



INTERNATIONAL HOBIE CLASS ASSOCIATION Inc.



As ratified by the IHCA Council on 16 December 2022

ARTICLE I. TITLE & GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES

- Section 1. Title: The name of this organization shall be the International Hobie Class Association Inc, hereinafter referred to as the IHCA. The IHCA contains Regional, National/Divisional organizations and Fleets, all of which are components of the association.
- Section 2. Geographic Boundaries/Jurisdiction: The IHCA has authority over all activities of the Hobie Class Associations throughout the World, and its powers shall be vested in and carried out by the IHCA Council.
- Section 3. Insignia: The emblem of the IHCA shall be the recognized Hobie symbols.
- A. The mark "HOBIE" and "HOBIE CAT" written in any form and the stylized "H" are registered trademarks.
 - B. The IHCA and its associations shall acquire no right, title or interest in the Hobie trademark in any form.
- Section 4. Headquarters: The location and official address of the IHCA headquarters shall be left to the discretion of the IHCA Executive Committee.
- Section 5. The official publication of the IHCA shall be the "IHCA News".
- A. All decisions and interpretations of the IHCA Council, Advisory Council and Rules Committee shall be published therein.
 - B. The IHCA Executive Committee shall have the right to approve the final copy of these decisions and interpretations.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE AND AIMS

- Section 1. Purpose: The purpose of the IHCA is to establish and promote the highest standards of Hobie Cat sailing/racing in its geographic boundaries in collaboration with National and International sailing authorities.
- Section 2. Aims: The aims of the IHCA include:
- A. To promote and develop Hobie Class racing in all countries under uniform rules.
 - B. To authorize, coordinate and promote World Championships and other International events.
 - C. To provide a medium of exchange of information among Hobie sailors throughout the world and to enhance the fun and enjoyment of these sailboats.
 - D. To encourage and foster the enjoyment of the sporting, competitive and recreational aspects of sailing.
 - E. To keep each boat as equal, simple, and cost free as possible by rigidly maintaining, without deviation, the one-design features of the Hobie for class racing.
 - F. To encourage the use of only racing tactics and sailing skill to increase boat speed.

- G. To actively cooperate with the World Sailing (hereinafter referred to as the WS) and National sailing authorities in all countries where Hobie Cats are sailed.

ARTICLE III. POLICIES & DEFINITIONS

- Section 1. Policies: The policies of the IHCA include:
- A. To maintain Hobie Cat sailboats as one-design sailboats.
 - B. To be affiliated with the WS as bound by the WS yearbook and proceedings book.
 - C. To host all Hobie events according to the racing rules of the WS and the class rules of the IHCA. using procedures as defined in applicable IHCA policy and procedure documents.
 - D. English as the official language of the IHCA bylaws and all official communications.
 - E. All references within the bylaws to the male gender also equally refer to the female gender.
 - F. The IHCA Council is solely responsible to define, determine and modify IHCA policies.
- Section 2. Definitions: These words and their definitions shall represent the interpretations to be utilized throughout this document:
- A. Calendar Year — The calendar year shall be defined as January 1 through December 31.
 - B. Deadline Postmark — The deadline postmark or fax or other electronic method date shall be 11:59 PM of the specified deadline date.
 - C. In Good Standing — In good standing shall be membership status that represents completion of the membership application and full payment of membership dues within the current calendar year.
 - D. Majority — A majority shall consist of the greater number of member votes received by the specified deadline, on a specific issue.
 - E. Quorum — A quorum is the minimum number of members of the organization's International Council necessary to transact business.
 - i. IHCA Council Meeting Quorum: The IHCA Council meeting quorum shall consist of fifty-one percent (51%) of the eligible board members as defined in Article VI., Section 1.
 - ii. IHCA Council Vote by Mailed Ballot: The quorum for a council vote utilizing a written mailed or dated fax or other electronic ballot, shall be fifty-one percent (51%) of the eligible voting members'(as defined in Article VI., Section 1.) completed ballot responses received by the specified deadline.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. Qualifications: Membership shall be open to all persons interested in the sport of Hobie Cat sailing.
- Section 2. Privileges: A member in good standing, who has joined through constituent Regional or National Associations, shall have membership privileges as follows:
- A. Entitled to participate in all sailing events sanctioned by the IHCA as well as skipper his/her boat in such events without additional membership fees.
 - B. Introduce motions, vote, and hold office and serve on committees.
- Section 3. Obligations: Membership implies that the applicant undertakes and agrees to be bound by the Bylaws of the IHCA upon being accepted to membership.

