BY LAWS
1 - NAME
2 - OBJECTIVES
3 - MEMBERSHIP
4 - ADMISSION OF MEMBERS
5 - CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP
6 - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
7 - EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING
8 - PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETING
9 - VOTING RIGHTS AT GENERAL MEETINGS
10 - OFFICERS
11 - SECRETARY GENERAL
12 - TECHNICAL ASSISTANT
13 - FINANCE
14 - GENERAL
15 - ALTERATION OF RULES
16 - SAILING RULES
17 - Article 17
18 - Article 18

APPENDIX ALPHA
APPENDIX BRAVO

1 - NAME
The name of the Association is the : International Maxi Association

2 - OBJECTIVES
The objectives of the Association are:
2.1 -The encouragement of amateur yacht racing and sailing, organisation of Corinthian sailing, match races, regattas and competitions for sailing yachts of the divisions indicated in Appendix Alpha. Yacht racing to be governed by the rules of the International Sailing Federation, as amended by the racing rules of the Association. Events to be organised by the Association jointly with recognised yacht clubs.
2.2 -To undertake all necessary steps with International and National Authorities and sailing organisations in order to ensure and co-ordinate the achievement of the objectives stated above.
2.3 -The promotion of social activities between members of the Association.
2.4 -To review the application of handicap and measurements rules for yachts of the divisions indicated in Appendix Alpha and to establish appropriate IR, IMS/ORC Club, IMAX or other regulations to be applied at IMA events.

3 - MEMBERSHIP
3.1 - The members of the Association shall be such persons over the age of 18 years as may be duly elected from time to time in accordance with the provisions hereinafter set forth.
3.2 - The membership shall consist of Members and Honorary Members. All persons having participated in the creation of the Association on the 6th day of August 1979 are Founder Members. Such persons as will, in the opinion of members or
in the opinion of the officers assist in the development and aims of the Association, may be admitted to the Association as Honorary Members. The relevant provision of clause 4 shall apply to the admission of Honorary Members. Honorary Members shall not be entitled to vote at meetings.

3.3 - Candidates for membership must be proposed and seconded in writing by members of the Association. The proposals should be forwarded to the Secretary General accompanied by letters from the proposer and seconder which should state for how long and to what extent the candidate has been known to them. The proposal should contain the full names of the candidate and also their address, nationality and occupation, name of boat owned and other clubs of which the candidate is a member.

3.4. I) The candidate shall be the owner of a registered sailing yacht of the categories mentioned in Appendix Alpha.
II) The candidate shall present to the Secretary General written proof that the candidate has contracted the building or the purchase of a sailing yacht of the categories mentioned in Appendix Alpha to be delivered to the candidate within twelve months from the date of the candidature.
III) Should a new building yacht as referred to above not be completed within the prescribed time, the building time may be extended for a period not exceeding an additional six months. Should the yacht not be completed within eighteen months from the date of candidature, membership already granted shall be terminated.
IV) The candidate shall produce to the Secretary General written evidence in compliance with art. 3.4 (II) above and further written evidence of the fact that the candidate has taken upon bareboat charter of a sailing yacht of the categories mentioned in Appendix Alpha for a period of twelve months from the date of candidature or for a period of time lapsing upon the delivery to the candidate of a yacht to be purchased or built in compliance with Art. 3.4 (II) or (III) above.

4 - ADMISSION OF MEMBERS

4.1 - As soon as possible after receiving the proposal for membership the Secretary General shall advise the members of the Association by mail, telefax or email of the proposal and request them to vote in favour of or against the election of the candidate by letter, telefax or email within thirty days of the Secretary General’s original notification. Members failing to vote within the thirty day period referred to above shall be deemed to have voted in favour of the candidate’s proposal.

4.2 - Members failing to vote within the thirty day period referred to above shall be deemed to have voted in favour of the candidate’s proposal.

4.3 - One adverse vote shall exclude the candidate from IMA membership for a period of two years.

4.4 - After the period of thirty days referred to above the Secretary General shall submit the proposal to the officers of the Association and provided there have been no adverse votes the candidate’s election shall be confirmed, whereafter the Secretary General shall write to the candidate informing him or her of election and requesting the appropriate subscription.

4.5 - In the case of a qualifying yacht having more than one owner, all co-owners must be members of the Association.

4.6 - Exclusion from membership will not be justified.

