



**UNITED KINGDOM
FOLKBOAT ASSOCIATION
CLASS RULES
2026 - 2028**

UNITED KINGDOM FOLKBOAT ASSOCIATION CLASS RULES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A. GENERAL

B. THE NORDIC FOLKBOAT

C. THE BRITISH FOLKBOAT

1. General

2. Sail Plan

3. Inboard Engine

4. Safety Equipment

5. Handicapping

6. Antifoul

7. Racing Rules and Regulations

D. THE VARNE FOLKBOAT

UNITED KINGDOM FOLKBOAT ASSOCIATION CLASS RULES

A: GENERAL

- 1.0 These class rules ('the UK Association Class Rules') replace the regulations dated 20th November 2020.
- 2.0 By the Association Class Rules, the Association seeks to ensure that every Folkboat which it has registered with a class number is a Nordic Folkboat or a British Folkboat.
- 3.0 In any Regatta which is organised by, for or on behalf of the Association:
 - 3.1 All participating Folkboats (both Nordic & British) shall be registered with the Association.
 - 3.2 Boats may race in two separate divisions to be known as the 'Open Division' for Nordic Folkboats and the 'Classic Division' for British or Nordic 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 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 following an application in writing to the committee prior to the commencement of racing.
- 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 metric millimetres.

UNITED KINGDOM FOLKBOAT ASSOCIATION

CLASS RULES

B: THE NORDIC FOLKBOAT

- 1.0 A Nordic Folkboat shall conform with the Nordic Folkboat International Class Rules ('NFIA') as they apply from time to time. The NFIA are found on the Nordic Folkboat International Association's website www.folkboat.com.
- 2.0 NFIA 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 Class Rules.
 - 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.

UNITED KINGDOM FOLKBOAT ASSOCIATION CLASS RULES

- 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 NFIA 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 NFIA 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 NFIA 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 g/m ² |
| 3.2 | Genoa | 170 g/m ² |
| 3.3 | Spinnaker | 37 g/m ² |

UNITED KINGDOM FOLKBOAT ASSOCIATION CLASS RULES

- 3.4 Jib/headsail 220 g/m²
- 3.5 Storm jib 220 g/m²
- 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 300mm 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 | 8750 mm |
| 8.2 | Leech length | 9150 mm |
| 8.3 | Foot length | 3400 mm |
| 8.4 | Width at half height | 2060 mm |
| 8.5 | Width at three quarter height | 1140 mm |
| 8.6 | Width of headboard | 130 mm |
- 9.0 The mainsail shall have four battens approximately equally spaced along the leech with the following maximum lengths:
- | | | |
|-----|----------------------|--------|
| 9.1 | Top batten | 645 mm |
| 9.2 | Bottom batten | 645 mm |
| 9.3 | Intermediate battens | 713 mm |
- 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

UNITED KINGDOM FOLKBOAT ASSOCIATION CLASS RULES

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

12.1 Luff length 6250 mm

12.2 Longest perpendicular length 6010 mm

12.3 Clew to luff 3000 mm

12.4 Leech length 5650 mm

12.5 Foot length 3250 mm

13.0 The foot median shall not exceed half the sum of the luff and leech lengths, plus 150 mm.

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 6460 mm

14.3 Variation between luff and leech length 30 mm

14.4 Half width 3500 mm

14.5 Foot width 3450 mm

14.6 Foot median 7400 mm

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

15.1 Luff length 6100 mm

15.2 Leech length 5500 mm

15.3 Foot length 2550 mm

16.0 The foot median shall not exceed 1/2 of the luff and leech length plus 100 mm. The maximum width of the jib measured 2750 mm from the head along the luff and leech shall not exceed 1270 mm.

UNITED KINGDOM FOLKBOAT ASSOCIATION CLASS RULES

17.0 The jib/headsail shall have three battens approximately equally spaced along the leech with a tolerance of +/- 100 mm with the following maximum lengths:

17.1 Top batten 240 mm

17.2 Middle batten 340 mm

17.3 Bottom batten 390 mm

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 1.86 m² 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 Handicap may be used utilising the YTC system which is administrated by RORC office on behalf of the RYA.

5. Fouling Release

1.0 All British Folkboats shall be finished below the waterline with at least one layer of fouling release.

6. British Folkboat Racing Regulations

1.0 A standalone GPS head unit may be used provided it is not connected to other navigational instrumentation which constitutes integrated instrumentation as defined in the NFIA rule 8.50.

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 2000 mm 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 NFIA 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.

UNITED KINGDOM FOLKBOAT ASSOCIATION

CLASS RULES

- 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 1400 mm 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