Section 4. Classification: There shall be four classifications of membership: Individual, Honorary, Honorary Life, and Corporate.

A. Individual: Membership shall be through the respective Regional or National Association as provided for and subject to the provisions of the regions and nations of these bylaws. The definitions of junior and youth members follow the criteria outlined in the class rules.

Individual membership is defined in the following categories:

i. Category A – Active members

Membership in Category A shall be open to all. Hobie owners (whole or partly), or members actively racing as skipper/helm/crew shall always be admitted in this category.

(IHCA, regional and national/fleet membership fees apply).

ii. Category B – Non racing members/supporters

a. International supporters:

Everyone interested in supporting the Hobie Class and the international “Hobie Way of Life” and who cannot be referred to category A can be admitted in this category.

(IHCA, regional and national/fleet membership fees apply).

b. Local supporters:

Everyone interested in supporting the local “Hobie Way of Life” and who cannot be referred to category A can be admitted in this category. Membership privileges in this category are limited to the local fleet and/or national association as per their bylaws. Local supporters cannot race in any Hobie sanctioned event.

(IHCA and regional membership fees do not apply).

iii Category Gold – members through the IHCA Gold Membership Program

Everyone interested in supporting the Hobie Class and the international “Hobie Way of Life” through the IHCA Gold Membership Program. An IHCA GOLD member has full membership privileges at IHCA level, in home region and in home nation.

B. Honorary: The IHCA Council may grant Honorary Membership to any individual who it deems has rendered outstanding service to the IHCA and for any period at its discretion (See Appendix C. Honorary and Honorary Life Members)

C. Honorary Life: The IHCA Council may grant Honorary Life Membership to any individual in recognition of outstanding services rendered to the IHCA. Recommendations for Honorary Life Membership may be made by any Regional/National Executive Committee, the Advisory Council, or the IHCA Council. Recommendations shall be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the IHCA Council (See Appendix C. Honorary and Honorary Life Members).

D. Corporate: Corporate membership shall be open to any company, partnership or closed corporation, or sporting body or group where authorized by the IHCA Council. The IHCA Council may set any subscription or levy, or may impose any terms, conditions, qualifications or grant specific privileges or benefits to each Corporate Member as it shall deem appropriate.

Section 5. Dues: In order to retain membership, all categories must pay annual dues as required by the association:

A. The membership year shall be the calendar year.

B. Annual membership dues of the IHCA shall be the amount recommended by the IHCA Executive Committee and approved by a quorum vote of the IHCA Council.

C. Individual dues shall be in the amount determined by and payable within the time prescribed by the Bylaws of each Region, or Nation, as approved by the

IHCA Council, and shall include amounts required for IHCA Council, Regional, and National purposes as determined by each authority.

- D. Individual dues shall be collected by the Regional or National Treasurer. In the absence of a treasurer, the IHCA Council may direct the Region or Nation Executive Director to collect dues under such terms and conditions as to reporting and accounting as may be required.
- E. Each Regional or National Association shall pay annual IHCA dues to the IHCA payable by the first day of the calendar year.
- F. Each Licensed Hobie Cat manufacturer shall pay annual dues to the IHCA as determined by the Advisory Council and approved by the IHCA Council and shall be due and payable to the IHCA by terms agreed upon.
- K. Each country hosting a Hobie World Championship or any other IHCA authorized international event shall pay a percentage of the total entry fees and profits of the event to the International Hobie Class Association as shall be set in the event contract recommended by the IHCA Executive Committee and approved by the IHCA Council. These entry fee levies shall become due and payable on the final day of the respective event. The percentage of profits shall become payable within sixty (60) days.

- Section 6. Suspension/Termination: The IHCA Executive Committee shall have the power to recommend suspension/termination of membership for:
- A. Failure to pay annual dues as required by the IHCA, within sixty days (60) after the membership expiration date or the assessment due date. Notice of arrears shall be given by registered mail allowing thirty (30) days to respond with remedial action.
 - B. Illegal or unprofessional conduct of such nature that it conflicts with the IHCA's purpose and aims. Individual, Region, Nation or Corporate membership may not be terminated on this ground until the individual(s) have been notified in writing by registered mail of the charges and has had an opportunity for a hearing before the IHCA Council. A quorum vote by the IHCA Council shall be necessary for termination.

