

Supernova Class Association Constitution

RULES FOR THE SUPERNOVA CLASS ASSOCIATION

1. TITLE

The full title of the Association shall be the Supernova Class Association.

2. OBJECTS

The objects of the Association are to promote and further the interests of the Supernova Class and to represent the interests of owners of Supernovas as follows:

- (a) to keep members informed of developments concerning the class and any proposals concerning class rules,
- (b) to organise the British Open Championships and to co-ordinate the programme for other races for the class in the British Isles,
- (c) to encourage National and International competition in Britain for the class,
- (d) to promulgate information on technical development within the Supernova Class,
- (e) to keep an Association Register of Members,
- (f) to keep an Association Register of Boats with their Sail and Builder's Numbers.

3. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Throughout these rules the following defined terms will be used:

- (a) "The Association" shall mean the Supernova Class Association.
- (b) "The Committee" shall mean the Committee of the Association, consisting of duly elected committee members.
- (c) "The Association Rules" shall mean the rules governing the conduct of the Association.
- (d) "The Association Register of Members" shall mean the register of members of the Association, with their addresses, name and number of boat (if applicable), to be kept as hereinafter provided.
- (e) "The Association Register of Boats" shall mean the register of Supernovas built, their sail and builders numbers and other boat particulars which are deemed appropriate.
- (f) "The Class" shall mean the class of sailing yachts designed by Mark Giles and made in accordance with his drawings and specifications, and known under the name Supernova.
- (g) "The Designer" shall mean Mark Giles, his heirs or appointees or Supernova yacht copyright holders.
- (h) "The Measurement Rules" shall mean the rules relating to measurement, construction and racing conditions of the class and governing the building of each Supernova and its rating as a recognised boat within the class for class racing purposes.
- (i) "The Registered Number" shall mean the sail number allocated to the boat.

- (j) "The Class Secretary" shall mean the duly elected Honorary Secretary or the duly appointed Secretary as the case may be, of the Association.
- (k) "Certificate" shall mean a certificate to be issued, ratified and endorsed as hereinafter provided and recording:
 - (i) The registered number and initial ownership of a Supernova.
 - (ii) The fact that such Supernova originally complied with the class rules on completion and construction, together with such particulars as may be required by the class rules.
- (l) "Valid Certificate" shall mean a certificate in which any endorsement required by the measurement rules has been duly entered.
- (m) "Fleet" shall mean three or more registered Supernovas not under the organisation of an already existing Supernova class fleet, normally located sufficiently near to each other to permit regular racing between them.
- (n) "Owner" and "Joint Owner" shall mean any person or persons, corporation or association being known to the association as owner or joint owner of a Supernova.

4. MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING RIGHTS

- (a) The following classes of membership shall be recognised:
 - (i) Full Membership. (3 types - Adult, Family and Junior)
 - (ii) Associate Membership.
 - (iii) Honorary Membership.
- (b) Full Membership shall, upon payment of the prescribed annual subscription be open to any owner of a registered Supernova or, in the case of joint owners, to any one of them, or in the case of a Supernova owned by a corporation or Association, to a nominated representative of that organisation.
- (c) Associate Membership shall, upon payment of the prescribed annual subscription, be open to any individuals interested in the Supernova Class.
- (d) Honorary Membership shall be open to any person having an interest in the Association who is proposed by a Full member and seconded by at least one member of the Committee and is elected by members of the Association at any General Meeting of the Association.
- (e) Members shall be bound by the Association rules.
- (f) Members acting as helmsmen or entering Supernovas in races which consist of, or include, the class shall be bound by the Measurement Rules.
- (g) Each full member (a family membership counts as one member) shall be entitled to one vote at a General Meeting of the Association, or in a postal ballot. A full member who is unable to attend a General Meeting may appoint another member to vote for him/her by proxy at the meeting. Associate and Honorary members shall be entitled to attend and speak at any General meeting but not to vote.

5. MANAGEMENT

- (a) The affairs of the Association shall be managed by the Committee.
- (b) The Committee shall consist of not less than four and not more than ten full members of the Association, elected annually at a General Meeting of members, or by postal vote, as elected Committee Members.

The Committee shall full powers to co-opt any person to assist it, whether a full member of the Association or not, but such persons shall have no vote in Committee.

