

RULES

1 NAME

The name of the Club shall be the "Royal Gourock Yacht Club".

2 FLAGS

The flags of the Club shall be the Blue Ensign and a Blue Burgee with a yellow crown above a red Maltese Cross on a yellow shield.

3 OBJECTS

The Objects of the Club shall be the encouragement of yacht sailing and racing and the maintenance of a Clubhouse with a view to the promotion of the sport and of social activities among persons interested in the sport.

The Club is a non profit making organisation. All profits and surpluses will be used to maintain or improve the Club's facilities. No profit or surplus will be distributed.

4 MEMBERS

4.1 The Club shall consist of Ordinary Members those eligible being Ladies and Gentlemen of not less than 18 years of age, Spouse Members those eligible being spouses of not less than 18 years of age; Introductory Members those eligible being Ladies and Gentlemen of not less than 18 years of age, and applying for the first time, each shall be entitled to a 50% abatement of the appropriate subscription, and only for the year of admission; and House Members those eligible being Ladies and Gentlemen not less than 23 years of age who shall not have access to seaward facilities of the Club. Only Ordinary Members shall be entitled to vote at meetings or take part in the management of the Club.

4.2 Application for Membership shall be open to all and shall be on a prescribed form containing a statement of the name and address of each candidate. These details shall be posted in the Club-house for at least 14 days. Admission shall be by decision of the Committee and shall not be refused without good cause. Thereafter, the applicant will be advised of the result.

4.3 The Committee may from time to time restrict the Membership of the Club as it may think fit and may close the roll of Members for such period as it may think fit.

4.4 The maximum number of House Members shall be such as may be fixed from time to time at any General Meeting.

5 HONORARY AND TEMPORARY MEMBERS AND CADETS

5.1 The Committee may admit as Honorary Members any persons who have rendered distinguished service to the Club or to the sport of yacht sailing and racing. Honorary Members shall have the privilege of using the facilities of the Clubhouse, but shall not be entitled to attend meetings or take part in the management of the Club or in the nomination of Members. Provided that any person admitted as an Honorary Member who was, prior to admission as such, an Ordinary Member of the Club, shall not thereby forfeit existing rights and interests.

5.2 The Committee may admit as Temporary Members:

- (a) Officers of Her Majesty's Forces or Allied Forces stationed in the neighbourhood,
- (b) Members of other Yacht Clubs visiting the neighbourhood, and
- (c) Friends of Members visiting them provided the permanent residence of such visitors is outwith a radius of forty miles of the Clubhouse.

The period of Temporary Membership and the contribution payable by Temporary Members shall be fixed by the Committee from time to time. Temporary Members shall have the privilege of using the facilities of the Clubhouse, but shall not acquire any interest in the Club's property or funds, and shall not be entitled to attend meetings or take part in the management of the Club or in the nomination of Members.

5.3 The Committee may admit as Cadets such number of persons over twelve and under eighteen years of age as they may think fit and that on such terms and conditions and for such periods as they think fit. Cadets shall have the privilege of using such of the facilities of the Clubhouse as the Committee may from time to time prescribe, but shall not acquire any interest in the Club's property or funds, and shall not be entitled to attend meetings or take part in the management of the Club or in the nomination of Members or to introduce visitors.

6 ENTRY FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

6.1a The Entry Fees and Levies payable by Members shall be of such amounts as may from time to time be fixed at any General Meeting, which amount may differentiate Members according to sex, age and place of residence; provided that notice of any proposals to alter the amounts of Entry Fees shall be given in the manner provided in Rule 12(1) in relation to proposals to alter these Rules and in like manner there shall be given notice of any proposal to impose any levies with specifications of the amount or amounts thereof and of the date or dates as at which liability thereof shall arise and of the date or dates upon which the same shall become payable.

- 6.1b The Annual Subscription payable by all classes of Membership, which may differentiate Members according to sex, age and place of residence, shall be determined by the Committee and intimated to the Members in writing during the latter half of March. In the event of its being proposed to increase any or all of such Annual Subscriptions by more than 10% of the Annual Subscription determined for the previous subscription year such proposed increase or increases shall require to be fixed at a General Meeting in the manner provided in Rule 12(1)
- 6.2 No person shall be relieved of payment of Entry Fee or Subscription except in accordance with the following provisions:
- 6.2a The Committee shall have power to waive the payment of Entry Fee in the case of any former Member on re-admission;
- 6.2b The Committee shall have power to waive the payment of Subscription in the case of any Member who is on National Service;
- 6.2c Members proceeding abroad may allow their membership to lapse and on their return shall be entitled to be re-admitted as Members without payment of Entry Fee; and
- 6.2d Any Members whose liability for Subscription has been commuted for life under any Rules previously in force shall not be liable for the payment of any Annual Subscription.
- 6.3 All subscriptions shall be due on the first day of April for the year from that date and any Member who shall not have intimated his resignation to the Honorary Secretary in writing before that date shall be liable for the subscription for the ensuing year.
- 6.4 If any Member should fail to pay his or her annual subscription when due, or to pay any levy by the date upon which the same shall be payable, he or she shall be notified in writing by the Honorary Treasurer that the subscription or levy is in arrears, and upon notification being made the Member whose subscription or levy is in arrears shall not be entitled to any of the rights or privileges of Membership of the Club until payment is made. If the subscription or levy is still unpaid after the expiry of fourteen days from the date of notification, the name of the Member shall be posted in the Clubhouse, and after the expiry of fourteen days from the date of posting should the subscription or levy be still unpaid the Committee may in its discretion order the name of the Member to be erased from the Roll of Members and he or she shall thereupon cease to be a Member of the Club and shall forfeit all rights in the Club and its property and funds.

