



NORTH AMERICAN FORMULA 18 CATAMARAN ASSOCIATION

1 TITLE

The full title of the Association shall be the North American Formula 18 Catamaran Association (NAF-18).

2 OBJECT

The object of NAF-18 is to promote the interest of the Formula 18 Class (F18) throughout North America, i.e. :

2.1 - To coordinate and manage the affairs and rules of the class in cooperation with the International Formula 18 Catamaran Association (ISAF-18), US Sailing and registered builders.

2.2 - To oversee the certification of F18 catamarans for participation in NAF-18 events.

2.3 - To promote and develop competition in the F18 Class.

2.3 - To participate in ISAF F-18 meetings and promote NAF-18 interests in those meetings.

2.4 - To enforce compliance with objectives and decisions of the INTERNATIONAL FORMULA 18 CATAMARAN ASSOCIATION.

2.5 - To generally encourage and foster enjoyment of the sporting and recreational aspects of sailing.

3 JURISDICTION AND ORGANISATION

2.1 The NAF-18 shall have authority over any matter of any nature affecting F18 Catamarans throughout North America, and its power shall be vested in and carried out by the elected officers of the Association as provided in this Constitution and By-Laws, but subject to and in accordance with the General Rules and By-Laws of US Sailing.

4 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

4.1 - The National Executive shall consist of the following elected officers elected at an annual general meeting: the ~~president~~, **chairman**, vice ~~president~~, **chairman** secretary, treasurer, and one representative of each geographical area as outlined in the Area Rep Map which is located on the NAF-18 website. Registered manufacturers and their employees are not entitled to hold positions as officers in the NAF-18.

4.2 - The national executive shall meet from time to time at the request of the ~~president~~ **chairman** and in any case not less than annually at a venue to be agreed by the ~~president~~ **chairman**. No meeting shall be valid unless a quorum shall be present. Provision shall be made at each meeting to allow committee members to participate in the meeting via teleconference. Committee members participating via teleconference shall count towards the quorum of members & have full voting rights as if they were physically present at the meeting. A notice of meeting, including an agenda of business to be conducted thereat, shall be given to all members of the executive via e-mail at least thirty days prior to the meeting, unless all members shall have waived this notice period.

4.3 - At meetings of the National Executive, one half of the elected officers shall form a quorum and decisions shall be reached by a majority of votes of those present and those participating via teleconference, each elected officer having one vote and the ~~president~~ **chairman** a casting vote in the event of there being no majority.

4.4 The National Executive may conduct its business electronically provided that all members of the National Executive have access to the discussion and any materials produced, and that no vote on any issues arising shall become binding until 14 days after the opening of the issue, and with at least a quorum of the National Executive having cast a vote.

4.6 The executive may appoint additional officers to perform duties or carry out special projects as may from time to time be determined and they shall hold office for such term as is necessary.

4.7 At each annual general meeting of the association, the members of the National Executive must retire from office, but are eligible on nomination, for re-election.

5. ELECTING THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

5.1 Any two members of the association may nominate another member (the candidate) to serve as an officer on the National Executive.

5.2 Each member at the annual general meeting may vote for only one candidate for each

vacancy.

5.3 E-mail submissions/votes shall be accepted provided that :

- The member registers a single e-mail address with their membership
- The member provides their member number
- It is submitted one week (seven days) prior to the Annual General Meeting

6 RESIGNATION OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER -

6.1 A National Executive officer may resign from the committee by giving written notice of resignation to the secretary.

7 VACANCIES ON THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

If a casual vacancy happens on the National Executive, the continuing officers on the committee may appoint another officer from the general membership to fill the vacancy until the next annual general meeting. Such appointments shall be confirmed by a majority vote of the National Executive. Voting may be carried out via e-mail, FAX, regular mail or any other format agreed to by all of the members of the National Executive.

8 MEASURERS

8.1 The Chief Measurer shall be a member of the Class Association appointed by the elected members of the National Executive. He/she shall hold office for such term and upon such conditions as the National Executive shall decide. The Chief Measurer shall rule on all questions and challenges relating to the Class Measurement Rules and shall issue interpretations thereof deemed necessary by him, in consultation with the ISAF F-18 Chief Measurer, when necessary. All such interpretations shall be binding until approved, rejected or modified by decision of the World Council, duly published to members of the Class Association.

8.2 Class Measurers shall be approved by the Chief Measurer, in accordance with the ISAF F-18 rules.

9 MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING RIGHTS

9.1 - Full Membership of the Class Association shall be open to anyone upon payment of the

prescribed annual subscription.

9.2 - Each Full Member shall be entitled to one vote at any General Meeting of this National F18 Association.

9.3 - There shall be no limit to the number of members.