ARTICLE V. IHCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Section 1. Composition: The elected IHCA Executive Committee shall consist of a President and three (3) Vice Presidents as follows:
- A. One (1) appointed by the North American Region and South American Region;
 - B. One (1) appointed by the European Region and International (Mid East) Region;
 - C. One (1) appointed by the Region Chairmen of the Africa Region, North Pacific Region and South Pacific Region.
- Section 2. Eligibility: Individual members of the IHCA in good standing status shall be eligible to hold any one of the IHCA Executive Committee positions. Candidates should have significant experience in the Hobie Class organization.
- Section 3. Nomination/Election Procedures:
- A. Candidates for President shall be nominated not less than forty-five (45) days prior to a General Meeting.
 - B. The election of President shall take place on secret ballots, with a quorum of the IHCA Council voting.
 - i. The three (3) Vice-Presidents shall be appointed by their respective Regions.
- Section 4. Terms of Office:

- A. The term of the President shall be based on elections that shall be held at each IHCA Council General Meeting (Article VI, Section 2 A. refers) A President may serve no more than four (4) consecutive terms. This does not preclude a Past President from standing again.
- B. The term of office shall begin immediately following the elections.

Section 5. Vacancies:

- A. Vacancy of the office of President shall be filled for the duration of the unexpired term by vote of the IHCA Council.
- B. Vacancy of a Vice-President shall be filled for the duration of the unexpired term by an appointee of the respective Region.

Section 6. Executives and Duties of the Executives: Executives shall perform those duties prescribed by law, the Articles of Incorporation, these Bylaws and the IHCA Council.

- A. President: The President shall:
 - i. Be responsible for coordinating the affairs of the IHCA.
 - ii. Act as spokesperson for the policies of the IHCA.
 - iii. Preside at all IHCA Executive Committee and IHCA Council Meetings.
 - iv. Represent the IHCA at the WS Annual General Meeting (see Section 7 of this Article)
 - v. Assume such additional responsibilities as requested by the IHCA Council.
 - vi. Appoint a Vice-President(s) to assume responsibility in his/her absence.
- B. Vice-President(s): The Vice-Presidents shall assume responsibilities as requested by the IHCA Council, IHCA Executive Committee or President.
- C. Executive Director: The Executive Director shall:
 - vii. Maintain the general administration of day to day activities of the IHCA.
 - viii. Serve as a liaison between the membership, the IHCA Executive Committee, the IHCA Council and the Rules Committee.
 - ix. Coordinate communication, marketing, promotion and collection of membership dues, and maintain the official IHCA membership database.
 - x. Represent the IHCA at the WS Annual General Meeting
 - xi. Promote and maintain the Fleet charter program.
 - xii. Distribute communications and IHCA reports to Regional, National, and Corporate members.
 - xiii. Management of all IHCA merchandise.
 - xiv. Maintenance of photograph and video library.
 - xv. Receive all monies of the IHCA and disburse them under the direction of the IHCA Council; be responsible for accurate and complete recording of all organization receipts and disbursements; present a projected annual budget to the members of the IHCA Council; prepare and distribute quarterly financial reports to the members of the IHCA Council.
 - xvi. Be responsible for preparation and distribution of notices and agendas of official Executive Committee, Advisory Council, Rules Committee, and IHCA Council meetings; collection and distribution of minutes.
 - xvii. Serve as manager of the World Championship bid process; assist Regions in preparation of World bids using the minimum requirements criteria as a guide.
 - xviii. Serve as liaison with the IHCA Executive Committee and World Championship Event Committees; supervision of overall event budgets; and compliance with IHCA event requirements.
 - xix. Maintain Hobie Cat sailboat specification information.
 - xx. xiii Maintain IHCA web site
- D. Race officers, advertising, media, or any other IHCA paid personnel shall be prior approved by the IHCA Executive Committee and hired, supervised or terminated by the Executive Director under the overall direction of the IHCA Executive Committee.

