

Irish Multihull Association

Constitution

Rewritten: 26th January 2001
Amended: 31st August 2001

1. Title of Association

The Association shall be called the Irish Multihull Association and may be referred to as the IMA.

2. Objectives of the Association

- (a) To promote interest in all sailing multihulls.
- (b) To encourage organized racing of multihulls throughout Ireland.
- (c) To organize a Sailing Calendar and hold National Championships each year.

3. Burgee

The Burgee shall be a red and yellow multihull logo on a white background.

4. Membership

The Association shall consist of:

- (a) Full Members.
- (b) Honorary Life Members, who shall be elected by the membership at an Annual General Meeting (AGM) or Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM).

5. Role of the Association

- (a) The IMA shall act as an overall body co-ordinating multihull racing in Ireland and will be responsible for:
 - (i) The Racing Calendar
 - (ii) Handicaps & Racing format
 - (iii) The Newsletter
 - (iv) Social events etc.
 - (v) Providing appropriate awards for classes with 6 or more entries at the National Championships.
- (b) Within the IMA, Multihull Classes that have a minimum of 6 multihulls may form their own Associations to look after their class interests.

All members of these Class Associations must be paid up members of the IMA.

The IMA will be the only Association to collect a membership fee and the IMA will fund the other Class Associations for items such as affiliation to the ISA.

6. Expulsion of a Member

If the conduct of any member or members has been, in the opinion of the Committee, injurious to the interest or character of the Association or is or has been such as to render them unfit to continue to be a member or members of the Association. They may be expelled from the Association under a resolution passed by the Committee. It shall be the duty of the Committee to convene such a meeting to hear the case. The verdict of the Committee must be unanimous.

7. Annual Subscription

- (a) The Annual Subscriptions shall be payable on the 1st of January
- (b) The Annual Subscriptions shall be IR£20.00 per Member. (This figure can only be changed by the membership at an AGM or EGM)

8. Accounts

The Treasurer shall submit to the AGM the accounts for the preceding year; the accuracy thereof shall be certified by an auditor. A Balance Sheet will be distributed to members prior to the AGM. The Treasurer shall make available to the members via the IMA Newsletter or the IMA Website, a list of all fully paid up members.

9. Constitution of Committee

- (a) The Committee shall consist of at least 6 members, which shall include the following:
 - (i) Chairman
 - (ii) Hon Secretary
 - (iii) Hon Treasurer
 - (iv) Training Officer

And should have, where possible:

- (v) The position of Regional Representatives shall always be filled by the vote of the members in the relevant region.
 - (a) North Dublin Area
 - (b) South Dublin Area
 - (c) North
 - (d) South
 - (e) West
- (b) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt additional members as it thinks fit. Only the elected members of the Committee will have the power to vote. Such a co-opted Committee Member is an advisory member, not a voting member of the Committee.
- (c) The Committee shall be elected annually, if necessary by ballot, at the AGM and shall hold office until the next AGM or until they resign from office.

- (d) Candidates for election as officers (Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Training Officer) shall be proposed and seconded by members at the AGM, and where there are more candidates than vacancies, election shall be by ballot. Where candidates receive an equal number of votes, there will be a second ballot and if the number of votes for each candidate is again equal, a lottery shall decide the election between such candidates.
- (e) All Officers and other members of the Committee shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election.
- (f) Regional Representatives shall be elected by paid up members in each region in the month prior to the AGM.

10. Powers of the Committee

- (a) The business and affairs of the Association shall be under the management of the Committee, which shall have the general power and authority necessary to discharge its task efficiently.
- (b) The Committee shall in addition have the specific powers required to act on and discharge its duties under the various rules of the Association including the powers to:
 - (i) Make sailing and other regulations not covered in this constitution.
 - (ii) Fill by co-option any vacancies that occur on the Committee, other than that of Regional Representatives.
 - (iii) Appoint from among members of the Association a person or persons to take charge of such duties as the Committee deems advisable and for such time as the Committee may determine, up to the next AGM.
- (c) Should any matters arise in connection with the management of the Association, which may not be covered by these rules, the matter shall be referred to the Committee, whose decision thereon shall be final. The Committee shall have power to deal with all urgent and important matters as they arise, subject to approval at a General Meeting.
- (d) At a Committee Meeting a quorum is one more than half the number of elected Committee members.
- (e) If more than two Committee Meetings are held per year, the Committee Members may appoint a proxy to vote on Committee decisions at subsequent meetings.

11. General and EGMs

- (a) The Committee shall decide the date, time and venue of the AGM. Due consideration shall be given to the wishes of the members in this regard.
- (b) The Committee must be advised at least seven days before an AGM of any proposal for any nominations for election to the new Committee, and any items for Any Other Business (AOB).
- (c) Members must be circulated with the Agenda for an any General Meeting at least 14 days before that meeting.

- (d) The Secretary shall at any time, by notice describing the object of such meeting, summon an EGM on a resolution of the Committee or on receipt of a requisition signed by at least 20% of members; such meeting shall be held within one month of receipt of requisition. At least fourteen days notice shall be circulated of meetings, the subject of this rule.
- (e) Only paid-up Full Members of the Association may vote at AGMs or EGMs.

12. Racing

- (a) The races will be sailed under the current ISAF “Racing Rules of Sailing”, the Prescriptions of the ISA and the appropriate Class Rules.
- (b) All IMA events shall be Category C in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20 (Advertising).
- (c) The SCHRS handicap systems, where appropriate, will be used by the IMA.
- (d) At least one member of the crew on a multihull must be a member of the Association to race at IMA events.
- (e) A Traveller’s Trophy Series will be included in the Sailing Calendar, with constituent events held where possible in the regions named in section 9 (a) (v). The Committee shall decide the events qualifying for this trophy before the season starts and there will be no discarded event scores in the Series.
- (f) Visitors from outside Ireland (North and South) may race at IMA events at the discretion of the Committee but will not be eligible to receive national titles and the associated perpetual trophies.

13. Trophies

All Perpetual Cups and Trophies must be returned to the Honorary Secretary before the same race the following year.

14. Rules

- (a) The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of these Rules and any of the Regulations made thereunder, and its decision shall be final and binding on the members, subject to a General Meeting.
- (b) No alteration of, or addition to, these Rules shall be made save at an AGM, or at an EGM expressly convened for that purpose. The votes of at least two-thirds of those present and eligible to vote shall be required to carry the resolution authorising the alteration or addition.

15. IMA National Championships

- (a) Where possible the venue for the National Championship shall be rotated around the four Provinces.
- (b) A Class with six or more entries shall normally race as a separate Class start.
- (c) Multihulls in any Class with fewer than six entries shall race as the Handicap Class
- (d) The minimum number of races that shall constitute a Championship shall be three.