10 MEMBERSHIP FEES

10.1- The membership fee for each class of membership

(a) is the amount decided by the members from time to time at a general meeting and

(b) is payable when and in the way that the National Executive decides

11 ADMISSION OF MEMBERS

The association will accept an application for membership when it receives the application form and the appropriate fee.

12 WHEN MEMBERSHIP ENDS

The National Executive may terminate a member's membership if the member has membership fees in arrears for more than three months

13 APPEALS AGAINST TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

A person whose membership has been terminated may pay the membership fee & their membership will be reinstated from the date of receipt of payment by an officer of the NAF-18.

14 PROCEDURE AT A GENERAL MEETING

14.1 All matters or issues that are to be voted on shall be posted on the Class web site no later than Thirty Days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

14.2 Each question, matter or resolution must be decided by a majority of votes of the members present and

(a) Each member present and entitled to vote is entitled to one vote only and, if the votes are equal, the chairperson has a casting vote as well as a primary vote; and

(b) A member is not entitled to vote at a general meeting if the member's annual subscription is in arrears at the date of the meeting; and

(c) A person may vote in person or by proxy or by E-mail as provided in 5.3

14.3 The secretary must ensure full and accurate minutes of all questions, matters, resolutions and other proceedings of each National Executive meeting and general meeting are entered in a minute book; and

14.4 The secretary must ensure the minute book for each general meeting is open for inspection at all reasonable times by any financial member who previously applies to the secretary for the inspection.

14.5 The minutes of each meeting must be signed by the chairperson of the meeting, verifying their accuracy.

15 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

An annual general meeting shall be held every calendar year at a venue to be decided by the National Executive. The quorum for such a meeting shall be six financial voting members. This is encouraged to be at the North American Championships.

16 REGISTER OF MEMBERS

16.1 The National Executive must keep a register of members

16.2 The membership register shall be maintained on the class web site and be viewable by all members.

17 QUALIFYING FOR EVENTS BY WAY OF THE NORTH AMERICAN RANKING SYSTEM

17.1 The North American Ranking system shall be used to qualify for F18 events with a fixed number of entries and/or slots, in which a fixed number of slots, in which a fixed number of slots have been allocated to the North American Class.

17.2 Slots will be awarded;

17.2.1 - to members in good standings

17.2.2 - to the highest ranking skipper(s)

17.3 Should the top ranked eligible sailor(s) be unable to attend, or choose not to accept the slot, the next highest ranking eligible skipper(s) shall be offered the slot.

17.4 At least one of the allotted slots shall be reserved for written petition to the Chairman. The National Authority shall then agree on the best applicant.

17.5 The Ranking System is to be carried out as outlined on the NAF18 Class website.

17.6 If fleet ranking has not been computed by the last day of the calendar year the Chairman will request petitions from the general membership which the National Authority shall then agree on the best applicants.

18 APPEALS TO THE WORLD COUNCIL

Any dispute arising in relation to the National Association, eligibility to race, the interpretation of this constitution and By-Laws or similar matter, other than any dispute as to the interpretation of the International Sailing Rules or any protest within the jurisdiction of a race committee, may be referred, together with all relevant facts, to the World Council whose decision shall be final and binding.

19 ALTERATION OF RULES

19.2 Subject to the association's inception in 2003, these by-laws may be amended, repealed or added to by a special resolution carried at a general meeting

19.3 Such changes only be amended at a general meeting, where at least two thirds of the eligible voting members in attendance have approved the proposed amendment, providing not less than thirty days notice of such proposed amendment has been given in each case and the National Executive have approved the amendment.

19.4 Amendments may be proposed by

(a) a full member of the class association may submit a proposal to the by-laws to the National Executive for consideration

(b) the National Executive may submit a proposal 30 days prior to a general meeting

20 FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS

20.1 The funds of the association must be kept in an account in the name of an association in a financial institution decided by the National Executive.

20.2 Records and accounts must be kept showing full and accurate particulars of the financial affairs of the association.

20.3 All amounts must be deposited in the financial institution account as soon as practicable after receipt.

- 20.4 Checks must be signed by any of the Treasurer or an officer as selected by the National Executive committee.
- 20.5 All expenditure must be approved or ratified by consensus of the National Executive committee.
- 20.6 The treasurer must, as soon as practicable, after the end of each financial year, ensure that a statement containing the following particulars is prepared-
- (a) the income and expenditure for the financial year just ended
 - (b) the association's assets and liabilities at the close of the year
 - (c) the mortgages, charges and securities affecting the property of the association at the close of the year.
- 20.7 The income and property of the association must be used solely in promoting the association's objectives and exercising the association's powers.

21 DOCUMENTS

The National Executive must ensure the safe custody of books, documents, instruments of title and securities of the association.

22 FINANCIAL YEAR

The financial year of the association closes on Jan 1 each year.

Updates in red. Amended during the AGM 2005, August 9th.