

## **Rules of the UK Mirror Class Association Ltd**

### **1. Title**

The full title of the Association shall be **THE MIRROR CLASS ASSOCIATION LIMITED**.

### **2. Objects**

The objects of the Association are to promote and further the interests of the Mirror Class throughout the United Kingdom and to represent the interests of the members as follows:-

- (a) to maintain the one-design character of the International Mirror Dinghy.
- (b) to keep members informed of developments concerning the Class and any proposals concerning the Association Rules and the International Class Rules.
- (c) to organise and co-ordinate Social Events, National and Area championships and UK representation at International Events and generally to encourage the safe and seamanlike use of the International Mirror Dinghy.
- (d) to encourage National and International competition in the United Kingdom for the Class.
- (e) to negotiate with the International Association on any matters relating to the International Class Rules.
- (f) to promulgate information on technical development within the International Mirror Class.
- (g) to co-ordinate and manage the affairs of the Class in the UK.
- (h) to keep an Association Register.

### **3. Terms and Definitions**

Throughout these rules the following defined terms will be used:-

- (a) "The Association" shall mean the Mirror Class Association Limited in the United Kingdom.
- (b) "The International Association" shall mean the International Mirror Class Association recognised by the Association and formed to control the affairs of the International Mirror Class throughout the world.
- (c) "The Committee" shall mean the committee of the Association, consisting of duly elected committee members and those members co-opted.
- (d) "The Association Rules" shall mean the rules governing the conduct of the Association.
- (e) "The Association Register" shall mean the register of owners of Mirror Class Dinghies in the United Kingdom who are members of the Association and other members, with their addresses, name and number of the boat to be kept as hereinafter provided.
- (f) "The Class" shall mean the class of sailing dinghy designed by Jack Holt and Barry Bucknell and made in accordance with their drawings and specifications, and known under the name International Mirror Class Dinghy, copyright owned by the ISAF (formerly I.Y.R.U.).
- (g) "The Measurement Rules" shall mean the International measurement rules issued by the ISAF as part of the International Class Rules and relating to measurement and construction of the class and governing the building of each International Mirror Class Dinghy and its rating as a recognised boat within the Class for Class racing purposes.
- (h) "The Registered number" shall mean the sail number allocated to the boat by the ISAF.
- (i) "The Class Secretary" shall mean the duly elected Secretary or duly appointed Secretary, as the case may be, of the Association.
- (j) "Certificate" shall mean a measurement certificate to be issued, ratified and endorsed as hereinafter provided and recording, inter alia:
  - (i) The registered number of the boat and the owner's name and address.
  - (ii) The fact that such International Mirror Class Dinghy after construction and officially measured, complied with the International Class rules together with such particulars as may be required by the International Class rules.
- (k) "Valid Certificate" shall mean a certificate in which:
  - (i) The particulars of ownership are up to date and as entered on the Association Register.
  - (ii) Any endorsement required by the Measurement Rules has been duly entered.
  - (iii) A current Membership card is applicable.
- (l) "Fleet" shall mean three or more registered International Mirror Class Dinghies as provided in 3(e) holding valid measurement Certificates, not under the organisation of

an already existing international Mirror Class Fleet, normally located sufficiently near to each other to permit regular racing between them.

(m) 'Owner and Joint Owner' shall mean any person or persons, corporation or association entered on a certificate as owner or joint owner of an International Mirror Class Dinghy.

(n) 'Member' shall mean any person holding one of the classes of membership defined in 4 below and 'Members' shall be construed accordingly.

#### **4. Membership and Voting Rights**

(a) The following classes of membership shall be recognised:-

- (1) Individual Membership
- (2) Associate Membership
- (3) Honorary Membership
- (4) Family Membership
- (5) Overseas Membership
- (6) Measurement Membership

(b) Individual Membership shall, upon payment of the prescribed annual subscription, be open to any owner of an International Mirror Class Dinghy, or in the case of joint owners, to any one of them, or in the case of an International Mirror Class Dinghy owned by a corporation or association to a nominated representative of that organisation.

(c) Associate membership shall, upon payment of the prescribed annual subscription of the Association, be open to any joint owner of an International Mirror Class Dinghy, or a member for the time being of a corporation or association owning an International Mirror Class Dinghy and not being an Individual member of the Association, or to individuals or clubs interested in the International Mirror Class.

