



**UNITED KINGDOM
FOLKBOAT ASSOCIATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS
December 2020**

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UNITED KINGDOM FOLKBOAT ASSOCIATION RULES AND REGULATIONS

A: GENERAL

- 1.0 These rules and regulations ('the Association Rules and Regulations') replace the regulations dated 20th March 2017.
- 2.0 By the Association Rules and Regulations, the Association seeks to ensure that every Folkboat which it has registered with a class number is a Nordic Folkboat, a British Folkboat or a Varne Folkboat.
- 3.0 In any Regatta which is organised by, for or on behalf of the Association:
 - 3.1 All participating Folkboats shall be registered with the Association.
 - 3.2 It is recommended that boats are raced in two separate divisions to be known as the 'Open Division' for Nordic Folkboats and the 'Classic Division' for British Folkboats. The Classic Division may include Folkboats with or without an inboard engine and a fixed propeller at the discretion of the organising authority.
 - 3.3 All helmsmen/helmswomen shall be fully paid up full or associate members of the Association.
- 4.0 In Folkboat Week and the National and Area Championships, the principal helmsman/helmswoman shall be the owner/joint owner of the boat or someone who has helmed the boat in a minimum of three previous races that season. This may be waived at the discretion of the National Committee.
- 5.0 Safety is the responsibility of each skipper and the Association can accept no liability for personal injury or loss.
- 6.0 Unless otherwise stated, where relevant the following dimensions are in metres.

B: THE NORDIC FOLKBOAT

- 1.0 A Nordic Folkboat shall conform with the Nordic Folkboat International Class Rules ('NFICR') as they apply from time to time. The NFICR are found on the Nordic Folkboat International Association's website www.folkboat.com.
- 2.0 NFICR 9.01 provides that a National Association or organising club may permit the use of a spinnaker for a regatta. Whilst racing, Nordic Folkboats may use a spinnaker which conforms with the weight and dimensions of the British Folkboat spinnaker. See C (ii) 3.3, 4.0, 14.0 - 14.5 inclusive below.
- 3.0 Owners of Nordic Folkboats may be issued with a Measurement Certificate by sending a completed application form to the Association. The measurement certificate shall include the following information:
 - 3.1 Hull and sail number.
 - 3.2 Boat's name.
 - 3.3 Boat's builder and date built.
 - 3.4 Owner's name and address.
 - 3.5 Weight of any correctors and date fitted.
 - 3.6 Any permitted dispensations or special conditions.
 - 3.7 Association representative's signature.
 - 3.8 Date of issue.
- 4.0 The measurement certificate shall be valid for a period of two years expiring 30th April in any year or until:
 - 4.1 The boat is unavailable for inspection for the period of a year.
 - 4.2 The boat has been subject to a protest and found not to comply with the the Association Rules and Regulations.
 - 4.3 The boat has been altered, repaired or refitted so that its weight or measurement may have changed.
 - 4.4 The recorded corrector weights have been altered.
 - 4.5 The ownership of the boat has changed.
- 5.0 If requested by the Association, an owner is to return the measurement certificate to the Association who may withdraw it provided that the owner shall be advised of the grounds for withdrawal within 7 days.

C: THE BRITISH FOLKBOAT

1. General

- 1.0 Subject to such further small variations as may be permitted by the National Committee of the Association from time to time in respect of boats built before 1962, a British Folkboat shall conform to the NFICR with the following permitted modifications:
- 1.1 Carvel hull planking.
 - 1.2 A doghouse.
 - 1.3 A coach roof extended in length and height.
 - 1.4 Sail plan.
 - 1.5 Inboard engine.
 - 1.6 Spreaders on the mast.
- 2.0 The boat known as a Varne Folkboat shall be treated as a British Folkboat for the purpose of these Association Rules and Regulations. (see D below).

2. Sail Plan

- 1.0 The British Folkboat has the option of using sails which conform either with the NFICR or the British Folkboat Sail Plan as stipulated below as complete sets only. It is not permitted to combine the sail plan specified in the NFICR and the British Folkboat Sail Plan.
- 2.0 The British Folkboat Sail Plan shall comprise mainsail, genoa, spinnaker, jib/headsail and storm jib.
- 3.0 The following minimum ply weights per square metre in respect to each sail shall be as follows:
- 3.1 Mainsail 220 gm.
 - 3.2 Genoa 170 gm.
 - 3.3 Spinnaker 35 gm.
 - 3.4 Jib/headsail 220 gm.
 - 3.5 Storm jib 220 gm.
- 4.0 Save in respect of the spinnaker, two unwoven transparent panels as windows are permitted in each sail, the total area of which shall not exceed 0.280 square metres. No part of the window shall be closer than 0.150 to the luff, leech or foot.

