and has adequate insurance in place.
6. The athlete commits to all four BAL/UKWAL fixtures.
7. If requests for poles exceed the current pole vault fund budget (£2,000), responses to requests may be delayed while the committee considers whether to augment the fund.

Applications should be made to the UKWAL or BAL team managers (Laura and Tony).