5 - CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

A member shall cease to be a member of the association:
1) Upon notification in writing to the Secretary General of the member’s intention to terminate membership and payment of all moneys due to the Association.

II) Upon death.

III) Upon bankruptcy If the conduct of any member is such as shall, in the opinion of the members, be injurious to the character or interests of the Association or render the member unfit to remain a member of the Association, in such case the members may expel such member provided that any member whose expulsion is under consideration shall be entitled to offer an explanation either orally or in writing to the Secretary General and to the officers before the resolution for expulsion is to be put to the vote.

IV) If the member’s subscription shall be in arrears for a period of six months after the Annual General Meeting at which the subscription was first determined.

V) No appeal shall lie from a resolution for expulsion, the members’ discretion and decision shall be absolute and final, nor shall they be bound to give any reason for their decision.

VII) A letter or notice sent by post addressed to a member and sent to the member’s last known address shall be sufficient for the purpose of 5 (IV) above.

6 - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

6.1 - The Association shall hold an annual General Meeting in every calendar year in such time and at such place as may be agreed by the officers of the Association; such meeting to take place not later than fifteen months from the date of the preceding Annual General Meeting.

6.2 - The notice of the Meeting shall give the names of existing officers of the Association.

6.3 - At an Annual General Meeting of the Association fifty-one percent of the membership, either present or represented by proxy, shall form a quorum.

6.4 - At an Annual General Meeting a resolution put to the vote shall be decided by a simple majority upon a show of hands and having regard to proxy votes.

6.5 - Proxies must be in writing or by confirmed telefax and must be given to a full member of the Association.

7 - EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

7.1 - Any General Meeting other than the Annual General Meeting shall be called an Extraordinary General Meeting.

7.2 - An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called upon requisition in writing made and signed by at least three members entitled to attend and vote at a General Meeting to consider such matters as shall be stated in the requisition which shall be promptly submitted by the Secretary General to the members for their consideration. Thirty days notice shall be given of an Extraordinary General Meeting.

7.3 - At an Extraordinary General Meeting 51% of the membership either present or represented by proxy shall form a quorum. The majority necessary to carry a resolution in an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be at least three-quarters of the membership, present or represented by proxy. Any resolution so carried shall be absolute and shall at once become effective.

8 - PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETING

8.1 - All business shall be deemed special that is transacted at an Extraordinary General Meeting, and all business that is
transacted at an Annual General Meeting shall be deemed special with the exception of the consideration of the accounts, balance sheets and the reports of the Officers, Secretary General and the Auditors, the election or the announcement of the election of the Officers of the Association.

8.2 - At all General Meetings the Chair shall be taken by the President and in his absence by one of the Vice-Presidents of the Association, and in the absence of the President and both the Vice-Presidents, the Chair shall be taken by the senior member of the Association present.

8.3 - The Chairman may, with the consent of the majority of the full members present at the meeting, adjourn any General Meeting from time to time and from place to place but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.

8.4 - Members who were not present at an original meeting shall be entitled to attend and vote at an adjournment thereof.

9 - VOTING RIGHTS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

9.1 - Each full member in good standing shall have one vote at General and/or Extraordinary General Meetings.

9.2 - Where a qualifying yacht has coowners as referred to in Clause 4.5 such coowners shall have only the voting rights of one member per yacht.

10 - OFFICERS

10.1 - The Officers of the Association shall consist of a President, one Vice-President for each Division, and an Honorary Treasurer, all of whom shall be full members of the Association in good standing.

10.2 - The Officers shall retire at the Second Annual General Meeting following their election.

10.3 - No members shall be eligible for election as President or as Vice-President for a period of more than two successive years.

10.4 - The President having served the maximum period shall not be eligible for reelection as President or Vice-President in the two succeeding years.

10.5 - For the purpose of this proviso “years” shall mean years of office.

10.6 - The President in addition to presiding at General Meetings of the Association (See Clause 8.2 above) shall be responsible for co-ordination with the Secretary General (See Clause 11 hereunder) and shall preside at all social and official events of the Association and represent the Association at all official and social events to which the Association is invited provided that in no event shall he take upon himself any duty, office or position which the full members in General Meetings have imposed upon the Secretary General (see Clause 11 hereof).

10.7 - The Vice-Presidents shall assist the President in the activities for the divisions they represent and shall deputise for the President if he is unable to be present at any social or official event. However, the duties that they so perform shall not exceed in scope the duties to be undertaken by the President referred to in Sub-Clause 6 above.