- 5.0 Apart from conventional corner strengthening, no other strengthening is permitted. Only batten pockets, sail numbers and markings and tell-tales shall be attached to the sail.
- 6.0 All sails shall be made of woven cloth. The use of Kevlar, Mylar and other composite materials is not permitted.
- 7.0 In respect of sail markings, all letter and number characters shall be a minimum of 0.300 high in a colour to contrast with the sail.
- 8.0 In respect of the mainsail, the maximum dimensions shall be:
- | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|-------|
| 8.1 | Luff length | 8.750 |
| 8.2 | Leech length | 9.150 |
| 8.3 | Foot length | 3.400 |
| 8.4 | Width at half height | 2.060 |
| 8.5 | Width at three quarter height | 1.140 |
| 8.6 | Width of headboard | 0.130 |
- 9.0 The mainsail shall have four battens approximately equally spaced along the leech with the following maximum lengths:
- | | | |
|-----|----------------------|-------|
| 9.1 | Top batten | 0.645 |
| 9.2 | Bottom batten | 0.645 |
| 9.3 | Intermediate battens | 0.713 |
- 10.0 The mainsail may incorporate reef points in positions at the discretion of the owner. Zips for flattening reefs are not permitted.
- 11.0 The class letters shall be permanently marked on the mainsail near the peak as follows:
- FB
000

12.0 In respect of the genoa, the maximum dimensions shall be:

12.1	Luff length	6.250
12.2	Longest perpendicular length	6.010
12.3	Clew to luff	3.000
12.4	Leech length	5.650
12.5	Foot length	3.250

13.0 The foot median shall not exceed half the sum of the luff and leech lengths, plus 0.150.

14.0 In respect of the spinnaker the ply folded thickness shall be a minimum of 0.11 millimetres.

14.1 In respect of the spinnaker, the maximum dimensions shall be:

14.2	Luff and leech length	6.460
14.3	Variation between luff and leech length	0.300
14.4	Width	3.600
14.5	Foot median	7.060

15.0 In respect of the jib/headsail, the maximum dimensions shall be:

15.1	Luff length	6.100
15.2	Leech length	5.500
15.3	Foot length	2.550

16.0 The foot median shall not exceed 1/2 of the luff and leech length plus 0.100. The maximum width of the jib measured 2.750 from the head along the luff and leech shall not exceed 1.270.

17.0 The jib/headsail shall have three battens approximately equally spaced along the leech with a tolerance of +/- 0.100 with the following maximum lengths:

17.1	Top batten	0.240
17.2	Middle batten	0.340
17.3	Bottom batten	0.390

- 18.0 A roller furling headsail arrangement is permitted, save that when racing it is used fully furled or fully unfurled.
- 19.0 In respect of the storm jib, the dimensions are discretionary; an area of 1.860 square metres is suggested.

3. Inboard Engine

- 1.0 An inboard engine may be fitted.
- 2.0 If the propeller shaft is fitted through the sternpost, the sternpost must be reinforced to its original strength.

4. Handicapping

- 1.0 In the Classic Division, a time Correction Factor or Portsmouth Yardstick type system may apply.

5. Antifoul

- 1.0 All British Folkboats shall be finished below the waterline with at least one coat of antifoul.

6. British Folkboat Racing Regulations

- 1.0 A stand alone GPS unit may be used provided it is not connected to other navigational instrumentation which constitutes integrated instrumentation as defined in the NCFIR.
- 2.0 Loose ballast is not permitted. Additional fixed ballast is permitted when required in the sailing instructions as a substitute for an inboard engine and is to be securely located not less than 2.000 abaft the after face of the foot of the mast.
- 3.0 The following equipment shall be on board (these can be found in the NFICR 11.10):
 - 3.1 A suitable anchor of not less than 12.0kg. or alternatively:
 - 3.1.1 A suitable anchor of not less than 6kg. together with a chain attached to it making a total of not less than 12.0kg.
 - 3.1.2 A suitable aluminium anchor of not less than 4.5kg. together with a chain attached to it making a total of not less than 12.0kg.
 - 3.2 Not less than 25.000 of anchor rope. Material shall be synthetic of a diameter not less than 12mm or woven band of a width not less than 25mm of same breaking load. If chain is attached to the anchor rope, its length may be included.
 - 3.3 Two mooring lines with a total length of not less than 20.000 and a diameter of not less than 12mm.
 - 3.4 One manual bilge pump, permanently installed. Electrical bilge pump with their battery may be installed.

- 3.5 A Personal Flotation Device ('PFD') with minimum buoyancy of 50 Newton shall be carried for each person on board. Each PFD shall be either of compressed gas automatically inflatable, or of the permanently buoyant type, or a combination of both. (Recommendation: the PFD should be of brightly clearly visible colour, when immersed in water.)
- 3.6 One oar or paddle not less than 1.400 long.
- 3.7 One rigid bucket min. capacity: 9 litre.
- 3.8 Two lifting eyes shall be attached to the keel, keel bolts or to the sides or undersides of the floor timbers. The weight of each lifting eye shall not exceed 3.0kg.
- 3.9 In addition, it is recommended that the following safety equipment shall be carried:
- 3.9.1 Lifebuoy with drogue and buoyant line.
 - 3.9.2 In date fire extinguisher.
 - 3.9.3 Easily accessible knife.

D: THE VARNE FOLKBOAT

Varne Folkboats shall comply with the drawings which are available from:

The Varne Owners Association, Trevassack House, 5 Trevassack Hill, Hayle, Cornwall, UK TR27 5HP.

www.varne.co.uk

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