

United Kingdom Fireball Association

CONSTITUTION

August 2016

The constitution is divided into the following sections:

1. Names and Objects
2. Terms and Definitions
3. Officers
4. Membership
5. Management Committee
6. Meeting of the National Association
7. Dissolution of the National Association

NOTE

1. The side-headings are provided for convenience and do not affect the meaning of any clause.

SECTION 1 - NAME AND OBJECTS

1. The name of the class association shall be 'The United Kingdom Fireball Association' (UKFA)
2. The objects for which the National Association is formed are to promote and facilitate the interests of the International Fireball Class throughout the UK and to represent the interests of owners of International Fireball Class boats as follows:-
 - (a) to keep members informed of developments concerning the International Fireball Class and any proposals concerning Class Rules.
 - (b) to organise Championships and to co-ordinate the programme for other races for the International Fireball Class.
 - (c) to encourage National and International competition in the United Kingdom for the International Fireball Class.
 - (d) to negotiate with Fireball International on any matters relating to the Class Measurement Rules.

- (e) to promulgate information on technical development within the International Fireball Class.
- (f) to promote the maintenance of the one-design character of the International Fireball Class.
- (g) to liaise with the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) and Fireball International (FI) on any matters pertaining to the promotion, management and governance of the International Fireball Class Association in the UK.

SECTION 2 - TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

3. The following expressions shall have the associated meanings:-
- (a) "The International Fireball Class" shall mean the class of sailing boat originally designed by Peter Milne and made in accordance with his drawings and specifications, and known under the name International Fireball.
 - (b) "The Class Rules" shall mean the rules relating to specification, construction and measurement controls of the International Fireball Class as defined in the World Sailing® Equipment Rules of Sailing and governing the building of each International Fireball Class boat and its rating as a recognised boat within the class for racing purposes.
 - (c) "The Committee" shall mean the Committee of the National Association, consisting of elected committee members and other members appointed or co-opted.
 - (e) "Fireball International" shall mean the International Fireball Class Association formed to control the affairs of the International Fireball Class throughout the world.
 - (f) "Measurement Certificate" shall mean a certificate as defined in the World Sailing® Equipment Rules of Sailing to be issued, ratified and endorsed as hereinafter provided and recording those items recommended by World Sailing® but including:-
 - (i) The Sail Number and current ownership of an International Fireball Class boat.
 - (ii) The fact that such International Fireball Class boat originally complied with the Class Rules in completion of construction, together with such particulars as may be required by the Class Rules.
 - (g) "The National Association" shall mean the United Kingdom Fireball Class Association.
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- (h) "The National Association Register" shall mean the register of owners of International Fireball Class boats with their addresses, number of boat, to be kept as hereafter provided.
- (i) "The National Association Rules" shall mean these rules governing the conduct of the National Association.
- (j) "The National Class Secretary" shall mean the duly elected Honorary Secretary of the National Association.
- (k) "Owner" and "Joint Owner" shall mean any person or persons, corporation or association entered on a certificate as owner or joint owner of an International Fireball Class boat.
- (l) "The Sail Number" shall mean the Sail Number allocated to the boat.

SECTION 3 - OFFICERS

Officers of the National Association

- 4. The Officers of the National Association shall be Full Members of the National Association and shall consist, as a minimum, of a Chairman, an Honorary Secretary and an Honorary Treasurer. Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting in each year and shall hold office for three years, retiring at the termination of the Annual General Meeting in each year. All Officers of the National Association shall be eligible for re-election.

Other officers' roles can be created at the discretion of the Committee.

Duties of Honorary Secretaries etc.