- (c) The Committee need not fill a vacancy arising in the Committee unless the total number of Committee members has dropped below the minimum of four. Committee members appointed to fill vacancies shall remain in office until the expiry of the term of office of the person whose position they have filled.
- (d) At the Annual General Meeting of the Association, the voting Members shall:
 - (i) Elect one of its Members to act as Chairman of the Association for the following year.
 - (ii) Elect an Honorary Secretary or appoint a Secretary, who shall keep correct minutes and records of all Committee and General Meetings together with the Association Register of Members and Association Register of Boats, and shall be responsible for communicating the decisions of the Committee to members of the Association and, when directed by the Committee to Owners and Joint Owners not being members of the Association.
 - (iii) Elect an Honorary Treasurer, who shall control the funds of the Association: make such disbursements at the Committee shall direct: present an annual financial statement at each Annual General Meeting. The Secretary or Honorary Secretary may act as Treasurer.
 - (iv) Appoint an Auditor who shall certify the annual financial statement.

Nominees, duly proposed and seconded by voting Members, for these offices must be made in writing to the Secretary, arriving not less than one week before the Annual General Meeting.

- (e) At meetings of the Committee, one-third or three (whichever is the greater) of the elected members shall form a quorum.
- (f) The Committee shall have power to make recommendations to the members in a general meeting, or by post, for alteration in, or additions to, the 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.
- (h) The Committee may deny membership to, or remove membership from, any persons or organisation it deems as having objectives contrary to the Class' Objects or whose behaviour is, or may be, detrimental to the Class.
- (i) At least three weeks 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 in writing within three weeks of the date of sending shall be deemed to have agreed to such a motion.

6. POWER OF THE COMMITTEE

Subject to the provision of these rules, and in particular to the object of the Association, as expressed in Rule 2, the Committee shall be empowered to perform all the functions of management and administration.

The making of payments and receipt of monies shall be validly evidenced one by the signature of the Treasurer or his/her deputy (as appointed by the committee) and payments of monies exceeding the sum of 5 times the annual Full Membership fee shall require the signature of the Chairman and, Secretary or Treasurer.

No member shall enter into any financial commitment on the part of the Association with the agreement, express or implied of the Committee.

7. CONDUCT OF MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

- (a) The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held annually in any place judged by the Committee to be most convenient to the majority of members or the Association. The precise date, time and place to be at the Committee's discretion.
- (b) A Special General Meeting shall be called by the Chairman or Class Secretary upon receipt by the Class Secretary of a written request, signed by not fewer than fifteen full members of the Association.
- (c) At least four weeks' written notice shall be given to members of any General Meeting.
- (d) At any General Meeting or Committee 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 the casting vote. . The Secretariat shall be responsible for circulating all members, or in the case of a Committee Meeting, all Committee Members, with the result of any voting. in the event of a postal ballot, all returns shall be made to the Secretariat within two weeks of the date of posting the ballot paper.
- (e) At any General meeting of the Association, fifteen shall form a quorum.

8. SUBSCRIPTIONS AND REGISTRATION FEES

- (a) Subscriptions payable for all classes of membership of the Association shall be payable annually and shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting and shall become due on 1st September of the following year. A member joining the Association, for the first time, after 1st July, whose subscription has been paid for that year, shall not be liable to pay his subscriptions for the ensuing calendar year.
- (b) Unless otherwise determined by the Association in a General Meeting, the annual subscription for full and associate members shall be the same as the subscription set for the previous year.
- (c) Any member whose subscription has not been paid within three months of the date due may have his/her name removed from the list of members of the Association by the Committee. A member's name may be restored to the Association Register at the discretion of the Committee, on payment of the subscription due.

9. ACCOUNTS

- (a) The Committee shall cause true accounts to be kept giving particulars of:
 - (i) All monies, assets and liabilities of the Association.
 - (ii) All monies received and expended by the Association and the reasons for such receipts and expenditure.
 - (iii) All sales and purchases by the Association.
- (b) The Committee shall cause the annual financial statement to be prepared and presented at every Annual General meeting of the Association.
- (c) A copy of the annual financial statement, duly audited, prepared for presentation at a General Meeting shall, not less than fourteen days prior to such General meeting be made available on request to every member.

10. PROTECTION OF “ONE-DESIGN” OF THE CLASS

- (a) The association shall assist the Designer to maintain the one-design character of the class yacht and report to the Designer any matter which may appear to violate or threaten the spirit of the class measurement rules.
- (b) The Association is empowered to make recommendations concerning the Class Measurement Rules to the Designer who shall be the final authority on alterations to said rules.
- (c) No yacht shall be entered on the Association Register of Boats unless a certificate has been issued in respect of such yacht, in accordance with the Class Measurement Rules.
- (d) The Association may arrange for inspection of certificates of all Supernovas competing in National Championships, and shall arrange that entry forms for such Championships give notice that Valid Certificates may be inspected.

1st September 2001