

**INVERGORDON BOATING CLUB**  
**Constitution of the Club**  
(Revised 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019)

**TITLE**

The Club shall be called “The Invergordon Boating Club”

**BURGEE**

The Burgee of the Club shall be as presently registered with the RYA

**OBJECT**

The objective of the Club shall be to encourage sailing, boating and other forms of water sports.

**1. EQUALITY POLICY**

The Invergordon Boating Club is committed to the principle of equality of opportunity and aims to ensure that all present and potential participants, members, instructors, coaches, competitors officials and volunteers are treated fairly and on an equal basis, irrespective of sex, age, disability, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity., marriage and civil partnership gender reassignment or social status,

**2. MEMBERSHIP**

There shall be five grades of Membership, viz:-

1. Full Member
2. Family Member
3. Junior Member
4. Associate Member
5. Honorary Member
6. Temporary Member

**3. DEFINITIONS**

1. A Full Member is one who has been duly elected and who has paid the current annual subscription. A Full Member is entitled to vote, and to participate in Club competitive events
2. A Family Member is a member of the immediate family of a Full Member, spouse or child under the age of 14 on 1 April. A special subscription rate is levied for Family Membership, and a Full Member, having paid to the club to the additional subscription, is entitled to have one member of the family present to vote at meetings in addition to the Full Member’s vote.
3. A Junior Member is one who has been duly elected and paid the current year’s subscription. Parental consent must be given in writing before Junior Members will be accepted. Junior Members must be under the age of 18 on 1 April. A Junior Member is entitled to one vote at Meetings.
4. An Associate Member is one who has been duly elected and paid the current year’s subscription (which may be different from a Full Member’s subscription). An Associate Member has no voting rights, and is elected on an annual basis for one year’s duration.
5. An Honorary Member is one who has been duly elected by the Members at a Meeting in recognition of services to the Club, and is entitled to vote at Meetings.
6. All non-members participating in Club events will be required to sign on as a Temporary Member for the duration of the event. It is expected that, should such a Temporary Member participate in more than two Club events they should apply for membership in one of the categories above.

Persons wishing to join the club shall apply direct to the Treasurer using the application form available on the club website, [www.invergordonboatingclub.org.uk](http://www.invergordonboatingclub.org.uk). The application will then be forwarded to the Committee for approval. If an application is not approved by the Committee the applicant is to be informed of the decision and the grounds for non-approval. If the applicant is dissatisfied with the decision they may request, in writing, a reconsideration of the application, stating their case refuting the Committee decision. The Committee will then reconsider and give a final decision.

Every Member, on election, undertakes to comply with these Rules, and any refusal to do so, or any conduct, which, in the opinion of the Committee, is unworthy of the Club, will render the Member liable to expulsion by the Committee, providing that before such expulsion the Committee shall call upon such Member for an explanation of his conduct, and an opportunity is given to the Member to defend his actions, or to resign his membership. The vote for expulsion will be by ballot, and will only be carried if two thirds of the members of the committee present vote in favour of expulsion, which will then take effect from the date of notification to the offending Member. The decisions of the Committee on expulsion or Membership are to be ratified at the following General Meeting.

#### 4. STORAGE OF BOATS AND EQUIPMENT

Authority for members to store boats and other associated equipment on club premises shall be at the discretion of the Officers of the Club. Such authority may be withdrawn by the Officers on 28 days written notice to the member concerned. Upon the expiry of the said period of notice, the item or items concerned, if they have not in the meantime been removed from Club premises, shall become the absolute property of the Club who shall be free to dispose of them as it seems fit. Notice in respect of this provision will be deemed to have been served upon the member concerned if posted by First Class mail to the last address notified by the member to the Club. In this Clause the word "member" also denotes former member.

#### 5. SUBSCRIPTIONS

The annual subscriptions for the varying grades of Membership will be fixed at the Annual General Meeting. The subscription year shall run from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>. The income of the club shall be used solely for furthering the objects of the club and for no other purposes. Any Member whose subscription has not been paid within 30 days of the 1st January shall be denied the privileges of the Club until such subscription has been paid.