- E. The President and Executive Director shall be empowered to make purchases and contracts on behalf of the IHCA. Either executive may approve expenditures under US \$1000.00. Both shall approve all expenditures over US \$1000.00.
- F. The selection of International Juries and PRO for World Championships: An IHCA Vice President will be named as the "IHCA Event Chairman" / "IHCA Event Coordinator" at the time a bid is submitted for a World championship. If this is not possible, a person appointed by the Executive Committee will serve in this position. This individual representing the IHCA shall be responsible for:
 - i. Working with the Presenting Sponsor.
 - ii. In the fulfillment of the World Championship Host Requirements.
 - iii. Be the primary liaison between the Presenting Sponsor and the IHCA Executive Committee.
 - iv. Be responsible for the nomination/selection of the IHCA appointed International Jury and PRO in conjunction with the IHCA Executive Committee and Organizing Authority.

Section 7. IHCA delegation to the WS Annual General Meeting shall consist of the Executive Director and the IHCA President. If the budget does not provide funding of two delegates, the Executive Director shall attend and represent the IHCA.

Section 8. In the event of a tied vote of the Executive Committee, the motion shall be forwarded to the IHCA Council who shall make the final decision. If the IHCA Council remain tied the IHCA President shall not have the casting vote, the motion shall be considered defeated

ARTICLE VI. IHCA COUNCIL

Section 1. Composition:

- A. The IHCA Council shall be composed of:
 - xxi. President;
 - xxii. Executive Director (nonvoting);
 - xxiii. Vice-President appointed from the European Region and International (Mid East) Region;
 - xxiv. Vice-President appointed from the North American Region and South American Region;
 - xxv. Vice-President appointed from the Africa Region, North Pacific Region and South Pacific Region;
 - xxvi. IHCA Regional Representative;
 - xxvii. NAHCA Regional Representative;
 - xxviii. Africa Regional Representative;
 - xxix. North Pacific Regional Representative;
 - xxx. South American Regional Representative;
 - xxxi. South Pacific Regional Representative;
 - xxxii. An appointee from Starting Line Sailing
 - xxxiii. A member of the Alter family;
 - xxxiv. Immediate past President (no proxy).
 - xxxv. IHCA Treasurer (non-voting, no proxy)

Section 2. Meeting Format:

- A. Meeting to be conducted under Roberts Rule of Order. IHCA Council General Meeting shall be held each year, coinciding when possible with a World Championship, as shall be determined by the IHCA Council. There shall be no more than a fifteen (15) month period between such meetings.
- B. The IHCA Council shall be authorized in demanding circumstances to hold the General Meeting by mail, telephone, fax or other electronic method provided the other requirements of the Bylaws are met.
- C. Items for the meeting agenda may be proposed in writing by a Region or Nation Association, the Advisory Council, The Rules Committee, or any member of the

IHCA Council. Items must be received by the Executive Director at least forty-five (45) days before the IHCA Council General Meeting.

- D. Notice of an IHCA Council General Meeting must be posted, mailed or transmitted via fax or other electronic method to all members of the Advisory Council, the Rules Committee, and IHCA Council members sixty (60) days prior to the scheduled meeting.

Section 3. Duties:

- A. Establish major administrative policies governing the IHCA and provide for the transaction of general business in the interim between meetings.
- B. Approve the expenditure, investment and surveillance of IHCA funds, for the bonding of appropriate executives, for adoption and fixation of dues, for the adoption and administration of a budget and for a periodic annual review statement by a Certified Public Accountant.
- C. Provide for the operation and maintenance of an IHCA headquarters.
- D. Approve the Executive Director as nominated by the IHCA Executive Committee including compensation.
- E. Employ legal and other counsel as deemed necessary, define duties and fix compensation.
Create, define duties, and dissolve standing and ad hoc committees in accordance with these Bylaws.
- G. Approve all World Championship event bids recommended by the IHCA Executive Committee.
- H. Approve all rule changes recommended by the Rules Committee.
- I. Determine Region and Fleet boundaries according to membership distribution and/or geography.
- J. Appoint Honorary members.
- K. Treasurer The Treasurer shall: Provide financial statements at the IHCA AGM. Oversee the financial situation of the IHCA funds. Offer professional advice on the financial situation of the IHCA
- L. Assume duties as may be provided elsewhere in these Bylaws.

