



Whitehaven Sailing and Boating Association

Constitution

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This Constitution may only be amended by membership vote at a General Meeting of the Association. The Committee are responsible for its effective application.

2. Purposes

The purposes of the organisation are to:

- 2.1. Encourage the safe sailing, navigating and handling of yachts and boats
- 2.2. Organise club yacht racing
- 2.3. Organise sailing/cruising, training and social activities for its members
- 2.4. Promote the exchange of information, experience and views between its members in relation to these purposes

3. Membership

(The term 'Member' refers to all categories of membership of the Association and it is not a pre-requisite for members to own boats)

- 3.1. Single Members shall pay a "**Single Membership Renewal**" fee. New ordinary single members shall pay a "**New Single Membership**" fee.
- 3.2. Joint Members (couples or families) shall pay a "**Joint Memberships Renewal**" fee. New Joint members shall pay a "**New Joint Memberships**" fee.
- 3.3. Details of current subscription fees for Single & Joint members are published on the WSBA website.
- 3.4. All boat owners must complete and sign a Pre-Season Racing Disclaimer in order to be eligible to compete in any competition racing organised by the Association.
- 3.5. Only paid up Members are entitled to vote at the AGM.
- 3.6. Subscriptions become due on 1st January each year and if unpaid by 31st March the Member(s) will be deemed to have resigned from the Association, but they will remain eligible to re-join the Association later that year by paying the normal Renewal Fee.
- 3.7. New members joining after 1st October shall be liable for one subscription only until the end of the following year.
- 3.8. Any breach of the Association rules or any conduct which, in the opinion of the Committee, is either unworthy of a member or otherwise injurious to the interests of the Association, shall render a member liable to disciplinary action by the Committee, which may include suspension for a specified period of time or expulsion. Before taking such disciplinary action against a member, the Committee shall call upon such member for a written explanation of the member's conduct and shall give the member full opportunity of making explanation to the Committee, or of resigning. A Resolution to apply any sanction shall be carried by a simple majority vote by those members of the Committee present and voting on the Resolution. Appeal against suspension/expulsion may be made to the members in a General Meeting. Upon suspension/expulsion the member/former member shall not be entitled to have any part of the annual membership fee refunded and must return any Association trophies or property held forthwith.

4. Officers

4.1.1. The following are the Officers of the Association:

- Commodore
- Vice Commodore
- Honorary Secretary
- Honorary Treasurer
- Honorary Sailing Secretary

4.1.2. All Officers and other Committee members are elected annually by the membership at the AGM, a Proposer and Secunder being required for each nomination, both of whom must be paid up Members. In the event of more than one nomination for a position, this will be put to the vote at the AGM.

4.1.3. The Commodore and Vice Commodore may only serve for a maximum of three consecutive years in the same post.

5. Committee

5.1.1. The Association is administered by the Committee which comprises the Officers and up to five members of the Association. At least half of the Committee are expected to be yacht owners.

5.1.2. The Committee is entitled to co-opt replacement members onto the Committee during the year and co-opted Committee members will enjoy full voting rights at Committee meetings. This is necessary because of possible resignations or ill-health of Committee members.

5.1.3. The Chairperson at a Committee meeting is the Commodore, or in his/her absence the Vice-Commodore or an Officer of the Association.

5.1.4. The Committee shall meet at least four times a year.

5.1.5. A quorum for a Committee meeting is four elected members, two of whom must be Officers.

5.1.6. Any Officer or Committee member who misses three consecutive Committee meetings without good reason shall be deemed to have retired from the Committee and will be duly informed and replaced.

6. Annual General Meetings

6.1.1. An AGM shall be called each year, usually in January.

6.1.2. The meeting is to:

- 6.1.2.1. Approve the Minutes of the previous AGM, prepared by the Hon. Secretary.
- 6.1.2.2. Vote on any Committee Resolutions and for the Commodore's Report.
- 6.1.2.3. Approve the audited Accounts, prepared by the Hon. Treasurer.
- 6.1.2.4. Elect Officers and Committee members for the year ahead.
- 6.1.2.5. Approve the nomination of the Honorary Auditor.
- 6.1.2.6. Consider and vote on any other Resolutions.

7. Winding Up

7.1. Should the Whitehaven Sailing and Boating Association be dissolved, any surplus funds, after debts and liabilities are paid, are to be donated to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

Whitehaven,
January 2018