#### 6. MANAGEMENT

The affairs of the Club shall be managed by the Officers of the Club, and by a Committee. The Officers shall be: The Commodore, The Vice Commodore, The Rear Commodore and The Secretary. The Committee shall consist of the Officers and at least four other elected Members of the Club, one of whom shall be appointed Treasurer.

The Officers shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. Officers may offer themselves for re-election, except that no member shall hold the Office of Commodore for more than three years in succession, after which he must stand down for at least one year.

The other Members of the Committee shall also be elected at the AGM, and they may offer themselves for re-election. If a vacancy shall occur during the year the Committee shall co-opt another Member.

#### 7. MEETINGS

An Annual General Meeting will be held at some place in Invergordon during the month of October each year. The date of the Spring Meeting will be set at the AGM. A General Meeting may be called at the discretion of the Committee, or written application to the Committee signed by ten full members.

At least 30 days notice shall be given for all Meetings.

## 8. QUORUM

At General Meetings, 10 members shall form a quorum, at Committee Meetings, four shall form a quorum.

The Committee shall manage the affairs of the Club only towards the Objects of the Club, in accordance with the Rules.

The Committee shall, if necessary, pronounce upon any matters on which the Rules are silent, and shall make such Rules, Bye-laws and Regulations as they think fit.

## 9. DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of the club any remaining assets remaining after settlement and liabilities shall not be paid or distributed among members but shall be given or transferred to a recognised charitable organisation(s) having similar objectives to those of the club.

## 10. TREASURER

The Club shall appoint a Treasurer who shall keep a cash book and Bank account in the Club's name, containing a full account of all monies received and disbursed on the Club's behalf, and upon the written request of a Full Member, these shall be displayed at the next meeting. The Bank account and any other accounts operated on behalf of the Club shall be operated on the signature of the Treasurer and one other Officer.

## 11. AUDIT

At the AGM the Club shall appoint an Honorary Auditor to audit the books of the club as presented by the Treasurer. The Books shall be closed 30 days prior to the AGM and the audited accounts made available for presentation at the AGM.

## 12. SECRETARY

The Club shall appoint a Secretary who shall keep a Minute Book of the proceedings of the Club and shall maintain records of the locations of the trophies owned by the Club, or held in Trust for the Club, and of any property owned by the Club.

## 13. PRECEDENCE

At all Meetings of the Club, the Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore or Secretary shall preside. If no Officers are present the meeting shall elect a Chairman. Voting shall be by show of hands, in the event of a tie, the Chairman shall have the casting vote.

## 14. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION

Notice of any alteration to the Constitution intended to be proposed by a Member shall be given to the Committee in writing in excess of 35 days before the AGM, if the same is to be proposed at the AGM, or at least 35 days before any other Special or General Meeting at which these are proposed to be brought forward. Full details of the Proposals will be displayed on the Club Notice Board.

All such proposals altering or adding to the Constitution, and any such amendment to those proposals shall be put to the vote at the Meeting, and provided that a majority of two thirds of those present with voting rights vote for these proposals or amendments, these proposals or amendments will be carried.

## 15, RACES

The Club will organise events under the Rules of the appropriate Authorities: RYA, ISAF, etc. Such Races or Events being managed by a Sailing Committee, which shall consist of the Officers and at least three other Members of the Club.

A Sailing Secretary shall be elected from within the Sailing Committee at the AGM, in addition, other Members may be co-opted for service on the Sailing Committee during the season. All disputes will be dealt with by the Sailing Committee under the Rules of the appropriate Authority.

The Trophies of the Club, which are owned by the Club, or held in Trust for the Club, will be presented at the discretion of the Club Committee to the winners of the various events and series of events.

The Trophies will be held for a period of about one year, and will be returned to the Secretary on request.

Revised at EGM 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019