

Scottish Coastal Rowing Association

Constitution

1 NAME OF the ASSOCIATION

1.1 The Association will be called the ***Scottish Coastal Rowing Association***.

2 OBJECTS

2.1 The Association shall promote, and support the building and use of Coastal Rowing boats in Scotland and stimulate healthy competition between Communities and Clubs by means of Races, Regattas or other organised events.

2.2 The Association shall promote Coastal Rowing as a healthy activity, which can be done safely by people of all ages at a level suited to their competence, experience and state of fitness and which in addition provides unique opportunities to be close to nature and to wild life.

2.3 The Association will encourage its members to adopt and apply best practice in Health and Safety, Safety at Sea, and Child Protection and to take personal responsibility for their application.

2.4 The Association shall foster close relationships between the builders of boats and equipment and rowers, so that there is better understanding of skills and craftsmanship, design and materials.

2.5 The Association will encourage members to meet socially.

3 POWERS

The Association will achieve its objectives:

3.1 By disseminating knowledge of Coastal Rowing.

3.2 By supporting communities, clubs and members who wish to acquire or build rowing boats.

3.3 By providing or obtaining guidance on conformity to class rules and measurements for the St Ayles skiff, and any other class of boat that is adopted.

3.4 By providing or obtaining guidance in good practice in safe rowing and all aspects of the governance of Rowing Clubs or other related organisations.

3.5 By providing or obtaining Coaching in Coastal Rowing.

3.6 The Association may purchase, hire or rent such buildings or equipment as is necessary to achieve its objectives..

4 MEMBERSHIP

4.1 Membership of the Association shall be open to community groups, clubs, associations, Syndicates, or other such organisations who support the objectives of the Association.

4.2 Membership of the Association is open to all organisations, regardless of age, race, sex, political or religious beliefs of those making up the member organisations.

4.3 Admission to the Association shall be by application of the potential member and shall the rest with a majority of the Committee then present.

4.4 EQUITY Policy

The Association will seek to ensure that all potential members and members are treated equally and fairly and have an opportunity to participate in the activities and affairs of The Association. The Association will conform to all relevant Legislation and Laws. Action will be taken against any member or officer of The Association who is guilty of any unfair form of discrimination.

4.5 Upon joining the Association members agree to abide by the Constitution and the Rules and Bye-Laws of the Association.

5 MANAGEMENT

5.1 The Association shall be managed by a Committee consisting of the Office Bearers; Convener, Secretary, Treasurer and not more than 6 other members, one of whom shall be appointed as Webmaster.

5.2 Three shall form a quorum at Committee meetings.

5.3 The Committee shall meet quarterly at such time and place as may be convenient and on such other occasions as shall be necessary, but shall have the option of not holding a meeting during the months of July and August. Meetings can be attended by telephone, webcam, video conference or other method allowing participation in the meeting from a remote location.

5.4 At all meetings of the Committee the Convener shall preside and in his absence the meeting shall elect a Chairman. The Chairman shall have a deliberative and in cases of equality a casting vote.

6 OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

6.1 The Office Bearers and the members of the Committee shall retire annually, but shall be eligible for re-election. The mode of election shall be by nomination at the Annual General Meeting. Nominations for election must be notified to the Secretary at least 4 weeks before the AGM, and must be posted on the Association website at least 3 weeks before the AGM. The nominee shall be in attendance or their consent to be nominated previously obtained.

6.2 The votes for candidates thus proposed shall be taken by voting papers.

6.3 In the case of a vacancy occurring during the year among the Office Bearers or members of the Committee, the remaining members of the Committee shall be entitled to fill such vacancy by co-opting a suitable member. Any Office Bearer or members so elected shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting only.

6.4 Any office bearer or member of the Committee may be removed at any time by a majority of two-thirds of the voting rights present at a General or Special General Meeting called for that purpose.

6.5 The Secretary, or in his absence the Treasurer shall convene all meetings of the Association and Committee and shall keep full and correct minutes of all proceedings to be regularly produced at meetings; they shall on all occasions in the execution of their office act under the superintendence and control of the Committee.

7 FINANCE

7.1 The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all monies. The Treasurer shall submit all accounts to the Committee, to be approved of before payment. A copy of the accounts approved for payment shall be appended to the Minutes of the Committee Meeting and inserted in the Minute Book of the Association. The Treasurer shall keep correct accounts and books showing the financial affairs and intromissions of the Association, which shall be subject to an independent examination by an independent person or persons, other than members of the Committee, to be appointed at the Annual General Meeting of the Association. An abstract of such intromissions shall be made available to members at least one week before the Annual General Meeting.

