ISORA – Irish Sea Offshore Racing Association

Constitution

1. NAME.

The Association will be called "The Irish Sea Offshore Racing Association".

2. OBJECT.

The Association shall be and Association of Boat Owners and interested crews. Its objects shall be:

a. To provide an Offshore Racing Programme with the assistance of Yacht / Sailing Clubs within the Irish Sea area

b. To arrange a Coastal Series of Races with the assistance of Yacht / Sailing Clubs within the Irish Sea area

c. To arrange Offshore and Inshore Regatta to be known as ISORA Off Shore Championship with the assistance of Yacht / Sailing Clubs within the Irish Sea area

3. MEMBERSHIP.

The Membership of the Association shall be divided into Boat Owner Members and Ordinary Members:-

a. Boat Owner Members.

Owners, whose yachts participate in the ISORA race series shall be members of ISORA. If a Boat Owner Member should cease to be eligible within this definition, he may continue to be an Ordinary Member.

b. Ordinary Members.

Individuals who are not eligible for Boat Owner membership, but who are either crew on yachts racing in the race programme, or who are interested in the activities of the Association, may apply for Ordinary Membership.

Applications for each class of Membership should be submitted to the Honorary Secretary of the Association on the relevant form (Race entry form or Priority Racing application form).

4. SUBSCRIPTIONS.

There are no membership subscriptions.

5. OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The Officers of the Association shall consist of a Chairman, Vice- Chairman, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary who shall be elected by ballot at the Annual general meeting. The

Committee shall have the power to appoint and an Officer to fill a casual vacancy, until the next Annual General Meeting. Other Officers may be co-opted as appropriate.

6. COMMITTEE.

The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Committee consisting of the Officers and three Boat Owner Members who shall be elected by ballot at the Annual General meeting. The Committee shall also be empowered to co-opt such members as the Committee may, from time to time, think appropriate.

7. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General meeting shall be held during the Autumn of each year at such a time and place as the Committee may appoint, notice of which will be posted on the ISORA web site at least 28 days before the meeting. All nominations for Officers and Notices of Motion must reach the Honorary Secretary at least 14 days before the meeting. 12 Members* shall form the quorum at an Annual General Meeting. At the Annual General meeting the Chair shall be taken by the Chairman, or failing him by the Vice-Chairman, or failing him some member* at the Meeting. Every question, unless otherwise expressly provided by these rules, shall be decided by a majority of votes of the Members* present. At any Meeting (unless a poll be ordered by the Chairman or demanded by 12 Members*) a declaration by the Chairman that a resolution has been carried or lost as the case may be, shall be conclusive.

8. BUSINESS AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

At the Annual General Meeting, the Report of the Committee and Statement of Accounts shall be submitted, the Officers and the Boat Owner Members of the Committee elected, the race programme for the following year and any other business on the Agenda transacted, but nothing should be voted upon which does not appear on the Agenda.

9. VOTING.

In the election of the Officers and the Boat Owners Members of the Committee, and any other matters for which a vote is required, the following persons are **entitled to one vote:-**

   a. BOATOWNER MEMBERS – the joint owners of a yacht shall have only one vote.
   b. MEMBERS – In the absence of a Boat Owner Member, an Ordinary Member who is a regular crew may vote on his / her behalf, but only on the basis of one vote per boat, and with the written authorisation of the owner.

10. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Honorary Secretary shall call a Special General meeting on receiving directions to that effect from the Committee or on receiving a requisition to that effect stating the object of the proposed meeting signed by not less than 8 Boat Owner Members. The Meeting shall be held within 28 days of the Secretary receiving the requisition and the notice of the Meeting and its object shall be published on the ISORA web site at least 14 days before the meeting.

11. DUTIES OF HONORARY TREASURER.

All payments made to or by the Association shall be made through the Honorary Treasurer, who shall keep a correct account of the same, and prepare a Statement showing the financial position of the Association and a Balance Sheet for the Annual General Meeting.

12. HOSTING OF RACES IN THE ISORA PROGRAMME.

In the event of a Yacht or Sailing Club, affiliated to its National Association, wishing to host a race in a future ISORA Programme, application should be made to the Committee.

13. BURGEE.

The Burge shall be a compass in gold surrounded by the leek, rose, shamrock and thistle upon a blue background. The design of the Association tie shall consist of the ISORA emblem as described above upon a blue ground.

14. AMENDMENTS TO RULES.

These rules may be altered or repealed and new rules may be made by the Committee from time to time, but such alterations and additions shall be published on the ISORA web site immediately they have been adopted by the Committee and shall be confirmed by the Boat Owner Members of the Association at the next Annual General Meeting and failing such confirmation shall then cease to have effect.

15. THE COMMITTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT.

To take appropriate disciplinary action which may include disqualification from a race or the series, against the owner / skipper and/ or crew of a yacht which causes damage ashore or afloat, or which by bad behaviour brings discredit on ISORA or otherwise incurs the censure of the Committee in the terms of ISAF 69 of all of which the Committee shall be the sole judge.