10.8 - In the event that an officer’s position becomes vacant, any two officers and three founder members shall have the power to appoint a full member to fill such vacancy until the next Annual General Meeting is convened.

11 - SECRETARY GENERAL

11.1 - The Secretary General of the Association shall be appointed by the full members in General Meeting voting in
accordance with the provisions hereof for such period of time and upon such terms and conditions as the members may think fit and any Secretary General so appointed may be removed other than by effluxion of time by a majority vote of fifty-one percent of the members either in General Meeting or by a mail and telefax poll upon resolution by the Officers of the Association.

11.2 - The Secretary General shall keep correct Minutes of all Meetings which shall be entered in Minute Books and confirmed and signed by the Chairman of the Meeting.

11.3 - The Secretary General shall comply with the instructions communicated to him by the full membership of the Association. His duties shall include acting as the Association’s representative for all purpose relating to Article 2 hereof and in regard to which he shall have complete authority and in relation to which all arrangements which he may make with other Authorities, Associations or Organisations shall be final and binding upon the Association unless the members deem fit to remove the Secretary General as provided by Sub-Clause 1 hereof.

12 - TECHNICAL ASSISTANT
The Officers, on proposal by the Secretary General, may approve the appointment of one or more Association Technical Assistants (A.T.A.), who, in consultancy with the Class Measurer and/or appropriate international offices (ORC, RORC, UNCL) will act as Association Technical Office (A.T.O.).

13 - FINANCE
13.1 - The financial resources of the Association are derived from the subscription paid by each member. The subscription shall be determined each year by the members at the Annual General Meeting of the Association. The subscription will be based on the amount of money required to enable the Association to fulfil its financial objectives for the ensuing year and retain a small contingency fund. The Secretary General of the Association may, from time to time, be authorised by the President to ask for additional contributions from the members for specific purposes.

13.2 - After providing for all expenses and payments considered by the members to be necessary or desirable, any balance of funds of the Association may be utilised or dealt with such manner as the members may determine for the furtherance of the objectives of the Association.

13.3 - Except for their financial liability and obligations as set forth herein members shall have no financial or legal liability or obligations either expressed or implied, to the Association or to others arising from their membership in the Association.

13.4 - The Secretary General shall keep correct accounts of all receipts and expenditure moneys and be responsible to the Treasurer for all expenditure incurred by the Secretary General on behalf of the Association.

13.5 - The association’s accounts shall be presented to the members at the Annual General Meeting each year.

13.6 - At least once in every year the accounts of the Association shall be examined and the correctness of the income and expenditure account and the balance sheet ascertained by one or more properly qualified auditor or auditors appointed by the members who shall present a written report to the Annual General Meeting. The appointment of the Auditor or Auditors shall be ratified at each Annual General Meeting.

14 - GENERAL
No member under any category shall utilise the Association or Association event or publication or yachts belonging to a
ny member of the Association for the purpose of business of any kind and no such member shall be allowed to make use of the name of the Association for the purpose of advertising privately or publicly.

15 - ALTERATION OF RULES
Any member of the Association who wishes to propose any alteration to or any addition to the rules of the Association’s Constitution may state the nature of such proposed alteration in writing to the Secretary General giving the name of a seconder at least thirty days before each Annual General Meeting and the Secretary General shall promptly circulate the proposed alteration or addition to the rules of the Association’s Constitution to all members for their consideration prior to the meeting. The proposing member shall then at the Annual General Meeting move the resolution of which he has given notice and if seconded a vote shall be taken thereon and to carry the resolution the number voting for it must be at least three-quarters of the membership of the Association.

16 - SAILING RULES
16.1 - Except as otherwise provided for or varied herein all races held or organised by or on behalf of the Association shall be governed by the Rules of the International Sailing Federation Racing Rules of Sailing, the Offshore Racing Congress Championship Rules for Offshore Classes, where appropriate,

16.1 - The sailing and racing programme for the following season or seasons shall be selected or confirmed by the full members of the Association at General Meetings and the Secretary General shall make all necessary arrangements for the implementation of the sailing and racing programme. The management and control of the Association’s own sailing and racing programme shall be the responsibility of the Secretary General who shall also be responsible for co-ordination with all other Associations and other clubs holding events in which Association boats take part as a class, and the necessary administration including:

Notice of Race
Sailing Instructions
Race Committee
Race Functions
Logistics
International Jury
Social Events

16.3 - World Championship. Members wishing to enter their sailing yachts for the World Championship referred to in Article 2 of these presents shall enter only one yacht owned by them and nominated for the Championship in accordance with the Rules of the Association, with the following exceptions:

II) A member who races his yacht in a Championship series in one continent and whose yacht has remained on the station or near thereto and for any reason is not available to participate in a subsequent series of the World Championship may, for the purpose of the subsequent series of the Championship, charter a sailing yacht of the categories mentioned in art. 2.1 and any points awarded to such chartered yacht will be added to any points awarded to the member’s registered and nominated yacht taking part in the first series of the World Championship, and the total carried forward as the member’s registered and nominated yacht’s points for the series, or vice versa.

III)) Any member building a yacht in accordance with the provisions of Art 3.4 (II) above which has not yet been
delivered at the time of the first series of the World Championship may charter a yacht of the categories mentioned in art. 2.1 for the first series of the World Championship and any points awarded to such yacht may be carried forward and added to any points awarded to the member’s new building yacht in a subsequent series of the World Championship providing the yacht is registered in the member’s name and nominated for the subsequent series of the World Championship in that year.

Members chartering a yacht in accordance with the provisions of Art 3.4 (IV) above may enter such yacht for all series of the World Championship or provided that the yacht they have chartered is present upon the station where one series of the World Championship is being held may charter another sailing yacht of the categories mentioned in Art. 2.1 for a subsequent series of the World Championship taking place on another station as referred to above.

Where members charter a sailing yacht under the provisions of this Clause for the purpose of any series of the World Championship in any one year, the yacht must be chartered on a bareboat basis with not more than two of its regular paid crew on board.

Members wishing to take advantage of the exceptions to Sailing Rule number 3 immediately herein before contained shall address a letter of request to the Secretary General for consideration by the Officers and the decision of the Officers shall be final on all matters relating to whether members shall or shall not be permitted to nominate alternative yachts under the provisions of the four sub-clauses referred to above.

17 - Any case occurring not provided for by these Articles shall be referred to the members in the General Meeting whose decision shall be final.

18 - This constitution shall be interpreted by and governed in accordance with the laws of the Canton of Geneva in the Federation of Switzerland.

APPENDIX ALPHA
Association Divisions

A - The fleet of the International Maxi
Association includes the following Divisions:

A.1 - Racing Division
Racer and Cruise/Racer yachts with LOA over 24 metres fully in compliance with IRC Rules and Regulations, having a rating certificate with the values within the range to be annually defined at the Association’s Annual General Meeting. Copy of the rating certificate shall be filed with the Secretariat and available to all members.

A.2 - Cruising Division
Cruiser yachts with LOA over 24 metres with an IRC certificate. Cruising specifications, type of sails, rig and fitting to be annually defined at the Association’s Annual General Meeting. Copy of the rating certificate shall be filed with the Secretariat and available to all members.

A.3 - Wally Division
Yachts with LOA over 24 metres fully in compliance with Wally Class Regulations. The Wally Class may modify the above LOA limit. A.4- Spirit of tradition Yachts with LOA over 24 metres built with non performing characteristics for modern
regattas.

A.5 - Mini Maxi

Racer and Cruiser/Racer yachts with LOA between 18 and 23.9 metres in compliance with IMS or IRC Rules and Regulations, having a rating certificate with values within a range to be annually defined at the Association’s annual General Meeting. Copy of the rating certificate shall be filed with the Secretariat and available to all members. Each Division may be further divided into groups.

APPENDIX BRAVO

Racing Rules

B - Annual Championship and fleet racing events

B.1 - General

B.1.1 - The International Maxi Association is responsible for the organisation of: The annual World Championship or World Cup of the Maxi Yachts and the IMA Championship

II) Other Series for the IMA Divisions, provided that a minimum of five IMA members participate

B.1.2 - The World Championship (or World Cup) and the IMA Championship shall be held according to the calendar of racing events approved in the General Meeting of the Association.

B.1.3 - Other IMA series, not forming part of the annual Championship, may be organised anywhere in collaboration with local yacht clubs, according to the decisions of the Association.

B.1.4 - IMA is establishing the donation of special Challenge Trophies for line honours in the most important offshore races worldwide.

