

Rules of the Folkboat Association (2016 version)

1. Name

The name of the Association is 'The Folkboat Association'.

2. Terms & Conditions

Throughout these rules the male gender shall represent either sex without prejudice and the following shall mean:

- a) "The Association" shall mean the Folkboat Association
- b) "The Committee" shall mean the National Committee
- c) "Folkboat" shall mean both the British and Nordic Folkboat, unless specifically identified
- d) "AGM" shall mean the Annual General Meeting of the Association
- e) "Extraordinary" Meeting shall mean a Meeting called to deal with a specific matter
- f) "Committee Meeting" shall mean a Meeting of the National Committee

3. Objects

The objects of the Association are to promote and further the interests of the Class and, in particular:

- a) The fostering of fellowship amongst all those who sail in Folkboats
- b) The promotion of the common interest in cruising and racing Folkboats
- c) The setting, promulgation and enforcement of the Class Regulations as necessary

4. Membership

The Categories of membership are:

- a) Full Membership - open only to owners or joint owners of a Folkboat
- b) Family Membership - open to a husband & wife, or civil partners sharing the same address, who are owners or joint owners of a Folkboat
- c) Full Family Membership - open to a husband, wife and all children under 19 or civil partners sharing the same address and their children under 19 and who are the owners or joint owners of a Folkboat
- d) Associate Membership - open to any other person with an interest in Folkboats
- e) Overseas Membership - open to anyone living outside the UK or Ireland with an interest in Folkboats
- f) Honorary Life Membership - open in certain circumstances to a member who has given long-term, active and exceptional service to the Association. Honorary Life Membership shall rank as Full Membership. The number of Honorary Life Members shall not exceed three percent of the total membership.

5. Election to Membership

- a) Election will be by formal application to the Committee who reserve the right to decline any application without explanation

- b) A proposal for a Member to be made an Honorary Member may be made by a Member and seconded by another Member. Any such proposal shall be accepted if approved by 2/3rds of the Committee and a majority of Members at the AGM

6. Conditions of Membership

- a) Every Member undertakes to comply with the Rules of the Association and the Class Regulations as amended from time to time
- b) Membership is deemed to constitute consent for the Secretary to hold relevant personal data for the purposes of the Data Protection Act 1984. This data will not be passed to any third party without the consent of the Member

7. Membership Year

The membership year is from the 1st of May to the 30th of April of the following calendar year

Termination of Membership

- a) Any Member wishing to retire from the Association shall notify his intention to the Secretary on or before 21st April otherwise he shall be liable for the following year's subscription
- b) Any Member who has not paid his subscription by the 1st July shall be requested to pay the same within 14 days and if his subscription is not paid by 31st July his membership will lapse
- c) No Member shall be entitled to exercise any rights or privileges of membership until his subscription for that year and all arrears, if any, are paid
- d) The Committee may terminate any membership without explanation

8. Subscriptions

- a) The annual subscription payable on application and by 1st May in each year shall be determined at each AGM
- b) A Member elected after 31st October, or 31st January shall only be required to pay half or a quarter of the annual subscription for that year respectively
- c) A Member may elect to pay his subscription by Standing Order. At the discretion of the Committee this method of payment may attract a discount on his subscription. Subscriptions paid by Standing Order will be collected on or shortly after the 1st April each year

9. Management of the Association

- a) The Officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Chairman, Technical Chairman and Secretary / Treasurer, who shall be elected at the AGM to hold office until the conclusion of the election of Officers at the next AGM. The retiring Officers shall be eligible for re-election
- b) The affairs of the Association shall be conducted by a Committee consisting of the Officers and no less than four or no more than eight Full Members elected at an AGM. A nominated representative from each Area, as designated by Rule 11 below, may attend Committee Meetings. Each Full Member present has one vote. The elected Members will serve for three years and be eligible for re-election
- c) All nominations for Officers or elected Members are to be with the Secretary 14 days prior to an AGM
- d) At a Committee Meeting three Members shall form a quorum
- e) The Committee may co-opt members or fill casual vacancies in its membership. Any person so appointed shall remain in office until the next AGM

10. Area Representatives

- a) For the purposes of definition the UK & Ireland are considered to have the following areas:
 - 1) Scotland
 - 2) Northern England & Isle of Man

(Northumberland, Tyne & Wear, Durham, Cleveland, North Yorkshire, Humberside, Lincolnshire, Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside & Cheshire)

- 3) Wales & Gloucestershire
 - 4) South West
(Avon, Somerset, Devon & Cornwall)
 - 5) Southern
(Dorset, Hampshire, West & East Sussex, Isle of Wight and Kent from Sandwich to Dungeness)
 - 6) East Coast
(Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Kent from Dartford to Ramsgate)
 - 7) Ireland (both North & South)
- b) Each area may be represented on the Committee by a nominated representative. The name of such a representative to be notified to the Secretary after each AGM.

11. Meetings

- a) Following a 14 day summons the Committee may call an Extraordinary Meeting of the Association for any specific business, the nature of which shall be stated in the summons
- b) The Committee shall also call an Extraordinary Meeting following the written request of at least 12 Members
- c) The AGM will be held on a date fixed by the National Committee and normally during the winter months
- d) At a General Meeting eight Full Members will form a quorum
- e) At a General Meeting each Full Member shall have one vote. Proposals will be carried by a 2/3rds majority of those Full Members present
- f) At a Meeting proxy votes or postal votes will not be eligible

12. Finance

- a) Subject to the Committee's approval the Secretary will open the appropriate Current, Deposit, Building Society or Investment Accounts necessary for the proper conduct of the affairs of the Association. On the instructions of the Committee the Secretary will invest the Association's funds in accordance with the unanimous decision of the Committee
- b) The Secretary shall settle any disbursements incurred by the affairs of the Association
- c) The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the Association's financial affairs which shall be submitted for the approval of the AGM
- d) The Accounts of the Association shall be audited by a Member of the Association appointed by the Committee and who will act in an Honorary capacity
- e) The Secretary / Treasurer shall be awarded an honorarium for his services to the Association. The level of this honorarium shall be set by the Committee each year

13. Rules and Class Regulations

- a) The Rules and the Class Regulations may only be amended by a decision of a Meeting
- b) The National Committee shall interpret the Rules to deal with exceptional circumstances and such interpretation shall be reported at the next Meeting