



## INTERNATIONAL IRC OWNERS' ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

### 1. Name

The name of the Association is the International IRC Owners' Association.

### 2. Members

- 2.1 The members of the Association are the owners of all boats holding a current IRC Rating Certificate.
- 2.2 IRC Congress may admit organisations as Associate Members. Associate Members may attend and speak at IRC Congress meetings, make submissions to IRC Congress, and, with agreement from the IRC Rating Authority, may make prescriptions to the IRC rules. Associate Members shall not have voting rights at IRC Congress meetings.

### 3. Objectives

- 3.1 To facilitate handicap racing based on the IRC Rule for a wide range of cruising and racing ballasted monohull keelboats by providing a system of measurement to classify boats for competition with single figure allowances based on time or distance.
- 3.2 To encourage design innovation consistent with stability, rounded performance, seaworthiness and safety.
- 3.3 To discourage unnecessary expense.
- 3.4 To discourage owners and designers from seeking means of artificially reducing the rating of the boat, or increasing performance without a corresponding increase in rating.
- 3.5 To maintain the confidentiality of the calculation of IRC Ratings.

### 4. Governance

- 4.1 Policy direction of IRC is controlled by IRC Policy Steering Group taking into account recommendations from the IRC Congress. The Policy Steering Group comprises representatives of RORC and UNCL, and one representative of IIOA elected by the IRC Congress. The IIOA representative shall be elected annually.
- 4.2 The IRC Congress comprises one representative from each country, as recognised by World Sailing, with an IRC fleet of a minimum of 25 boats at 31<sup>st</sup> December the previous year (30<sup>th</sup> May of the current year for boats rated from 1 June to 30 May of the following year) or by 31<sup>st</sup> August of the current year and two representatives from each of the RORC and UNCL. The representatives from each country should be elected by the members of the Association in that country.
- 4.3 The IRC Congress meets annually to propose changes to IRC Rules, except rule 2.6 and other powers reserved to the RORC and UNCL and the IRC Technical Committee. Submissions for changes to IRC Rules shall be received by the IRC Rating Authority a minimum of 21 days and circulated to all IRC Rule Authorities a minimum of 14 days before a meeting of the IRC Congress. Submissions received and circulated after this date will only be decided by a 75% majority vote.

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- 4.4 The IRC Congress elects the Chairman and two Vice Chairmen of the Association and appoints one IRC Congress representative to the IRC Committee. Each shall hold office for a period of three years and shall be immediately eligible for re-election. The Chairman and Vice Chairmen need not be their country's representative on the IRC Congress. The Vice Chairmen shall be from different continents.
- 4.5 Each representative to the IRC Congress shall have votes dependent on that country's fleet size as follows:

Fleet size	Votes
25-99	1
100-249	2
250-499	3
500 or greater	4 + 1 additional vote for every 250 boats over 500 up to a maximum of 10 votes in total.

Each RORC and UNCL representative shall have 1 vote.

Except as otherwise stated, decisions of the IRC Congress will be by simple majority vote. Votes may be cast by those present or by proxy, post or email. A quorum shall be 50% of the total representatives, including those voting by proxy, post or email.

- 4.6 The IRC Technical Committee is appointed by the IRC Congress from representatives nominated by the RORC Rating Office & UNCL Centre de Calcul. The IRC Technical Committee has sole responsibility & authority over the technical content of the IRC Rule and reports to the IRC Congress.
- 4.7 Changes to the International IRC Owners' Association Constitution may be made by the IRC Congress. A majority of least 50% of the representatives present and 75% of the votes cast is required provided that any changes to any part of Rule 4 shall require the approval of the RORC and UNCL.
- 4.8 It is recognised that the IRC Rule is and shall remain the joint property of Seahorse Rating Ltd and UNCL and that the establishment of the International IRC Owners' Association and its involvement in the management of the IRC Rule shall neither affect the proprietary interests of Seahorse Rating Ltd and UNCL in the IRC Rule nor shall it confer on the International IRC Owners' Association any rights in excess of those expressly set out in this Constitution.

## 5 IRC Committee

- 5.1 The following form the IRC Committee:

IRC Congress Chairman  
Two IRC Congress Vice Chairmen from different continents  
Representative of IRC Congress  
Representative of RORC  
Representative of UNCL  
Two representatives of IRC Technical Committee

- 5.2 The IRC Committee has full power to administer the rights and duties of the International IRC Owners' Association between annual IRC Congress meetings, and makes decisions by a simple majority of all its members.
- 5.3 The Chairman of the IRC Committee shall be the Chairman of the Association who has a casting vote.
6. National and Regional Championships
- 6.1 Each country with an IRC fleet may hold a national IRC championship and regional IRC championships.
- 6.2 Organising Authorities wishing to run national and/or regional IRC championships shall obtain approval from the local national IRC Owners' Association.

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- 6.3 National IRC Owners' Associations may set regulations for the conduct and format of, and approval for, national and regional IRC championships under their jurisdiction.
- 6.4 National IRC Owners' Associations shall advise the IRC Congress or, between meetings, the IRC Committee of national and regional IRC championships to be held within their jurisdiction.
- 7. Continental and International Regional Championships
  - 7.1 Organising Authorities wishing to run continental or international regional IRC championships shall obtain the approval of the IRC Congress. Applications shall be submitted through the RORC Rating Office or UNCL Centre de Calcul by September 1<sup>st</sup> of the preceding year. Late applications may be accepted at the discretion of the Congress. Applications shall include the event title, location, dates, and the name of any sponsor.