



Laser VAGO Class Association

RULES FOR THE UK LASER VAGO CLASS ASSOCIATION

1. Title

The full title of the Association will be the UK Laser Vago Class Association

2. Objects

The objects of the Association are to promote and further the interests of the Laser Vago class throughout the British Isles and to represent the interests of British owners of Laser Vago as follows:

- (a) To keep members informed of developments concerning the class and any proposals regarding class rules.
- (b) To organise the British open championships and to co-ordinate the programme for other races for the class in the British Isles.
- (c) To encourage national and international competition in Britain for the class.
- (d) To promulgate information on technical development within the laser Vago class
- (e) To keep a National Association register.

3. Terms and definitions

Throughout these rules the following defined terms will be used:

- (a) "The National Association" shall mean the UK Laser Vago Class Association.
- (b) "The committee" shall mean the committee of the National Association, consisting of duly elected committee members.
- (c) "The National Association Rules" shall mean the rules governing the conduct of the National Association.
- (d) "The National Association register" shall mean the register of owners of Laser Vagos in Britain, with their addresses, name and number, to be kept as hereinafter provided.
- (e) "The Class" shall mean the class of sailing yachts, designed by Phil Morrison, and made in accordance with his drawings and specifications, and known under the name Laser Vago.
- (f) "The measurement rules" shall mean the rules relating to measurement, construction and racing conditions of the class and governing the building of each Laser Vago and its rating as a recognised boat within the class for class racing purposes.
- (g) "The registered number" shall mean the sail number allocated to the boat.
- (h) "The National Class secretary" shall mean the duly elected Honorary Secretary or duly appointed Secretary, as the case may be, of the National Association.
- (i) "Owner" and "joint owner" shall mean any person or persons, corporation or association entered on the national association register as owner or joint owner.

4. Membership & voting rights

- (a) The following classes of membership shall be recognised:
 - (i) Full membership
 - (ii) Associate membership
 - (iii) Honorary membership

- (b) Full membership shall, upon payment of the prescribed annual subscription, be open to any owner of a British registered Laser Vago, or in the case of joint owners, to any one of them, or in the case of a British Laser Vago owned by a corporation or association, to a nominated representative of that organisation.
- (c) Associate membership shall, upon payment of the prescribed annual subscription, be open to any joint owner of a British registered Laser Vago not being a full member, or to all individuals or clubs interested in the Laser Vago class in Britain.
- (d) Honorary membership shall be open to any person having an interest in the National Association in Britain who is proposed by a full member and seconded by at least one member of the committee and is elected by members of the National Association at any general meeting of the national association.
- (e) Members acting as helmsmen or entering Laser Vagos in races which consist of, or include, the class, shall be bound by the measurement rules.
- (f) Members shall be bound by the National Association rules.
- (g) Each full member shall be entitled to one vote at a general meeting of the National Association, or in a postal vote. Associate and honorary members shall be entitled to attend and speak at any general meeting, but not to vote.
- (h) All full or associate members of the National Association shall ipso facto be an equivalent Member of the International Association.

5. Management

- (a) The Committee shall manage the affairs of the National Association, which shall be the only body empowered to make recommendations to the Laser Vago Association for changes in the measurement rules.
- (b) The committee shall consist of a Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and not less than six and not more than ten full members of the association, elected annually at a general meeting of the association, or by postal vote.
- (c) The chairman shall serve for no more than three years, at the end of which period he shall retire, but shall be liable for re-election after an interval of one year and may be co-opted.
- (d) The committee shall have powers to co-opt any person or persons to assist it, whether a full member of the Association or not, but such persons shall have no vote in committee.
- (e) The committee need not fill a vacancy arising in the committee unless the total number of committee members has dropped below the minimum of six.
- (f) The secretary shall keep correct minute and records of all committee and general meetings, together with the National Association register, and shall be responsible for communicating the decisions of the committee to members of the National Association and, when directed by the committee, to owners and joint owners not being members of the National Association.
- (g) The treasurer shall control the funds of the National Association, make such disbursements as the committee shall direct, present the annual financial statement at each Annual General Meeting.
- (h) An Auditor shall be appointed by the committee who shall certify the annual financial statement.
- (i) At meetings of the committee, one-third of the elected members shall form a quorum

- (j) The committee shall have the power to make recommendations to the members in general meeting or by post, for alteration in, or additions to, the National Association rules.
- (k) The committee may arrange Annual National Championships of the class and shall co-ordinate such Regional Championships as may be required. All matters pertaining to International Championships held in Britain shall be settled by the committee in consultation with the sponsoring club or clubs, the RYA, the IYRU, and the International Association.
- (l) At least three weeks notice of the date, place and agenda for any Committee Meeting must be given in writing by the Secretary to each Committee Member. Any business conducted by correspondence shall always be circulated through the Secretariat and any committee Member not answering a motion, communicated in writing, within three weeks of the date of sending shall be deemed to have agreed to such a motion

6. Power of the committee

Subject to the provision of these rules, and in particular to the object of the National Association, as expressed in rule 2, the General Committee shall be empowered to perform all functions of management and administration.

