

CONSTITUTION OF THE UK LASER II CLASS ASSOCIATION (rev. 2013)

1. Title

The full title of the Association shall be the UK Laser II Class Association.

2. Objects

The objects of the Association are to:

- a. promote, develop, encourage, organise, and co-ordinate racing and sailing Laser II class dinghies in the United Kingdom under uniform rules and to generally encourage and foster the enjoyment of sporting and recreational aspects of sailing.
- b. represent the interests of members of the UK Laser II class Association with the Laser II International Class Association, Royal Yachting Association (RYA) and the licensed manufacturer.

3. Terms and definitions

Through out these rules the following defined terms will be used:-

- a. "The National Association" shall mean the UK Laser II Class Association.
- b. "The International Association" shall mean the Laser II International Class Association formed to control affairs of the Laser II class throughout the world.
- c. "The Committee" shall mean the Committee of the National Association of the National Association consisting of duly elected Committee members and other appointed members.
- d. "The National Association rules" shall mean the rules governing the conduct of the National Association contained in the constitution.
- e. "The Class" shall mean the class of sailing yachts designed by Frank Bethwaite and Ian Bruce, known under the name Laser II, and made by a manufacturer licensed by the International Sailing Federation (ISAF) to build and supply the Laser II in accordance with the Laser II design specifications.
- f. "The Secretary" shall mean the secretary of the National Association appointed by the Committee from time to time.
- g. "in writing" shall refer to printed or electronic communication including, but not limited to, documents sent by post, e-mail, or fax.

4. Membership and voting rights

a. The following classes of membership shall be recognised:-

- i. full member
- ii. Institutional membership
- iii. Honorary membership

- b. Full membership shall, upon payment of the prescribed annual subscription, be open to any person interested in the Laser II Class who has registered on the UK Class Association website and is resident in the United Kingdom.
- c. Institutional Membership may, upon payment of the prescribed annual subscription, and at the discretion of the Committee, be open to any institution recognised by the Committee which sails Laser II's, provided that all those Laser II's are covered by the membership are normally sailed at the same location. The institutional membership will cover bona fide members of the institution sailing one of that institution's Laser II's.
- d. Honorary membership may be conferred by the Committee on any person not, for the time being, actively racing a Laser II.
- e. All members shall be bound by the National Association rules.
- f. Each full member shall be entitled to one vote at a general meeting of the National Association, or in a postal ballot. Institutional and Honorary members shall be entitled to attend and speak at any general meeting, but not vote.
- g. All full or institutional members of the National Association shall, ipso facto, be an equivalent member of the International Association.
- h. Membership of the National Association and acceptance of this constitution by a member shall be deemed to constitute consent to the holding of relevant personal data for the purposes of the Data Protection act 1984.

5. Management

- a. The affairs of the National Association shall be managed by the Committee, consisting of:-
 - i. The officers of the National Association:
 - The Chairman
 - The Hon. Treasurer
 - The Hon. Sailing Secretary
 - The Hon. Press officer
 - The Hon. Measurer and Technical officer
 - ii. and such additional members as the Committee may, from time to time, determine for the efficient management of the National Association, together with
 - iii. up to five members of the National Association who shall be co-opted by the officers.
- b. Nominations for any of these officers may be submitted by any member of the National Association in writing to the secretary at least 30 days prior to the Annual General meeting. Each nomination shall contain the names of the proposer and the seconder and shall confirm that the member nominated has agreed to accept nomination. When no valid written has been received for any office, the chairman may accept a nomination at the Annual General meeting. Should more than one nomination be received for any office then the chairman may require a written ballot.
- c. In the event of any vacancy occurring for any such Officer during the year then the Committee may co-opt a member of the National Association to hold such an office until the next Annual General meeting.
- d. The secretary shall keep correct Minutes and Records of all Committee and general meetings and shall be responsible for communicating the decisions of the Committee to members of the National Association.
- e. At meetings of the Committee, one third of the elected members shall form a quorum.
- f. The Committee shall have the power to make recommendations to the members in general meeting, or by post, for alteration in, or additions to, the National Association rules.
- g. The Committee may arrange an annual National Championship of the class and shall co-ordinate such regional Championships as may be required. All matters pertaining to International Championships held in Britain shall be settled by the Committee in consultation with the sponsoring Club or Clubs, the RYA, the ISAF and the International Association.
- h. At least 14 days' notice of the date, place and agenda for any Committee meeting must be given in writing by the secretary to each Committee member. Any business conducted by correspondence shall always be circulated through the Secretariat and any Committee member not answering a motion communicated to him shall in writing within 21 days of the date of sending shall be deemed to have agreed to such a motion.