Duties of Honorary Secretary

- 5. The Honorary Secretary shall:-
 - (a) Conduct the correspondence of the National Association;
 - (b) Keep custody of all National Association documents;
 - (c) Keep full minutes of all meetings of the National Association and the Committee, which shall be confirmed and signed by the appropriate Chairman upon the agreement of the National Association or the Committee at the next following meeting of the National Association or the Committee, as appropriate;
 - (d) Administer such insurance policy or policies as may be needed fully to protect the interests of the National Association, its Officers and its members;

- (e) Communicate the decisions of the Committee to the National Association, to the secretariat of Fireball International and, when directed by the Committee, non-members of the National Association.
- (f) Maintain any such certificates or registrations, and complete any such non-financial returns, as may be required by law.

Duties of Honorary
Treasurer

6. The Honorary Treasurer and Membership Secretary shall:-
- (a) Keep the National Association Register;
 - (b) Keep a register of National Association members' names and addresses
 - (c) Cause such books of account to be kept as are necessary to give a true and fair view of the state of finances of the National Association.
 - (d) Cause all returns as may be required by law in relation to such accounts to be rendered at the due time.
 - (e) Make such payments on behalf of the National Association as the Committee shall direct.
 - (f) Prepare an annual financial statement each year and cause such financial statement to be reviewed at least once annually and shall thereafter cause the same to be sent to all members of the National Association at least fourteen days before the date of the Annual General Meeting
 - (g) Present the annual financial statement to the National Association at its Annual General Meeting.

Duties of Honorary
Auditors

7. The Reviewers shall:-
- (a) Be appointed by the committee and ratified at the Annual General Meeting in each year and shall be two appropriately experienced/qualified persons.;
 - (b) Review the accounts of the National Association when called upon to do so and shall give such certificate of assurance as to the accuracy of the said accounts as shall be required by law or by the Committee;
 - (c) If either unwilling or unable to act, inform the Committee who shall appoint a substitute to hold office until the termination of the next Annual General Meeting.

SECTION 4 - MEMBERSHIP

Categories and votes of membership

8. There shall be the following categories of membership with power to vote at all meetings of the National Association as indicated hereunder.

A FULL MEMBER – any Helm or Crew of an International Fireball Class boat, who shall have one vote.

AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER – any person with an interest in the International Fireball Class not being a full member or any clubs interested in the International Fireball Class, who shall be entitled to attend and speak at any general meeting of the National Association but who shall have no vote.

A JUNIOR MEMBER – any Helm or Crew of an International Fireball Class boat, under the age of 21, who shall have one vote.

AN HONORARY MEMBER – any person having an interest in the National Association in the United Kingdom who is proposed by a Full Member and seconded by at least one member of the Committee and is elected by the National Association at any general meeting of the National Association, who shall be entitled to attend and speak at any general meeting of the National Association but who shall have no vote.

Membership Entrance & Subscription Fee

9. The rate of Entrance Fee and annual Subscription Fee for each category of membership of the National Association shall be proposed by the Committee to the members at the Annual General Meeting in each year. Any proposed changes shall be approved by a majority of those present and entitled to vote and shall become operative on the first day of January in the year following.

10. All members shall pay the Entrance Fee (if any) and their first annual Subscription Fee upon election to the National Association and thereafter on the first day of January in each year. Provided that a member elected after the first day of November in any year shall not be required to pay any Subscription Fee in respect of the year of election, but shall pay, on election, the Entrance fee and the annual Subscription Fee in respect of the year following election.

Members' duty to provide an up to date address

11. Every member shall furnish the Honorary Secretary with up-to-date contact details: Postal address, Phone number(s), email address, which shall be recorded in the register of members of the National Association and any notice sent to such address shall be deemed to have been duly delivered.

Election and retirement of members

Application for membership

12. An application for membership shall be in the form from time to time prescribed by the Committee, and shall include the name, address,

and occupation of the candidate and, in the case of Honorary Members, the signatures of the Proposer and the Seconder.

Election of Members and Payment of fees 13. Application for membership is deemed to be granted upon receipt of an application form properly completed and the relevant fee(s).

