THE FORMULA 16 GOVERNING COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

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Table of Contents

1. Title ..................................................................................................................................... - 2 -
2. Objectives ............................................................................................................................ - 2 -
3. Definitions ........................................................................................................................... - 2 -
4. Membership ......................................................................................................................... - 3 -
5. Subscription ......................................................................................................................... - 3 -
6. Management Committee ..................................................................................................... - 3 -
7. General Meetings ................................................................................................................ - 4 -
8. Championships .................................................................................................................... - 5 -
9. International Events ............................................................................................................. - 5 -
10. National Fleets .................................................................................................................. - 5 -
11. Formula 16 Class Rules Alterations and Amendments ..................................................... - 5 -
12. F16GC Constitution Alterations and Amendments ............................................................ - 6 -
13. Notice of Meeting and Postal Votes ................................................................................... - 6 -
14. Dissolution ........................................................................................................................ - 7 -
THE FORMULA 16 GOVERNING COUNCIL

CONSTITUTION

1. Title

The full title of the Association shall be-

*The Formula 16 High Performance Catamaran Governing Council.*

This can be abbreviated to *The Formula 16 Governing Council* or F16GC.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the F16GC are to promote and further the interests of the Formula 16 Catamaran throughout the world including:

a. To maintain the restricted design character and class rules of the Formula 16 High Performance Catamaran Class (F16 Class)

b. To co-ordinate and manage the affairs of the Class.

c. To consider recommendations on the control of the Class from the F16 global membership.

d. To encourage National and International competition within the F16 Class.

3. Definitions

**Member**

An owner or skipper of a measured and registered Formula 16 Catamaran that has paid his/her annual membership fee to his/her National Association or, in the case of direct membership, to the F16GC.

**Direct Member**

A member that is unable to join his/her local National Association and has been accepted as a member by the F16GC. In matters of voting the vote of a direct member is equivalent to one tenth of a vote by a member National Association.

**National Association**

(NA). A formalised group of at least 6 F16 members formed on a geographical or national basis, whose constitution has been ratified and accepted by the F16GC.

**Executive Committee**

Those members of the F16GC holding the posts of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

**Management Committee**

Those members of the F16GC holding formal posts within the Council, plus the Executive Committee.
WGM

World General Meeting. An annual meeting of the F16GC, usually (but not necessarily) held during each year’s F16 World Championship.

4. Membership

a. F16GC membership shall be given to the National Association of a country upon payment by said National Association of the prescribed subscription fee. At the time of payment of the subscription, the National Association shall submit details of each Fleet membership (names and addresses, boat type and sail number).

b. At a General Meeting of F16GC every member nation may exercise one vote per 10 registered boats.

c. Written delegation of the right to vote is not accepted.

d. The F16GC aims at inclusive membership of all National Association fleets. In the absence of a National Association, an F16 sailor may obtain direct membership of the F16GC. Direct membership such as this will not provide the member with any greater voting rights than being a member of a National Association. The fee for direct membership will be set by the Governing Council. The membership of Direct members will cease on the formation of a local National Association.

5. Subscription

a. The annual subscription shall be set in ‘Euros per registered boat’ and the level of Euros will be set annually by the F16GC. Subscriptions shall be due and payable on the 1st January each year.

b. Membership shall lapse automatically if the annual subscription remains unpaid by 31st March each year.

c. Direct membership fees will be payable and lapse at the same times as NA subscriptions.

6. Management Committee

a. The affairs of the F16GC shall be managed by the Governing Council Management Committee which shall be the only body with power to make recommendations to the F16 global membership for consideration of proposed changes to the F16 measurement rules.

b. The Council shall consist of an Executive Committee and Fleet Representation.

c. Executive Committee.
Officers elected to the positions of Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary shall be known as the Executive Committee and shall be elected by the participating members at the WORLD GENERAL MEETING (WGM). They will require 1 Proposer and 1 Seconder, both of whom shall be fully paid up members as per rules 4. (Membership) and 5. (Subscription)

d. Fleet Representation.
One member of each National Committee shall be nominated by a majority vote of that committee to represent the fleet on the Governing Council.

e. To be a member of the Governing Council you must first have full membership of a National Association. If there is no local National Association you may obtain direct membership of the F16GC for this purpose.

f. Each Committee Member shall serve from election until the conclusion of elections at the following WGM.

g. In the event of vacancies occurring on the Executive Committee for any reason whatsoever the Management Committee shall have the power to co-opt replacements via a simple majority vote. Other replacements will be nominated by the respective National Fleets or Member Associations.

h. Each Committee member shall have one vote. Decisions shall be reached by a simple majority and in the event of an equality of votes the Chairman of the Meeting shall have an additional vote.

i. Three members of the Committee, with voting rights, shall form a quorum.

j. Should members be unable to attend the meeting in person they may attend via phone or internet connection to the meeting place. This should be taken into consideration when planning the meeting.

k. Fourteen days notice of Committee Meetings must be given to all Committee Members. The notice of meeting shall include an agenda.

