

Hobie Cat Association of Western Australia Constitution and Rules

(as amended 1996)

1. NAME:

Hobie Cat Association of Western Australia.

2. INTERPRETATION:

- a) In this Constitution and Rules unless the context or subject matter shall otherwise require:-
- b) Australian Association means Australian National Hobie Cat Association.
- c) State Association means Hobie Cat Association of Western Australia.
- d) Member means full member who is financial.

3. OBJECTIVES:

- a) To affiliate with and assist the Australian National Hobie Cat Association with its aims.
- b) To implement and control within the State the decisions adopted by the Australian Association, together with the aims and objectives of the Australian Association.
- c) To ensure that State members' boats comply with the Australian Association rules and no alteration or modification may be made to the boat except as prescribed by the Australian Association.
- d) To co-ordinate Club events and prepare a calendar of approved races and events.
- e) To control the running of the State Championships directly or by delegation to a host club.
- f) To perform any other functions that will be in the interest of Hobie Cat owners within the State.

4. RACING RULES:

The racing rules shall be the current rules of the International Yacht Racing Union with any prescriptions of the Australian Yachting Federation and the Yachting Association of Western Australia

5. MEMBERSHIP AND FEES:

- a) Full membership shall be gained by the payment of the annual subscription fee fixed by the committee from year to year.
- b) Associate membership may be granted to other interested persons who will not have voting rights. A fee may be set if decided by the committee.
- c) Finance may be raised from members from race entry fees or any other activity the committee may decide.
- d) The financial year for membership will extend from 1st July of one year to 30th June of the following year.

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6. MEETINGS:

- a) The Annual General Meeting shall be held at the time of the State Championships, or as otherwise determined by the Management Committee within that financial year.
- b) Management Committee meetings shall be held at the discretion of the Management Committee.
- c) An extraordinary meeting may be held upon written application to the Secretary signed by ten (10) members.

7. QUORUM:

- a) At Management Committee meetings 4 members
- b) At General Meetings (includes minimum of 2 office bearers) 7 members
- c) At Annual General Meetings (including minimum of 3 office bearers) 10 members
- d) At Extraordinary General Meetings (including minimum of 3 office bearers) 10 members

8. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES:

The affairs of the State Association shall be managed by the following Management Committee Officers, elected annually.

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. State Measurer
6. One committee person will be accepted from any club with 5 or more full association members, such committee person to be elected by and from that group of State Association members.
7. Other committee members numbering up to 5 and to fill specific portfolios nominated by the Management Committee.

All officers shall be eligible for re-election at the termination of their period of service.

The following committees (each of three members) may be formed by the Management Committee.

1. Measurement and approved event committee.
2. State Championships and special events committee.

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9. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:

- a) Written nomination notices shall be sent by the secretary to all members inviting nominations for officers and stating the last day on which nominations will be received by the Secretary. This date shall be no less than 14 days from date of notice.
- b) Any member may nominate any other member for one of the offices. The nominating member shall require the nominee's signature of consent prior to lodging the nomination.
- c) The closing date for nominations must be no less than 7 days prior to the A.G.M.
- d) After the closing of nominations the management Committee will draw up the ballot papers for distribution to members who are present at the A.G.M. and who are financial at the commencement of the meeting. In the event of the Management Committee deciding the number of nominations is inadequate it may nominate further names between the closing of nominations and the A.G.M. for inclusion in the ballot, provided the nominees' signatures of consent are obtained.
- e) Voting, the appointment of scrutineers to count the ballot and the counting of the ballot will be the first item of general business at the A.G.M.
- f) Voting will be by secret ballot and will not be compulsory.
- g) All new office bearers will be announced and will take up office before the meeting proceeds.
- h) In the event of any position remaining unfilled at the A.G.M. nominations may be called and a further secret ballot taken at the meeting.
- i) In the event of positions still being vacant after the A.G.M. fresh nomination forms with these positions listed will be circulated as outlined in 9 a) above. A secret ballot as conducted at the A.G.M will be conducted at the next general meeting.

10. DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES:

- a) The President shall chair all management and general meetings and be spokesperson for the policies of the State Association.
- b) The Vice President shall assist the President and other officers and stand in the President's place when absent.
- c) The Secretary shall issue and receive all correspondence and prepare minutes of annual and general meetings.
- d) The Treasurer shall receive all monies and pay all accounts, open and maintain a bank account, and present a statement of account at each management and general meeting. The Treasurer is also required to keep a register of all members.
- e) At least four Management Committee signatures shall be registered with the State Association's bank. No less than three of these shall be taken from President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer. Two signatures are required to sign all cheques.
- f) The State Measurer shall take all steps necessary to ensure boats are raced within the Australian Association rules and with the measurement committee shall supervise measurement.

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- g) Committee members shall assist the other officers and perform extra duties that may from time to time arise.
- h) The measurement and approved event committee shall control the measurement of sails, the fitting of extra equipment and the modifications of standard equipment to ensure that the one design principle is adhered to as prescribed by the Australian Association.
- i) The State Championships and special events committee shall ensure that these events are run in a proper and fair manner.
- j) Any committee member who is unable to attend three (3) consecutive management committee meetings without apologies will have their position on the committee declared vacant.
- k) The HCAWA committee may at any stage co-opt up to three (3) additional financial members of the association to assist in the objectives of the association. The co-opted members will remain on the committee until the next AGM for the proper election of committee members and may fill vacant office bearer or committee member positions as decided by the current HCAWA committee

11. WINDING UP:

If at any time membership falls to less than four persons the assets of the State Association shall be disposed of at a reasonable market value and the proceeds given to a charity selected by the remaining members.

12. ALTERATION TO THE CONSTITUTION:

- a) This constitution cannot be changed, added to or repealed, except by a vote of the members.
- b) Any member may propose a change etc. to the constitution by submitting the proposal to the management committee 60 days prior to the AGM, who shall consider it promptly. If the proposal is passed by an 80% majority of the full elected management committee, it will be posted not less than 30 days prior to the AGM to all financial members, with a rationale for the proposed changes. At the AGM all financial members are eligible to vote on the proposed changes. Members who are unable to attend the AGM may appoint a proxy to vote on their behalf, by notifying the secretary in writing prior to the AGM. In the event of a constitutional change being accepted at the AGM, the secretary will forward to all association members within 60 days a new copy of the constitution.

13. POLICY:

The Management Committee is empowered to prepare and administer policy in respect of the interests of members. Any such policy shall be published at least once each financial year, and immediately should there be any change to that policy.