Retirement of a member 14. A member desirous of retiring from membership shall give notice in writing to the Honorary Secretary before the last day of November and shall not then be liable to pay the subscription for the following year. Upon re-application by a past member the Committee may, at its discretion, excuse payment of an Entrance Fee.

Arrears of Subscription 15. The Committee may cancel, without notice being given, the membership of any member whose annual subscription and other annual fees are more than three months in arrears provided that the Committee may, at its discretion, re-instate such member upon payment of arrears. No member whose annual payment is in arrears may enter any National Association event or regatta or vote at any meeting.

Conduct of Members

Under-taking by members to comply with rules 16. Every member, upon election and thereafter, is deemed to have notice of, and impliedly undertakes to comply with, the National Association Rules.

Disciplinary action against members 17. Any breach of Rule 18 or any conduct which, in the opinion of the Committee, is either unworthy of a member or otherwise injurious to the interests of the National Association, shall render a member liable to disciplinary action by the Committee, which may include expulsion or non-renewal of membership.

Before taking such disciplinary action against a member, the Committee shall call upon such member for a written explanation of the member's conduct and shall give the member full opportunity of making explanation to the Committee, or of resigning.

A Resolution to apply any sanction shall be carried by a simple majority vote by those members of the Committee present and voting on the Resolution.

Appeal against expulsion or non-renewal of membership may be made to the members in general meeting.

Upon expulsion the former member shall not be entitled to have any part of the annual membership fee refunded and must return any National Association or external body's trophies held forthwith.

Damage to National 18. A member shall not knowingly remove, injure, destroy or damage any property of the National Association and shall make restitution

Association property		for the same if called upon to do so by the Committee or by the Honorary Secretary upon the instructions of the Committee.
	19.	Membership of the National Association and acceptance of these Rules by the member will be deemed to constitute consent to the holding of relevant personal data for the purposes of the Data Protection Acts.
SECTION 5 - MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE		
Constitution of Committee	20.	The affairs of the National Association shall be managed by the Committee. The Committee shall consist of the Officers, ex officio, and not less than five or more than twelve Full Members (who have attained the age of eighteen years) elected at the Annual General Meeting each year to hold office until the termination of the next following Annual General Meeting.
Candidates for election to Committee	21.	Candidates for election to the Committee (not being Officers of the National Association) shall be those members of the retiring Committee eligible to offer themselves for re-election and such other Full Members whose nominations (duly proposed and seconded by Full Members of the National Association) with their consent shall have been received by the Honorary Secretary before the Annual General Meeting in each year.
Election of Committee by ballot	22.	If the number of candidates for election is greater than the number of vacancies to be filled then there shall be a ballot.
No contest for election	23.	If the number of candidates for election is equal to or less than the number of vacancies to be filled then all candidates shall be deemed to be elected if two thirds of those present at the Annual General Meeting, and entitled to vote, vote in favour of such election.
	24.	In the event of the ballot failing to determine the members of the Committee because of an equality of votes the candidate or candidates to be elected from those having an equal number of votes shall be determined by lot.
Casual vacancy	25.	If, for any reason, a casual vacancy shall occur, the Committee may co-opt a Full Member to fill such a vacancy until the next following Annual General Meeting.
Committee Meetings	26.	The Committee shall meet at least every three months making such arrangements as the conduct, place of assembly and holding of such meetings as it may wish. The Chairman or in his absence a chairman elected by those present shall preside.
Voting at Committee	27.	Voting (except in the case of a resolution relating to the expulsion of a member) shall be by show of hands or verbal expression. In

the case of equality of votes the Chairman shall have a second and casting vote.

Quorum 28. Five members present shall form a quorum at a meeting of the Committee.

Powers of the Committee

Management of National Association by Committee 29. The Committee shall manage the affairs of the National Association according to the National Association Rules and shall cause the funds of the National Association to be applied solely to the objects of the National Association or for a benevolent or charitable purpose nominated by the National Association in general meeting.