6. Power of the Committee

- a. Subject to the provision of these rules, and in particular, to the objects of the National Association, as expressed in rule 2, the General Committee shall be empowered to perform all functions of management and administration.
- b. The making of payments and receipt of monies shall be validly evidenced only by the signature of the Treasurer or his deputy as appointed by the Committee and payments or receipt of monies exceeding the sum of £1000 shall require the signature of the Chairman and Treasurer.
- c. In the pursuance of the authority vested in the Committee by members of the National Association, members of the Committee are entitled to be indemnified by the members of the National Association against any liabilities properly incurred by them or any one of them on behalf of the National Association. The limit of an individual members indemnity in this respect shall be equal to one years subscription at the current rate unless the Committee has been authorised to exceed such limit by a General Meeting of the National Association.

7. Conduct of meetings of the National Association

- a. The annual general meeting of the National Association shall be held annually at a place judged by the Committee to be most convenient to the majority of members of the National Association. The precise date, time and place to be at the Committee's discretion.
- b.
 - i. An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called by the Chairman or Secretary upon receipt by the Class Secretary of a written request, signed by not fewer than fifteen full members of the National Association. The precise date, time and place to be at the Committee's discretion.
 - ii. The Committee is empowered either upon resolution by the Committee or upon receiving a requisition signed by not less than fifteen Full Members in substitution to convening an Extraordinary General Meeting as provided in Rule 7 (b)(i) to submit a matter to a postal ballot provided that an interval of not less than ten days shall elapse between the dispatch of such ballot to each of the full members of the National Association and the close of the ballot.
- c. Notice in writing of any annual or extraordinary meeting, setting out the Agenda of that meeting, shall be sent to all full members of the National Association at least 14 days before the date set for the meeting. Any resolutions must be proposed and seconded by full members and submitted in writing to the secretary not less than 30 days prior to the general meeting.
- d. At any general meeting, the chair shall be taken by the chairman of the National Association or failing him, by some other person appointed as chairmen by the Committee.
- e. At any general meeting, decisions shall be limited to matters on the agenda and shall be carried by a majority vote. Voting shall be by a show of hands, unless a poll is demanded by not fewer than three of the full members present. At any meeting the chairman shall have a casting vote.
- f. Amendments to resolutions contained in the agenda of any general meeting may be accepted for debate at the chairmans discretion, but it is recommended that notice of such arrangements be given by the Committee well in advance of the meeting.
- g. Full members are entitled to raise matters relating to the National Association at a general meeting of the National Association without prior notice. Such matters may be discussed at the absolute discretion of the chairman and any vote taken on such matters shall be for information and guidance only and shall not be binding on the National Association or its Committee.
- h. At any General Meeting of the National Association, a quorum shall be formed by either eleven full members or 33% of the declared full membership, whichever is the lower number.
- i. At any general meeting of the National Association a decision to recommend to the international Association a change in, or addition to, the measurement rules shall require a majority vote of two thirds of the members voting.