Section 4. Voting Procedure:

- A. Each member of the IHCA Council who is in good standing except the immediate Past President shall have the right to give his/her proxy vote to a person of his/her choice; however, this person must be a member of the IHCA in good standing from the same constituent association.
- B. A proxy vote will be accepted only with a signed original letter or email to the President and the Executive Director from the IHCA Council member that the individual is representing. The letter must be provided to the President prior to or during the IHCA Council meeting roll call.
- C. In the event of a tie vote on any motion, the person presiding may exercise a second and deciding vote.
- D. Any member except the immediate Past President that can not attend a scheduled IHCA Council meeting may vote on certain issues he deems important in signed letter form via mail, facsimile, or messenger. His/her thoughts shall be read and registered as a vote.

Section 5. Term of Office:

The term of office of each member of the IHCA Council shall be determined by the member's affiliate Regional or National Association, or Manufacturer.

ARTICLE VII.
CONSTITUENT ASSOCIATIONS

- Section 1. Composition: The IHCA shall be composed of Regional associations.
- A. The IHCA Council may, as and when it deems it convenient for the administration of the affairs of the IHCA within a substantial geographic area where several National or Divisional Associations are or may be established, constitute such geographic area as a Region. The council may subdivide a Region into one or more Regions or may amalgamate two or more Regions as may be required for effective administration (See Appendix A. Map of Regions.)
 - B. The IHCA Council, on the recommendations of representatives from the Region, shall initially appoint a Regional Executive Committee comprised of a Regional President/Chairman, Vice-President/Chairman, and Secretary/Treasurer to hold office until their successors are established.
 - C. The process to establish Regional Executive Committee officers shall be determined by each individual region and written into the Region Association's Bylaws.
 - D. The Regional Executive Committee shall develop Bylaws, subject to approval of the IHCA Council and the provisions of these Bylaws, for any purpose necessary to carry out the function and responsibilities of such Region, and copies of all such Bylaws as are from time to time passed by any Regional Executive Committee shall be filed with the Executive Director of the IHCA Council. The Regional Bylaws shall conform to the requirements of the WS.
 - E. The Regional Executive Committee, including each Nation/Division Representative from within the Region, shall meet not less frequently than once a year. Meeting format and voting procedures shall be determined by each Region within the associations written Bylaws.
 - F. Each region shall submit minutes of any such meeting to the Executive Director of the IHCA within three weeks (3) of the conclusion of the meeting. Each Region must submit current records of its membership along with its IHCA membership dues by the first day of each calendar year.
 - G. The Regional elected representative to the IHCA Council shall be the Regional President/Chairman. In the event that a Regional President/Chairman shall be unable to attend any meeting of the IHCA Council, the proxy vote will be given to the Regional Vice-President/Chairman of the Region or any other member of the Regional Executive Committee nominated for that purpose.
 - H. The Regional Executive Committee shall have those powers, vested in the IHCA Council by these Bylaws (other than the power to amend the Rules or these IHCA Bylaws) as specifically delegated to the Regional Bylaws, including the power to appoint additional officers for such term as it may from time to time determine.
 - I. The Regional President/Chairman shall be responsible for the management of the business of the Region, subject to and in accordance with the approval of the Regional Executive Committee including:
 - i. The supervision of all activities relating to Regional championships, including site selection and allocation of pre-qualified positions and insure standardized racing (IHCA Policy/Procedure Manual).
 - ii. The coordination of the National and Divisional activities and events.
 - iii. Serve as a liaison with the Executive Director of the IHCA.
 - iv. Issuance of Fleet charters obtained by the Executive Director (refer to Appendix B, Fleet Charter Application).
 - v. Maintenance of all membership records and information, unless such duties are delegated.
 - vi. Submission of a copy of all membership records to the Executive Director of the IHCA on a yearly basis.
 - J. The Regional Executive Committee shall make available its financial records upon request of the IHCA Council.