7. General Meetings

a. The WGM. of the F16GC shall be held at, and during each World Title Event, at a date, time and place set at the Committee's discretion. In the absence of a world title event, 28 days should be given as notice for the meeting and special consideration should be given to (6 i). ie- attendance by phone or internet.)

b. Business at a W.G.M. shall comprise:

i. Chairman's Report.

ii. Secretary's Report.

iii. Treasurer's Report and presentation of accounts.

iv. National Association and Fleet Reports.

v. Election of the Executive Committee.


vii. Consideration of proposals, with the exception of those concerning class rules, of which written notice has been received by the Hon. Secretary 3 months prior to the W.G.M.

b. Extraordinary General Meetings may be called by the Association Committee or shall be called by the President upon receipt by the Hon. Secretary of a request in writing.
signed by not fewer than 3 member nations of the Association (or the equivalent number of Direct Members).

c. At least four weeks notice together with a copy of the Agenda shall be given to all member nations of any General Meeting.

d. At any General Meeting decisions shall be by a simple majority except on matters concerning alterations or amendments to the Constitution or F16 Class Rules.

8. **Championships**

The F16GC shall arrange World, Continental and National Championships of the Class as may be required. The F16 Governing Council may delegate the organisation and running of such championships.

9. **International Events**

All International fleet meetings will be conducted under the then current ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing and the F16GC championship rules. In the event of any contradiction between the rules, those of the F16GC championship rules shall take precedence. The helmsman of each boat taking part in an International event must be a paid up member of his/her National or member Association.

10. **National Fleets**

a. Fleets may be formed by Association Members in any region on application to the Formula 16 Governing Council.

b. The Formula 16 Governing Council shall have the power to approve, disband or amalgamate fleets.

c. Fleets may form their own constitution provided that it has been submitted to the Formula 16 Governing Council for approval.

d. Fleets shall nominate a Secretary or other Officer to be their representative on the Formula 16 Governing Council.

e. Fleets may organise such local sailing and social activities as they wish, within the objects of the F16GC.

f. Fleets may levy a subscription on their membership to cover their operating expenses.

g. In special circumstances, the Formula 16 Governing Council may approve separate fleets for different areas of a country.

11. **Formula 16 Class Rules Alterations and Amendments**
a. The F16 Class Rules shall be subject to review and amendment a maximum of once every 5 years. This is except in matters of safety, statutory legislation or in the event of a need to eliminate a new development that threatens the future, or spirit of the F16 Class. In the event of the F16GC identifying a need to amend the rules within a 5 year period, the F16GC shall notify all voting members that a Special Amendment to the rules is being proposed. The Special Amendment process to be followed is the same as that for any other CLASS RULES ballot.

b. Proposals for any alterations or amendments to the F16 Class rules shall be submitted to the F16GC in writing and shall be signed by at least one financial member nation.

c. Appropriate ballot rules and an appropriate ballot paper shall be prepared by the Committee and circulated to all FINANCIAL FLEET MEMBERS. Each financial fleet member shall have one vote. The financial fleet member shall themselves return the completed ballot paper to the Returning Officer. To be valid, the completed ballot paper shall be received by the Returning Officer within ten weeks of the date of original circulation and comply with the ballot rules.

d. Proposals shall be deemed carried if two-thirds of votes cast are in favour. The results of the ballot shall be circulated by the Association Committee to all member nations forthwith including a statement by the Returning Officer of the votes cast.

e. Spare

12. F16GC Constitution Alterations and Amendments

a. Proposals for any alterations or amendments to the F16GC Constitution shall be submitted to the F16GC in writing and shall be signed by at least 3 financial member NAs.

b. Appropriate ballot rules and an appropriate ballot paper shall be prepared by the Committee and circulated to all FINANCIAL FLEET MEMBERS. Each financial fleet member shall have one vote. The financial fleet member shall themselves return the completed ballot paper to the Returning Officer. To be valid, the completed ballot paper shall be received by the Returning Officer within ten weeks of the date of original circulation and comply with the ballot rules.

c. Proposals shall be deemed carried if two-thirds of votes cast within a National Association are in favour. However, for such a Constitutional Amendment to be carried 80% of NAs that have been affiliated to the F16GC for a period of not less than 12 months must agree plus a two-thirds majority of Direct Members who are also required to have been affiliated for not less than 12 months to the F16GC. The results of the ballot shall be circulated by the Association Committee to all member nations forthwith including a statement by the Returning Officer of the votes cast.

d. Spare

13. Notice of Meeting and Postal Votes

a. Notice of meetings or ballot papers shall be deemed to be served if posted (by air mail if overseas) to the last known address of the member.
b. Non receipt of notices or ballot papers by members, or of postal votes by the Hon. Secretary shall not invalidate the proceedings of meetings or the result of a postal ballot.

14. **Dissolution**

The dissolution of F16GC may be required on a 75% majority vote at a General Meeting or Extraordinary Meeting called by the President to discuss such a matter. The distribution of F16GC funds (if any) shall be equally proportioned on a per member basis to all member nations.

Drafted 29th March 2006, revised March 2008