8. Subscriptions and registration fees

- a. Subscriptions payable for all classes of membership of the National Association shall be payable annually and shall be decided at the Annual general Meeting and shall become due on the 1st January of the following year. A member joining the National Association after 1st October, whose subscription has been paid for that year, shall not be liable to pay his subscription for the ensuing calendar year.
- b. The institutional membership fees shall be determined as follows:
 - up to 7 Laser IIs – 2 x full membership fees
 - 8 – 15 Laser IIs – 3 x full membership fees
 - 16+ Laser IIs – 4 x full membership fees
- c. Any member whose subscription has not been paid within three months of the due date will no longer be a member of the National Association.
- d. A percentage of the National Associations income from subscriptions, which shall be the same as that applied to all other National Associations, shall be contributed to the International Association annually as a general levy, the percentage to be fixed by the Committee of the international Association.

e In cases where several full members reside at the same address, one of them may elect to receive all communications from the National Class Association. Up to three additional normally resident at that address may then elect not to receive the regular mailings and so be entitled to a refund of half of their annual subscription.

9. Accounts

- a. The Committee shall keep records giving full particulars of:
 - i. All monies, assets and liabilities of the National Association
 - ii. All monies received and expended by the National Association and the reasons for receipts and expenditure.
 - iii. All sales and purchases by the association.
- b. The Treasurer shall prepare annual financial statements summarising:
 - i. The income and expenditure of the National Association for the financial year
 - ii. The assets and liabilities of the National Association at the balance sheet date.
- c. The Committee shall approve the financial statements prepared by the treasurer and the chairman and treasurer will signify their approval by signing the financial statements.
- d. An auditor shall be appointed at the annual general meeting to approve the financial statements for the forthcoming year.
- e. The treasurer shall cause the annual financial statement, duly audited, to be presented at every annual general meeting of the National Association.
- f. A copy of the annual financial statement, audited and as accepted by the general meeting, shall be forwarded to the International Class Association within 14 days of its acceptance by the general meeting.

10 Protection of 'one design' of class

The National Association shall assist the International Association to maintain the one design character of the class yacht in accordance with the rules of the Laser II International Class, and shall report to the International Association any matter which may appear to violate or threaten the spirit of the class measurement rules.

11. Constitution

- a. The constitution of the National Association may be amended by resolution at any General meeting of the members of the National Association provided that no such Resolution shall be passed unless it is carried by a majority of two thirds of the full members voting at the meeting. A member wishing to propose any amendment to the constitution must give notice in writing to the Secretary of the National Association at least 30 days before the date of the General meeting at which the proposal shall be considered. A copy of the resolution to be proposed shall be enclosed with, or incorporated in, the agenda of the general meeting at which the proposal will be considered and such agenda shall be circulated to all members 14 days before the set date for the meeting. Further any such amendment shall be not be implemented until approved by the World council under the provisions of Paragraph 8.6 or the Constitution of the International Association ("the International constitution")
- b. This Constitution is subject to the constitution of the International Association currently in force but, in the event of any discrepancy or inconsistency, the International constitution shall prevail.

12. Dissolution

If upon the winding up or dissolution of the National Association, there remains, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid out or distributed amongst the members of the National Association but shall be given to or transferred either to some institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the National Association or to a charity. Such institution(s) or charity to be determined by the members of a National Association by resolution passed at a General meeting at or before the time of dissolution.

Bye Law 1

For all events under the jurisdiction of the UK Laser II Class Association Rule 8b of the Laser II International Class Association Rules is replaced by the following:

A competitor shall not wear or carry clothing or equipment designed, or intended in the opinion of the protest Committee, to increase his/her weight.

For greater clarity, the following is a non-exhaustive list of examples of prohibited garments:

- absorbent fabric weight jackets
- water bottles
- pockets, containers or compartments
- jumpers, sweat shirts or similar apparel worn outside a dry suit
- excessive or unsuitable clothing with regard to the forecast or actual weather conditions, such as thick absorbent garments on a hot day or multiple jumpers and no covering of the legs.