The signature of the treasurer and one other nominated committee member shall validly evidence the making of payments.

7. Conduct of meetings of the National Association.

- (a) The annual general meeting of the National Association shall be held annually during a Championship Event or at the last Open Meeting on the Class Association calendar, at a place judged by the Committee to be most convenient to the majority of members of the Association. The precise date, time and place to be at the committee's discretion.
- (b) A special general meeting shall be called by the Chairman or Class Secretary upon receipt by the Class Secretary of a written request, signed by not fewer than fifteen full members of the Association.
- (c) At least six weeks written notice shall be given to members of any general meeting.
- (d) At any General Meeting or Committee Meeting, decisions shall be limited to matters on the agenda, other than those concerning measurement rules, and shall be carried by a majority vote. Voting shall be by a show of hands, unless a poll is demanded by not less than three of the members present. At any meeting, the chairman shall have a casting vote. The secretariat shall be responsible for circulating all members, or in the case of Committee meetings, all committee members, with the result of any voting. In the event of a postal ballot, all returns shall be made to the secretariat within two weeks of the date of posting of the ballot papers.
- (e) At any meeting of the National Association, eleven shall form a quorum.
- (f) At any meeting of the National Association, a decision to recommend to the International Association a change in, or addition to, the measurement rules will require a majority of two thirds. Until an International association is formed, the committee shall have the power to recommend any changes to the measurement rules to the membership.



Laser VAGO Class Association

8. Subscriptions and registration fees.

- (a) Subscriptions payable for all classes of membership shall be payable annually and shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting and shall be due on 1st March of the following year. A member joining the National Association after 1st November, whose subscription has been paid for that year, shall not be liable to pay his subscription for the ensuing calendar year.
- (b) Unless otherwise determined by the National Association in general Meeting, the Annual Subscription for full members shall be £20. A flat fee of £40 is payable for up to six boats owned by a school or club to be raced in association events, and £10 per boat for associations wishing to register more than six boats.

9. Accounts

- (a) The committee shall cause true accounts to be kept giving full particulars of:
 - (i) All monies, assets & liabilities of the National Association.
 - (ii) All monies received and expended by the national Association and the reasons for such receipts and expenditure.
 - (iii) All sales & purchases by the National Association.
- (b) The committee shall use the annual financial statement to be prepared and presented at every Annual General Meeting of the National Association.
- (c) A copy of the Annual Financial Statement, duly audited, prepared for presentation at a General Meeting shall, not less than fourteen days prior to such General Meeting, be sent to every full member of whose address the committee is aware.
- (d) A copy of the annual financial statement audited and as accepted by the Annual General Meeting, shall be forwarded to the International Association within fourteen days of its acceptance at general Meeting.

10. Denial of Membership

- (a) An individual may be denied membership of the Association if, in the committee's opinion, one or more of the following apply;
 - i. The member has committed an unlawful act in relation to the Association or one of its members.
 - ii. The member has behaved in an Unsportsman-like or antisocial manner, contrary to the interests of the Association and its members.
 - iii. The member has intentionally violated this Constitution.
- (b) Denial of membership can take the following forms;
 - i. Temporary suspension
 - ii. Permanent suspension
 - iii. Refusal of Application for Membership
 - iv. Refusal of Membership Renewal
- (c) An individual may be denied membership by the Committee but only after the individual has first been given, in advance, details of the reason(s), and has been given suitable opportunity to present details relating to the matter prior to the Committee finalising its decision. If a hearing is required to present such details, the individual concerned should contact the Association Secretary to arrange a suitable time and venue. At least 2 committee members plus the individual concerned should attend the hearing. If the



Laser VAGO Class Association

individual wishes to be accompanied then the Association Secretary should be informed at the time the initial request for a hearing is made. After presentation of all details in the matter, at a hearing or otherwise, a period for evaluation will take place (maximum 2 weeks), after which the individual concerned will be notified of the final outcome. The committee must be seen to be acting as Independently/objectively as possible during this process.

- (d) A member will not be entitled to the return of any part of their subscription in respect of the period for which they are suspended from membership.