

## **RS Classes National Group Constitution**

### **1) National Group**

The full title of the National Group shall be the RS Classes National Group.

### **2) Adopted Classes**

The Classes adopted by the RS Classes National Group are listed in schedule 1.

### **3) Objects**

The objects of the Group are:

- a) To provide services to the National & International Class Associations.
- b) To provide line management of the RS Admin Group.
- c) To ensure resources and financial spend are allocated appropriately across the RS Classes.
- d) To support good governance of the constitutions and class rules of the National Class Associations.
- e) To be final arbitrators in disputes within or between National Class Associations.
- f) To keep a National Class Association and boat ownership registers.

### **4) Terms and Definitions**

Throughout these rules the following defined terms will be used:

- a) The 'National Group' shall mean the RS Classes International Group.
- b) The 'National Class Association' shall mean the relevant National RS Class Association for the particular RS Class.
- c) The 'National Group' where formed shall mean the RS Classes Country Group.
- d) The 'Management Committee' shall mean the duly elected committee who oversee the general affairs of the group.
- e) The 'National Association Rules' shall mean the rules governing the conduct of the National Association.

- f) The 'International Association Rules' shall mean the rules governing the conduct of the International Class Association.
- g) The 'Association Register' shall mean the register of owners of RS Classes, with their Country, addresses, name and number of boat(s) to be kept as hereinafter provided.
- h) The 'RS Classes' shall mean the RS One-Design Classes adopted by the National Group and built in accordance with the designers' drawings and specifications and licensed by LDC as an RS One Design (see schedule 1).
- i) The 'Copyright Holder' shall mean the person or persons or company holding the copyright to the design of the adopted RS One Design Class.
- j) The 'Licensed Builder' shall mean the person or persons, or company licensed by the Copyright Holder to build the adopted RS Class.
- k) The 'Class Rules' shall mean the rules relating to measurement, construction and racing conditions of the class and governing the building of each RS Class and its rating as a recognised boat within the class for racing purposes.
- l) The 'Registered Number' shall mean the sail number allocated to the boat.
- m) 'RS Admin' shall mean the duly appointed Secretaries.
- n) 'Fleet' shall mean three or more registered RS Class boats of the same Class not under the organisation of an already registered RS Class fleet, normally located sufficiently near to each other to permit regular racing between them.
- o) 'Owner' and 'Joint Owner' shall mean any person or persons, registered as owner of an RS Class boat.
- p) The 'Country' shall mean the country of residence of the member.

## **5) Membership and Voting Rights**

- a) The members of the group shall be the National/International Class Association representatives.
- b) In any vote by the National/International Class Association, each member vote will be counted in proportion to that Class Association's Full membership number as a percentage of the total number of Full members of the member Class Associations in the previous calendar year.

## **6) Management**

- a) The Management Committee shall consist of representatives from the RS Classes, together with an overall Chair, a representative of the licensed builder and one from RS Admin; the Chairman, the Treasurer and other members shall be elected annually by the International Class Associations.
- b) The Management Committee shall have powers to co-opt any person to assist it, whether a full member of a National Class Association or not, but such persons shall have no vote on the Committee. No member of the Committee elected in accordance with the provision of this clause shall serve on the Committee as Elected Committee members for more than two years. However, any member of the Committee who has served for two years may continue to serve if specifically re-elected by the National Class Associations.
- c) RS Admin do not have a vote on the Management Committee.
- d) At least two weeks' notice of the date, place and agenda for any Committee Meeting must be given in writing by RS Admin to each Committee Member. Any business conducted by correspondence shall always be circulated through RS Admin and any Committee Member not answering a motion communicated to him/her in writing within three weeks of the date of sending shall be deemed to have agreed to such a motion.

## **7) Power of the Committee**

- a) Subject to the provision of these rules, and to the 'Objects' of the Group, as expressed in Rule 3, the Management 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 Chairman/Treasurer or their Deputies as appointed by the Management Committee.

## **8) Conduct of Meetings of the National Group**

- a) A Special General Meeting shall be called by the Chairman or RS Admin upon receipt by RS Admin of a written request, signed by not fewer than five chairmen of the National Class Associations. The meeting shall be at a place judged by the committee to be the most convenient to the majority of the National Class Association representatives. The precise date, time and place to be at the committee's discretion.
- b) At least six weeks written notice shall be given to members of any Special General Meeting.
- c) At any Special General Meeting or Committee Meeting decisions shall be limited to matters on the agenda and shall be carried by a majority vote of National Class Association representatives present. Voting shall be by a show of hands, unless a poll

is demanded by any National Class Association representative present. At any meeting the Chairman shall have a casting vote. RS Admin shall be responsible for circulating all representatives or in the case of Committee Meetings, all Committee Members, with the result of any voting. In the event of an electronic/postal ballot, all returns shall be made to RS Admin within two weeks of the date of posting the ballot paper.

d) At any Special General Meeting of the Group, five shall form a quorum.

## **9) Income and Expenditure**

a) The National Group shall not possess assets or incur liabilities of its own but may collect subscriptions, hold, administer and distribute funds to the National & International Class Associations through RS Admin.

## **10) Accounts**

a) The Management Committee shall cause true accounts to be kept for the National Class Associations in accordance with their requirements.

b) The Group is a non-profit making organisation. No profit or surplus will be distributed other than to the International & National Class Associations or to another non-profit making organisation on winding-up or dissolution of the Group.

## **11) Protection of 'One Design' of the Class**

a) The Copyright Holder and Licensed Builder have provided the original RS Class Rules, which shall at all times remain the property of the Copyright Holder and Licensed Builder. The National & International Class Associations have adopted the RS Class Measurement as provided by the Licensed Builder.

b) The National & International Class Association may make recommendations to the Copyright Holder / Licensed Builder for changes to be made to the RS Class Rules.

c) Changes to the RS Class Rules as recommended by the International Class Association cannot be introduced without approval of the Copyright Holder and the Licensed Builder.

d) RS Admin shall be informed in writing of any rule changes. RS Admin will inform the National Class Associations of any rule changes. Rule changes will become valid one month after posting unless otherwise prescribed.

## **12) Language**

The official language of the International Group is English.

## **SCHEDULE 1 - Adopted Classes**

Class	Designer	Copyright Holder	Licence Holder
RS100	Paul Handley	Paul Handley	LDC
RS200	Phil Morrison	Phil Morrison	LDC
RS300	Clive Everest	LDC	LDC
RS400	Phil Morrison	Phil Morrison	LDC
RS500	Phil Morrison	Phil Morrison	LDC
RS600	Clive Everest/Nick Peters	LDC	LDC
RS700	Nick Peters/Alex Southon	LDC	LDC
RS800	Phil Morrison	Phil Morrison	LDC
RS Vareo	Phil Morrison	Phil Morrison	LDC

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