Appointment of sub-committees 30. The Committee may appoint such sub-committees as it may deem necessary and may delegate such of its powers as it may think fit upon such terms and conditions as shall be deemed expedient and/or required by the law. Such sub-committees shall consist of such members of the Committee or of the National Association as the Committees may think fit. Officers of the National Association shall be ex officio members of all such sub-committees.

Disclosure of interest to third parties 31. A member of the Committee, of a sub-committee or any officer of the National Association, in transacting business for the National Association, shall disclose to third parties that he is so acting.

Limitation of Member's liability 32. The Committee, or any person or sub-committee delegated by the Committee to act as agent for the National Association or its members, shall enter into contract only as far as expressly authorised, or authorised by implication, by the members. No one shall, without the express authority of the membership in general meeting, pledge the credit of the membership.

Members indemnification of Committee 33. In pursuance of the authority vested in the Committee by members of the National Association, members of the Committee are entitled to be indemnified by the members of the National Association against any liabilities properly incurred by them or any one of them on behalf of the National Association wherever the contract is of a duly authorised nature or could be assumed to be of a duly authorised nature and entered into on behalf of the National Association.

The limit of any individual member's indemnity in this respect shall be a sum equal to one year's subscription at the then current rate of that category of membership unless the Committee has been authorised to exceed such limit by a general meeting of the National Association.

SECTION 6 - MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting	34.	An Annual General Meeting of the National Association shall be held each year normally during the National Championship on a date to be fixed by the Committee. The Honorary Secretary shall at least fourteen days before the date of such meeting post or deliver to each member notice hereof and of the business to be brought forward thereat.
Business at Annual General Meeting	35.	No business, except the passing of the Accounts and the election of the Officers, Committee and Honorary Auditors, and any business that the Committee may order to be inserted in the notice convening the meeting shall be discussed at such meeting unless notice thereof be given in writing by a member entitled to vote to the Honorary Secretary at least twenty eight days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.
Special General Meeting	36.	The Committee may at any time, upon giving twenty one days notice in writing, call a Special General Meeting of the National Association for any special business, the nature of which shall be stated in the summons convening the meeting, and the discussion at such meeting shall be confined to the business stated in the notice sent to members.
Special General Meeting upon request of members	37.	The Committee shall call a Special General Meeting upon a written request addressed to the Honorary Secretary by at least fifteen members. The Committee shall give twenty one days notice in writing of any such Special General Meeting. The discussion at such meeting shall be confined to the business stated in the notice sent to members.
Chairman at Meetings	38.	At every meeting of the National Association the Chairman (or, in their absence, a chairman elected by those present) shall preside.
Quorum at Meetings	39.	[Fifteen] members entitled to vote and personally present shall form a quorum at any meeting of the National Association.
Entitlement to vote at Meetings	40.	Only Full Members shall vote at any meeting of the National Association. Other members may attend and speak but are not entitled to vote.
Voting at Meetings	41.	Voting shall be by show of hands.
Equality of Votes	42.	In the case of an equality of votes the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote, on any matter other than the election of members of the Committee.
Voting on Rule Change	43.	On any resolution properly put to a meeting of the National Association relating to the creation, repeal or amendment of any Rule of the National Association such Rule shall not be created, repealed or amended except by a majority vote of at least two-thirds of those present and entitled to vote.

44. On any resolution properly put to a meeting of the National Association relating to the creation, repeal or amendment of any Class Rule, such resolution shall not be adopted except by a majority vote of at least two-thirds of those present and entitled to vote.

SECTION 7 - DISSOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Dissolution of the National Association

45. If, upon the winding up or dissolution of the National Association, there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed amongst the members of the National Association. The Committee shall dispose of the net assets remaining to one or more of the following:
- (i) to another organisation with similar sports purposes which is a charity and/or
 - (ii) to the sport's national governing body.