

HARWICH AND DOVERCOURT MODEL BOAT CLUB.

CONSTITUTION

1. TITLE

1. The club shall be called the Harwich and Dovercourt Model Boat Club, hereinafter called the Club.

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of the Club shall be to provide facilities for model boat sailing and racing; to encourage members in the sport of model boating and the design and construction of such model boats.

3. AFFILIATIONS

3.1 The Club shall be affiliated to the Model Yachting Association and the appropriate MYA District Committee.

4. RULES

4.1 The activities of the Club, its Officers and members shall be governed by:-

- a) The World Sailing (WS) Yacht Racing Rules together with any prescriptions made by the Royal Yachting Association (RYA).
- b) The Rules and Regulations of the Radio Sailing Division of World Sailing (-RSD).
- c) The Rules and Regulations of the Model Yachting Association (MYA)
- d) This Constitution
- e) Any rules and resolutions passed at a General Meeting or Committee Meeting of the Club.

4.2 All members shall pay due regard to the wildlife on and around the water.

4.3 Members shall not leave litter of any kind after use of the water.

4.4 Members, their guests or visitors using the facilities provided by the Club shall do so entirely at their own risk and implicitly accept that the Club will not accept any liability for any damage to or loss of property belonging to members, their guests or visitors.

5. MEMBERSHIP

5.1 Categories of membership shall be:-

- a) Senior (aged 18 years or over)
- b) Junior (aged under 18 years)
- c) Family
- d) Honorary Life. Honorary Life members shall be proposed and voted for by the committee. Such candidates for Honorary Life members shall be recognised for long and outstanding contribution to the Club.

6. GOVERNANCE

6.1 The governance of the Club shall be vested in a Committee.

6.2 The Committee shall be responsible to the Club for the conduct of the day-to-day affairs and shall make such arrangements as may be necessary to exercise its duties.

6.3 The Committee may co-opt any persons for a meeting or meetings or to assist any of the officers in their work.

6.4 The Committee shall meet at regular intervals and at least quarterly. Committee meetings may be held remotely in order to facilitate decision making.

6.5 The quorum for any Committee Meeting at which decisions are to be taken shall be four Committee Members

6.6 All motions shall be decided by simple majority of those present, but the Commodore may exercise an additional casting vote.

6.7 The Committee will not have authority to make any changes to this Constitution.

7 OFFICERS OF THE CLUB – FORMING THE CLUB COMMITTEE

7.1 The officers of the Club shall be: - Commodore, Secretary, Treasurer/Membership Secretary, Racing Secretary, Measurer(s) and up to a maximum of 3 other members.

7.2 No member shall hold more than 1 Official Post within the Club unless deemed expedient and in the best interests of the club. This expediency to be voted on by the members present at the AGM.

7.3 All Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. Officers shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election.

7.4 The elected Committee should not exceed 8 in total.

7.5 Elections should proceed in the order indicated in 7.1 above, namely the Commodore should be elected first, through finally to general committee members. As

soon as the Commodore is elected – he shall take up that position and control the rest of the agenda.

7.6 Officers shall comply with the rules of the Club and comply with their duties.

8. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

8.1 Commodore. To preside over all Annual General Meetings, General Meetings and Committee Meetings, according to set rules and practises and ensure that the officers deal with such matters that fall within their remit.

To ensure that when no rules exist the officers act in the best interest of the Club.

8.2 Secretary. To call all Meetings taking due account of the Notice required and keep the minutes thereof. To hold other records of the Club. To deal with all correspondence and bring matters to the attention of the Committee, when necessary,

8.3 Treasurer/Membership Secretary. To receive and account for all monies due to the Club. To make any payments necessary to defray the costs of running the Club. Payments for such costs will be made through electronic banking, and all payments shall be reviewed at the next Committee meeting or by the Commodore at such interval may be decided as necessary. To maintain proper accounts of all such receipts and payments. To ensure that the accounts are audited annually and produced for inspection at the Annual General Meeting. To maintain accurate Membership records.

8.4 Racing Secretary. To prepare a club fixture list and organise sailing events. To keep a record of the results of the Club's events and trophy winners.

8.5 Measurer(s). To periodically apply for revalidation as a Measurer of the Model Yachting Association. To measure members' boats as required. To collect and account for any measurement fees due as may be required by the Club.

9. FINANCE

9.1 Annual subscriptions shall be paid in advance and become due by 30th November for each succeeding year on election to the club. Members who have not paid their subscription for the current year, by 31st December will be deemed to have left the club. Honorary Life Members shall not pay a subscription to the Club, but if they wish to continue to race shall pay their annual MYA fee through the Club membership renewal process.

9.2 When a new member joins within 3 months of the Calendar year end, 31st December, then they are deemed to have paid until the end of the following Membership year, aligning with the MYA subscription.

9.3 The Senior subscription shall be fixed at the Annual General Meeting. Family membership shall be 1.5 times the Senior subscription. Junior members shall pay 50% of the Senior subscription.

9.4 No member shall be entitled to any of the privileges of Club membership whilst their subscription remains unpaid.

9.5 All monies raised by the Club shall be deemed to be the property of the Club and deposited in a bank or building society or National Saving Scheme, in the name of the Club. The Treasurer will make payments through electronic banking with the Club's bank.

10. GENERAL MEETINGS

10.1 An Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held by the 15th of November every year.

10.2 Motions to be proposed at the Annual General Meeting shall be made in writing (which may include by email) at least four weeks before the date of the Meeting.

10.3 Formal Notice, including an Agenda for the Annual General Meeting noting all nominations and motions shall be forwarded to the membership at least two weeks before the Meeting.

10.4 An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) may be convened at any time on written request by 5 members of the Club. The request shall be accompanied by a detailed resolution.

10.6 Attendance at Meetings.

a) All AGMs and EGMs shall be open to all members of the Club. The quorum for a Meeting shall be six current members. Any General Meeting may be held virtually, through any electronic method as may be decided by the Committee.

b) The Commodore shall preside at all such Meetings, or, in his absence, he shall nominate an Officer to preside. In the absence of both, a Chairman shall be appointed from those present.

c) The Commodore /Chairman shall determine all questions of procedure not otherwise catered for.

10.7 Voting at AGMs and EGMs.

a) At AGM's A simple majority shall decide motions, amendments and elections.

b) At EGM's motions and amendments can only be passed by a majority of 75%.

c) Each officer and member may exercise one vote but the Commodore/Chairman may exercise a casting vote only.

d) Members who wish to vote on proposals and motions who cannot attend the AGM/EGM shall advise the Commodore/Chairman of the meeting that they wish to cast votes on such proposals and motions by proxy. Cards will be issued to the proxy voter attending the meeting, registering the number of members they are voting for.

11. CONDUCT OF MEMBERS

11.1 Every Member, upon election and thereafter, is deemed to have notice of and implicitly undertakes to comply with the Club rules. Any refusal to do so, or any conduct, which in the opinion of the Committee, is either unworthy of a member or otherwise injurious to the interests of the Club, shall render a member liable to expulsion by the Committee.

12 CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION.

12.1 Changes to this Constitution can only be made by resolutions laid before either AGMs or Extraordinary General Meetings.

13 DISSOLUTION

13.1 On dissolution of the Club the assets of the Club shall be donated to a charity selected by those present to dissolve the Club.