

The J/24 Association of Ireland

Constitution and Rules

Approved by meeting of the National Council, April 6th. 2008.

1 Name and Objectives

- 1.1 The J/24 is a one design class created to meet the diverse needs of the recreational sailor such as one design racing, handicap racing, cruising and day sailing. The International J/24 Rules are intended to preserve the strict one design nature of the boat.
- 1.2 The name of the association shall be The National J/24 Class Association of Ireland (here after referred to as “the Association” or NJCA).
- 1.3 The Objectives of the Association are to promote the interests and affairs of the Association on the Island of Ireland as a whole.
- 1.4 In pursuit of these Objectives, the Association shall be a member of the International J Class Association (IJCA) ,and shall establish appropriate relationships with the Irish Sailing Association , the Royal Yachting Association, sailing and yacht clubs, and all other relevant bodies.
- 1.5 In pursuit of its Objectives, the Association, working in co-operation with clubs and others, shall secure an annual programme of National, Regional, and other J/24 events in the island of Ireland, and shall encourage members to participate in J/24 events at International level.
- 1.6 The assets and funds of the Association shall be used solely in the furtherance of its stated Objectives. It is a non profit organisation, and no profits or surpluses will be distributed to the membership.
- 1.7 This constitution should be read in conjunction with the current Constitution of the International J Class Association, which has primacy in all circumstances.
- 1.8 The word “shall” is mandatory, the word “may” is permissive.

2 Membership

- 2.1 Any person interested in J/24 sailing in Ireland is eligible for individual membership of the Association.
- 2.2 Every boat participating in any regatta where the ultimate organising authority is the National J/24 Class Association of Ireland, shall be registered with the National Association.
- 2.3 A valid and current Measurement Certificate issued by a National Measurer or the International J class Association must be in force and produced, if so required, at the date of registration.
- 2.4 The boat registration fee, which will be determined annually by the National Council, will cover the period from the date of registration to the end of the calendar year in question.
- 2.5 Payment of the registration fee will entitle the registered owner to membership of the National J/24 Class Association of Ireland, and of the International J/24 Class Association, and to receive the relevant transom sticker, and International Membership card.
*Note: It is **not** a requirement of the NJCA that crew members, other than the registered owner, of any boat participating in an event covered by the provisions of paragraph 2.2, be members of the NJCA.*
- 2.6 Where the helmsman of a boat participating in an NJCA event is not also the registered owner, then he/she must be an individual member of the NJCA. This complies with the requirements of IJCA rule 2.5.7 .
- 2.7 The fee for individual membership of the NJCA shall be determined annually by the National Council.
- 2.8 Every individual, by joining the Association, will undertake to comply with the Objectives and Rules of the Association. Any refusal or neglect to do so or any conduct that in the opinion of the National Council is either unworthy of a member, or otherwise injurious to the interests of the Association shall render the member liable to expulsion from the Association, by vote of the National Council. Before any such expulsion the National Council shall call upon the member for an explanation, and shall give adequate opportunity for defence, or of voluntary resignation. A vote on expulsion shall be by ballot, and will require a minimum of three-quarters of the Council members present to vote in favour.
- 2.9 In exceptional circumstances an Annual General Meeting of the Association may elect an honorary member, or members, in recognition of outstanding service to the Association and on due notice of a recommendation from the Executive Committee. The annual subscription will not be required of such members who will not have any voting rights or be eligible for membership of the Executive Committee.

- 2.10 All registered members of the National J24 Council of Ireland shall be entitled to vote at meetings of the National Council.
- 2.11 In any case, where an individual member is unable to attend a meeting of the National Council, the member concerned may assign a proxy vote to any full member to vote on their behalf. Any such proxy must be notified to the Executive Committee no later than seven days prior to the date of the meeting.

3 Subscriptions

- 3.1 Boat registration fees and individual membership subscriptions are payable annually and fall due on January 1st. each year.
- 3.2 Prior to receipt of the annual registration fee no boat will be eligible to compete in any regatta where the ultimate organising authority is the NJCA.
- 3.3 Prior to receipt of the individual membership fee no voting rights or other privileges of membership can be exercised.

4 Management

- 4.1 The governing body of the Association shall be the National Council who will manage the affairs of the Association in accordance with the stated objectives.
- 4.2 All registered boat owners are deemed to be members of the National Council, provided the appropriate registration fee for the year in question has been paid.
- 4.3 All individual members of the Association are deemed to be members of the National Council, provided the appropriate subscription for the year in question has been paid.
- 4.4 Each member of the National Council shall have one vote , and the President a casting vote only.
- 4.5 The National Council shall at an AGM elect an Executive Committee to manage the day to day affairs of the Association, and to hold office until the date of the next AGM.
- 4.6 The Executive Committee shall consist of the President,two Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer/Registrar, and one other ex-officio member. A member of the committee may hold more than one post, in which case the Executive Committee may at its discretion, co-opt an additional ex-officio member.
- 4.7 The Executive Committee may co-opt individual members for specific duties and responsibilities and may appoint sub-committees as required.
- 4.8 The Association may recognise as a local fleet any group of three or more boats that race together. For the furtherance of good communication each local fleet shall elect a Fleet Captain and advise the National Association accordingly.
- 4.9 The Executive Committee may from time to time enact bye-laws and/or regulations governing the conduct of NJCA sanctioned regattas. These regulations are separate from and do not form part of the NJCA constitution.
 - 4.9.1. Each bye-law or regulation shall be submitted annually to the National Council for renewal.

5 Meetings

- 5.1 The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held in November of each year. Business will include the election of an Executive Committee, and consideration of reports from the President, Treasurer/Registrar and shall include comments from Fleet Captains.
- 5.2 The Executive Committee will give a minimum thirty days notice of an Annual General Meeting . Proposals for inclusion in the agenda must be received in writing by the Executive Committee at least fourteen days before the date of the meeting.

6 Amendments to the Constitution.

- 6.1 Notice of any proposed change to the Constitution must be forwarded in writing to the President in writing no less than sixty days before the date of the next Annual General Meeting.

Bye-Laws

1. Race Management

- i. At each National Championship sanctioned by the National J24 Class Association of Ireland the Principle Race officer (PRO) will be selected and appointed by the Executive Committee of the Class.
- ii. At each National Championship, the appointed PRO will be a qualified National Race Officer as recognised by the Irish Sailing Association.