Section 2. Nations & Divisions:

- A. The Regional Executive Committee, on the recommendation of its members where applicable, shall by Bylaw, establish National or Divisional Associations in distinctive areas deemed appropriate and relevant, having regard to all considerations including: geography, language, distance, and population, for the development of the Hobie Class and the fulfillment of the purpose and aims of the IHCA.
- B. The Regional Executive Committee upon establishing a new Divisional or National Association, shall initially appoint Association Officers, comprised of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer to hold office until their successors are elected.
- C. The National or Divisional Association shall consist of the foregoing officers, who will be elected from among the fleet representatives to the division or nation. EACH FLEET SHALL HAVE ONE VOTE. The Association may appoint additional officers to hold office for such term as it may determine necessary.
- D. Each National or Divisional Association shall be administered in accordance with and subject to the provisions of Bylaws of the Nation or Division, approved by the Regional Executive Committee, or if the Nation or Division has no Bylaws, the National/Division Association Bylaw of the IHCA Council.
- E. The officers of each National or Divisional Association shall be elected annually by the members of the Association within the Nation or Division in accordance with the provisions of the National or Divisional Bylaws, or in the absence thereof, the Region Association Bylaws.
- F. The National or Divisional Association Committee, comprised of a representative from each Fleet, shall meet not less frequently than once per year. The time and location of that meeting shall be determined by the Association with no less than one (1) month's notice. All Nations or Divisions shall submit minutes of their annual meetings within thirty (30) days of such meeting and shall submit current records of the membership as outlined by the Executive Director of the IHCA. This information must be sent to their respective Regions as well as to the IHCA offices directly.
- G. The boundaries of a National or Divisional Association may be varied by the Regional Executive Committee on the application of any Nation or Division concerned, and one or more Associations may be amalgamated or may be subdivided into one or more National or Divisional Associations with the approval of the National or Divisional Associations concerned.
- H. A National or Divisional Association, with the approval of the IHCA Rules Committee, may appoint a Nation or Division Measurer to assist the IHCA Rules Committee in the conduct and enforcement of the Rules; and nothing precludes a National or Divisional Measurer from acting as National or Division Measurer for more than one Nation or Division. A National or Divisional Measurer shall have the authority to rule on all questions and challenges relating to the Rules and interpretations of the IHCA Rules Committee.
- I. If any National or Divisional Association is within the jurisdiction of a National authority, such Association shall, in addition to any other requirements of these Bylaws, be subject to such rules, regulations and directions of such National Authority.
- J. The governing body of each National or Divisional Association shall make available its financial records upon request of their Regional Executive Committee.

Section 3. Fleets:

- A. A Fleet may be granted a charter upon application on the standard form submitted (See attached Appendix B. Fleet Charter Application). Fleet numbers shall be issued only by the Executive Director of the IHCA following the approval of the Regional Executive Committee. The application must be sent to the Regional Executive Committee by five or more Hobie Cat owners located within

any area or club deemed appropriate, having regard to the locality where regular activity is easily accessible to members of the fleets.

- B. Notwithstanding paragraph (a), a special Fleet may be chartered in any locality for the purpose of accommodating specific members of the armed forces, an educational institution, a junior program or any other nonprofit organization.
- C. A Fleet Commodore, Vice-Commodore, Secretary, Treasurer, and such other officers the Fleet deems necessary, shall be elected annually from among the members of the Fleet, in such manner as prescribed by the Fleet, unless otherwise provided by the Bylaws, and shall be responsible to the Division Association for the organization of the Fleet and the dues compliance by members of the Fleet with the provisions of the Bylaws of the IHCA.
- D. The governing body of each fleet shall make available its financial records upon request of their divisional governing body and its individual members.
- E. All Fleets within a designated Region shall be a part of, and must report to the Region.
- F. A Fleet shall be considered part of a designated Region for administrative purposes.
- G. All Fleets shall report annually on the status of their activities, members and elected officers. A copy of these records must be sent to their respective Divisions as well as to the IHCA offices directly.

ARTICLE VIII. STANDING COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS

Section 1. Rules Committee:

- A. The IHCA Rules Committee shall determine class rule changes, interim rulings and interpretations as deemed necessary. Process details will appear in the class rules.
 - B. The members of the Rules Committee shall consist of:
 - i. Two (2) members elected by the IHCA Council
 - ii. One (1) member appointed by Starting Line Sailing
 - iii. Member of the Alter Family
- The Rules Committee Chairman shall be elected by its members.
- C. The Rules Committee shall meet as deemed necessary in order to handle cases, submitted change proposals and requests. The committee shall be authorized to hold meetings by mail, telephone or other electronic method.
 - D. All recommendations for rule changes shall following WS approval (*for the WS international classes only*) be submitted to the IHCA Council.
 - E. The Rules Committee shall publish and distribute to the Regional Associations a rule book setting out the Hobie Class Rules which shall be updated in due turn following International Council approval of class rule changes. .