7.2 The Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining a register of Members of the Association, recording the number and class of subscription paid, and for sending subscription notices to the Members in the Month of April each year. The Treasurer or his nominee shall deposit all monies received in the Club bank account.

7.3 The financial year of the Association shall end on the 31st of December.

7.4 A bank account shall be kept in the name of the Association in a bank fixed by the Committee and all cheques shall be signed by any two of the Convener, Treasurer and Secretary.

8 PROPERTY and DISSOLUTION

8.1 The whole property of the Association belongs to the members.

8.2 Should the Association be wound up, any remaining assets will be donated to kindred clubs or associations as decided by the Members at a Special General Meeting and not distributed to Association Members.

9 MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

9.1 The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held in June, at which the Committee's Report and the Treasurer's Statement, as audited, shall be submitted for approval, and Office

Bearers, Members of Committee and Auditors elected and appointed for the ensuing year in place of those retiring.

9.2 A Special General Meeting of the Association may be called at any time

(a) by the Secretary, on the instructions of the Committee,
(b) on a requisition signed by one third of the voting rights being handed to the Secretary requesting him to do so and stating the object for which the meeting is desired. On receipt of a requisition from the members, the Secretary will give notice of the said meeting within 21 days and arrange for the meeting to be held within 42 days.

9.3 All meetings of the Association shall be convened by electronic means or by Post, stating the object of the meeting, at least three weeks prior to the meeting.

9.4 At all the meetings of the Association, one half of the voting rights shall form a quorum. No want of a quorum after the Chairman has opened the meeting shall make the meeting incompetent to transact business.

9.5 The Convener shall preside at all meetings of the Association and in his absence the Meeting shall elect a Chairman.

9.6 The Chairman shall have, in cases of equality, a casting vote.

9.7 Each member organisation shall be entitled to cast one vote in respect of each resolution at a meeting of the association. Each member organisation must indicate in advance of the meeting commencing the identity of the delegate who is to be casting the vote on behalf of their organisation.

10 ENTRANCE FEE AND SUBSCRIPTION

10.1 Each member of the Association shall pay an annual subscription to the Association. The subscription for all members shall be set by the AGM.

10.2 The entry money and subscription of a newly admitted Member shall be due on admission and no Member shall be entitled to the privileges of the Association until these shall have been paid and the admission shall become void if payment is not made within one month after intimation; provided that if a Member shall be admitted after the commencement of a subscription year, the subscription payable by that Member for that year shall be the proportion of the appropriate annual subscription in relation to the number of complete months left in the annual year.

11 LISTS OF MEMBERS, NOTICES

11.1 A list of all Members of the Association and a copy of the Rules and Bye-laws shall be available on the Association website. The contact details of members other than the Office bearers and Committee members will be available only by means of a password.

11.2 Every Member shall furnish the Secretary of the Club with an up to date contact address and email address if available, which shall be recorded in the Register of Members and any notice sent to such address shall be deemed to have been duly delivered after 3 days.

12 ALTERATION OF RULES and BYE-LAWS

12.1 Any Member wishing to propose an alteration of or addition to the Rules of the Association other than under clause 9.2 shall give notice at least 4 weeks before a General Meeting. There must be a Proposer and Secunder for the alteration. The Secretary will include the proposal within the Agenda for the Meeting.

12.2 Any Member wishing to propose an alteration to the Bye Laws, other than under clause 9.2, may do so by submission in writing to the Committee.

13 SUSPENSION ETC.

13.1 Any Member who in the opinion of the Committee, acting reasonably, has wilfully persisted in the infraction of any of the foregoing rules, or otherwise misconducted themselves, shall be liable for suspension or be otherwise dealt with (other than expelled) by the Committee as they in their sole discretion may deem fit.

14 GENERAL POWERS

14.1 The Committee shall have power to borrow money and to grant securities, heritable or otherwise, over the assets and undertakings of the Association or any part thereof. Provided that all borrowings shall be sanctioned by majority approval at an Annual or Special General Meeting of the Association.

15 INTERPRETATION

15.1 Where the context so admits in Rules and Bye Laws:

- a) The masculine includes the feminine and all other genders and vice versa.
- b) Words in the singular include the plural and vice versa.
- c) "Member" means a member of the Association in terms of Rule 4.
- d) Rules means all articles of this Constitution up to and including article 15, all other documents are considered to be Bye-Laws.

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BYE-LAWS

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