B.1.5 - In order to promote and maintain the element of sportsmanship in IMA supported and sponsored races and trophies, unless unanimously agreed by the participating racing membership of a particular race or event, the owner member is required to steer his or her yacht at the start and for the entire first leg of the race and for at least 30% of the race. In the event of long distance races the owner member is required to steer at the start and for at least the first 30 minutes and steer at least 3 hours a day. He should further ensure a high level of participation by the amateur crew in steering the vessel.

B.1.5 - Sponsor(s) for the IMA events may be approved.

B.2 - Handicaps

B.2.1 - The Racing Division shall apply IRC handicaps. The IRC rating certificate may be issued either by the RORC or the UNCL but shall be endorsed by the ATO.

B.2.2 - The Cruising Division shall apply IRC handicaps. A proper IRC rating certificate shall be issued either by the RORC or the UNCL. The ATO may request additional information.

B.2.3 - The Wally Division shall apply Wally handicap as determined by the Wally Class Office.

B.2.4 - The Spirit of Tradition Division shall utilize daily handicaps as determined by the ATO based on previous performances, weather conditions and course.

B.2.5 - The Mini Maxi Division shall apply either IRC or IMS/ORC Club handicaps as determined annually at the Association’s Annual General Meeting.
B.3 - Scoring
The ORC scoring and penalties system as indicated in the Green Book – Paragraph 7, shall apply for the Maxi World Championship. The Low Point Scoring System – ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) – Appendix “A” shall apply for other IMA events.

B.4 - Entries
Entry in the IMA series is restricted to members of the Association and to other yachts, on invitation, similar to the categories indicated in Appendix Alpha of the IMA Bye Laws.

B.5 - Crew
B.5.1 - Crew list shall be delivered in writing to the Race Office on registration in each series, indicating the name of each member. Changes to the crew list shall be reported in writing to the Race Committee at least one hour before the scheduled start of each race, indicating names of substituting and substituted persons.
B.5.2 - Crew limits for the Mini Maxi Division shall be in compliance with the IMS/ORCClub certificate. Two further persons may be carried on board as guests.
B.5.3 - There is no crew limit for the yachts in the Racing, Cruising and Spirit of Tradition Divisions.
B.5.4 - All crew shall comply with the RRS Appendix 2 - ISAF Eligibility Code.

B.6 - Sail limitation
There are no limitations to the number of sails carried onboard yachts.

B.7 - Radio and electronics
All types of electronic navigational aid, including radar, V.O.R., satellite etc. are permitted.

B.8 - Offshore Special Regulations
Offshore Special Regulations governing minimum equipment and accommodation standards for Race Category 2 shall apply. Jackstays on deck are at the discretion of the owner or his delegate.

B.9 - Hauling out
B.9.1 - During an IMA regatta yachts shall not be hauled out after controls or a time specified in the Sailing Instructions, unless authorised by the International Jury.
B.9.2 - The cleaning of the hull at sea is permitted, as is the use of mask and bottles.

B.10 - Sponsorship
B.10.1 - All IMA Series are category A events.
B.10.2 - Except for the Racing Division, the sponsorship of yachts and crews is not permitted under the IMA Bye Laws, unless unanimously agreed by all entrants.
B.10.3 - The sponsorship of events is permitted with the prior approval of the Association. The presence and promotional activities of the sponsor at the events must be previously approved by the IMA representative.
B.10.4 - If an IMA series is organised in connection with a category C event, all yachts classified with the IMA yachts shall comply with IMA rules.

B.11 - Jury
B.11.1 - For the IMA Championship and IMA series, the International Jury will be appointed by the Association. The decisions of the Jury are final and are not subject to appeal.
B.11.2 - The Jury for the IMA Championship shall be formed of 5 members, all to be ISAF International Judges. One may be replaced by an experienced yachtsman. No more than two members shall be from the same nation.
B.11.3 - The Chairman and possibly at least another member of the International Jury shall be the same throughout the
Championship.

B.11.4 - For non-Championship IMA series the International Jury may be formed of three members only.

B.12 - Penalties

RRS 44.3, Scoring Penalties for Breaking Rules of Part 2, shall be in force.

B.13 - Fittings

Power assisted winches and rams are permitted in all Divisions, canting keels are permitted in the Racing Division, Mini Maxi Division and Wally Division. No material limitation is applied to hull, rig or sails.