7 MANAGEMENT

- 7.1 The management of the Club shall be vested in a Committee consisting of a Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Sailing Secretary and fifteen other Members of the Club. The offices of Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Sailing Secretary may be combined.
- 7.2 The Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Sailing Secretary shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election, provided that the Vice Commodore and Rear Commodore shall not hold office for more than two consecutive years. Five of the fifteen other Members shall retire annually in rotation of seniority of election and shall be eligible for re-election for one further term and thereafter for a period of one year, shall not be eligible for re-election.
- 7.3 The elections of the Committee shall be made annually at the General Meeting in October. The nominations for Flag Officers, Officers and vacancies on the Committee shall be proposed and seconded by two ordinary Members in writing and shall be lodged with the Honorary Secretary not later than seven days before the meeting.
- 7.3a Nominations for Flag Officers, Officers and vacancies on the Committee to be proposed at the General meeting in October shall be posted on the noticeboard of the Club six days before the meeting.
- 7.4 The Committee shall meet at least six times in each year. Five Members of the Committee shall form a quorum. At Committee Meetings the Vice Commodore shall take the chair, and in the event of his absence the Committee shall appoint a Chairman.
- 7.5 The powers of the Committee shall include:
- (a) the filling of any casual vacancies,
 - (b) the co-opting of additional Members to assist them in any particular matter, and
 - (c) the appointing of Sub-Committees and defining their terms of reference.
- The Committee shall also have power to authorise extraordinary expenditure to an amount not exceeding £2,500 in any one year, any such expenditure over that amount being subject to the approval of the Ordinary Members in General Meeting.

8 GENERAL MEETINGS

- 8.1 The Ordinary General Meetings shall be held during the latter half of March and October.
- 8.2 Extraordinary General Meetings shall be held (a) when the Committee think it right to call the Members together, or (b) upon the written requisition stating the purpose of the meeting and signed by any fifteen Ordinary Members in which case the meeting shall be held within twenty-eight days of the receipt by the Honorary Secretary of the requisition.

- 8.3 Fourteen day's notice in writing shall be given of all General Meetings, which notice shall state the business to be transacted at the Meeting.
- 8.4 At all General Meetings fifteen Ordinary Members shall form a quorum.
- 8.5 At all General meetings the senior Flag Officer present shall be entitled to take the Chair; and in the event of there being no Flag Officer present or in the event of any Flag Officers present declining to take the Chair, the meeting shall appoint a Chairman. The Chairman shall have a deliberative and also a casting vote.

9 ACCOUNTS

Proper and distinct books of account shall be kept by the Honorary Treasurer, shall be brought to a balance at the 31 day of December in each year, and shall be examined by an examiner or examiners to be appointed annually at the March General Meeting and shall be submitted to that meeting for approval.

10 PROPERTY AND FUNDS

- 10.1 The heritable property of the Club shall be vested in the Trustees, and shall be subject to the disposition of the Ordinary Members in General Meeting, the order in writing of which, signed by the Chairman and by the Honorary Secretary, shall be obligatory upon, and indemnify the Trustees for any sale, purchase, investment, or other act done by them in pursuance of such order. The Trustees for the foregoing shall be the Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore, The Provost of Inverclyde, and two Ordinary Members of the Club appointed by the Committee.
- 10.2 The other property and funds of the Club shall be held in the name of the Flag Officers, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, for the time being.

11 DISCIPLINE

- 11.1 The Committee shall have power to reprimand, suspend or expel any Member who may infringe any of the Rules or Regulations of the Club or whose conduct in or out of the Club may in their opinion be injurious to the character or interests of the Club.
- 11.2 Any Member complained against under the foregoing rule shall be given notice in writing of the complaint made against him and shall be given an opportunity of appearing before the Committee and making an explanation.
- 11.3 For the purposes of this rule nine members of Committee shall constitute a quorum and two thirds of those present must be in favour of any decision to reprimand, suspend or expel.
- 11.4 Any Member dealt with under this Rule may appeal to an Extraordinary General Meeting which shall be held within twenty-eight days of the receipt by the Honorary Secretary of notice of appeal. At such Extraordinary General Meetings a decision of the majority of the Members voting shall be final.
- 11.5 Any Member expelled under this Rule shall forfeit all rights and interests in the Club and its property and funds.

12 RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 12.1 No alteration of or addition to these Rules shall be made except at an Ordinary or Extraordinary General Meeting and after approval by a majority of those voting. Notice of the precise terms of any proposed alterations or additions shall be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary. The notice of any such proposals for submission to an Ordinary General Meeting shall be lodged with the Honorary Secretary not later than the first day of the month in which the meeting is to be held, and the notice of any such proposals for submission to an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held upon a requisition shall be contained in the requisition. The notice calling the meeting shall contain the precise terms of the proposed alterations or additions.
- 12.2 The Committee shall have power from time to time to make Regulations for regulating:
- (a) the use of the Clubhouse,
 - (b) the sailing activities of the Club, and
 - (c) the use of any boats which may be owned by the Club, with power in connection therewith to constitute a Club Boat Section, to prescribe the rules thereof, and to fix the contributions and charges payable in connection therewith; which Regulations shall be binding on every Member until set aside at a General meeting; provided that such Regulations shall not alter or qualify these Rules and shall comply with the requirements of the Licensing (Scotland) Acts.
- 12.3 A copy of the Rules and Regulations shall at all times be exhibited in a prominent place in the Clubhouse.