Section 2. Standing Committees:

The IHCA Executive Committee may establish standing committees representing special interest groups as needed. These may include Youth Sailing, Women's Hobie Class Racing (WHCRA) and other similar groups

ARTICLE IX. APPEALS

Section 1. General:

- A. Any dispute arising in relation to a Fleet's, Division's, Area's or Region's eligibility to race, the interpretation of these Bylaws, or similar matter may be made to the IHCA Council (via the Executive Director) whose decision shall be final and binding subject to WS approval.
- B. Any dispute as to the interpretation of IHCA Rules or protests within the jurisdiction of the Class Rules shall be directed to the IHCA Rules Committee.

**ARTICLE X.
SUSPENSION AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE**

Section 1. General:

- A. Any member of the IHCA Executive Committee, IHCA Council, Advisory Council or Rules Committee may be suspended for gross violation of the rules and Bylaws, for committing an unlawful act in relation to the Association, or for unsportsmanlike conduct or gross misbehavior contrary to the interests of the Association.
- B. Any suspension carried under these provisions shall be on terms determined by the IHCA Council and shall be communicated to the members of the individual's National Sailing Authority and Regional Executive Committee.
- C. A Regional Committee member or officer may be removed from office by the IHCA Council for a willful and unjustifiable act detrimental to the Association or its members.

**ARTICLE XI.
AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. General:

- A. These Bylaws may be amended if passed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the IHCA Council at a special or General Meeting with the approval of the Advisory Council.
- B. Proposed amendments to the Bylaws shall be submitted to the IHCA Council for consideration by the following:
 - i. IHCA Council member(s)
 - ii. The Executive Director, where notice of motion has been received from at least two (2) Regional Associations each having been signed by a minimum of twenty (20) members in good standing from that region. Proposed amendments to the Bylaws must be received by the IHCA Council for consideration no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the General Meeting. The Executive Director shall distribute all proposed amendments to the IHCA Council members no later than three (3) business days following the closing date.

- Appendix A** Map of IHCA Regions
- Appendix B** Fleet Charter Application
- Appendix C** Honorary and Honorary Life Memberships



INTERNATIONAL HOBIE CLASS ASSOCIATION Inc.



MAP OF IHCA REGIONS

Established IHCA Regions and geographical boundaries of the IHCA Regions have been defined based on the proximity of organized Hobie Cat activities and participation with Hobie National or Divisional Associations considering travel distances, activity levels and access to sailing venues.

AFRICA REGION – Includes the majority of the continent of Africa and adjacent islands (Country Associations)

EUROPEAN REGION (EHCA) – The continent of Europe and selected bordering countries (Country Associations)

INTERNATIONAL REGION (Mid East) – Middle Eastern countries, Egypt (Country Associations)

NORTH AMERICAN REGION (HCANA) – The continent of North America and Islands north of the Panama Canal (Division Associations)

NORTH PACIFIC REGION – Asian countries and Pacific islands north of the equator (Country Associations)

SOUTH AMERICAN REGION – The continent of South America and adjacent islands south of the Panama Canal (Country Associations)

SOUTH PACIFIC REGION – Includes the continent of Australia and Pacific islands south of the Equator (Country Associations)





INTERNATIONAL HOBIE CLASS ASSOCIATION Inc.



APPLICATION FOR GRANTING A FLEET CHARTER

Name of Organization applying to appear on Charter:

Mailing Address for Official Correspondence:

Contact Information

E-mail: _____

Cell-/mobile-phone/telephone: _____

Number of Hobie Cat owners in proposed fleet: _____
(Attach list with names and addresses of all owners)

List all Officers of Organization

Person making the application: _____

Responsibility and Title: _____

Date & signature: _____

Additional Officers:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

(Attach list of more officers, if needed.)

Regional Authorization:

Signed _____
Regional Executive / Date

Approved Date: _____

IHCA

Fleet number assigned: _____ Applicant Advised: _____

Note: Forward applications to IHCA Executive Director david.brookes@hobieclass.com



INTERNATIONAL HOBIE CLASS ASSOCIATION Inc.



HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

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