(d) Honorary Membership shall be open to any person having an interest in the Association who is proposed by a Full Member and seconded by at least one member of the Committee and is elected after a majority vote by Members of the Association at any General Meeting of the Association.

(e) Family Membership shall, upon payment of the prescribed annual subscription, be open to any family owning an International Mirror Dinghy or Dinghies. A family shall be defined as Father, Mother and any children under the age of 19 years. An amended Family Membership card shall be issued upon payment of the prescribed subscription, and this shall entitle any or all members of that Family to compete in Association events for which they are qualified. One nominated member of the Family previously agreed with the Committee shall have the rights of Individual Membership relating to voting at an A.G.M. and qualifying for nomination to the Committee or as an Officer of the Association.

(f) Overseas Membership shall, upon payment of the prescribed annual subscription, be open to anyone resident outside the UK who wants to have, or maintain, contact with the Association and who or may not be the owner of an International Mirror Class Dinghy. Overseas Members shall be entitled to attend and speak at General Meetings but not vote. They may take part in Association events but are not eligible for trophies other than as provided in rule 13 (a) below.

(g) Measurement Membership shall, upon payment of the prescribed fee, be open to any RYA approved Mirror Measurer. Measurement Members will not be registered as boat owners and will not be entitled to take part in any Association Event. They may attend and speak at General Meetings but not vote. Their name and address will appear in the Associations Yearbook and they will receive copies of the Yearbook and Reflections.

(h) Members shall be bound by the Association Rules.

(i) Each Individual and Nominated Family Member shall be entitled to one vote at a General Meeting of the Association or in a postal ballot. Associate and Honorary Members shall be entitled to attend and speak at any General Meeting, but not to vote.

(j) All Individual, Associate or Family Members of the Association shall ipso facto be an equivalent Member of the International Association.

(k) Termination of Membership - Membership may terminate by:-

- (i) Resignation in writing after payment of all current dues.
- (ii) Disbandment of the Association, or cessation of activities.
- (iii) Expulsion. For this, a meeting of the committee shall be called or a postal ballot of the Committee taken with one month's notice in writing, setting out reasons for the proposed expulsion. The member in question shall have the right to appeal against this decision and may request a hearing in the presence of the Committee.

## **5. Management**

- (a) The Officers of the Association shall consist of a Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore and Class Secretary all being members of the Association.
- (b) The Committee of the Association shall comprise the officers as in rule 5(a) and not less than 4 and not more than 15 other members of the Association, elected annually as Committee Members at a General Meeting of Members, or by postal Ballot. The Association may also elect a President at a General Meeting of Members.
- (c) Every candidate for election shall be either an individual, nominated family or associated member of the Association.
- (d) No Officer shall remain in the same office for more than three consecutive years without re-election.
- (e) The Committee shall have powers to co-opt any person to assist it, whether a full member of the Association or not, but such persons shall have no vote in Committee. Anyone appointed by the Committee to fill a vacancy as a representative of a recognised area shall have a vote in Committee if he/she is the sole representative of that Area.
- (f) No elected member shall serve on the Committee for more than three years at the end of which period he shall retire, but be eligible for re-election.
- (g) The Committee need not fill a vacancy arising in the committee unless the total number of Committee Members has dropped below four. Committee members appointed to fill vacancies shall remain in office until the expiry of the term of office of the person whose position they have filled.
- (h) The affairs of the Association shall be managed by the Committee, which shall be the only body empowered to make recommendations to the International Association for making changes in the Measurement Rules.
- (i) The Commodore shall take the chair at meetings of the Committee and at meetings of members, except that, where the Commodore is unavailable, another Officer may deputise for him or her.
- (j) At its first meeting, to be held immediately after the Annual General Meeting of the Association, the Committee shall:-
  - (1) Elect an Honorary Treasurer who shall control the funds of the Association, make such disbursements as the Committee shall direct, keep an accurate record of the financial affairs of the Association and present an annual statement at each Annual General Meeting. The Class Secretary may fulfil the function of Treasurer.
  - (2) Appoint an independent Auditor who shall, as necessary, certify the Annual financial statement.
- (k) The Class Secretary shall keep correct minutes and records of all Committee and General Meetings, together with the Association Register and shall be responsible for communicating the decisions of the Committee to members of the Association, to the Secretary of the International Association and, when directed by the Committee, to owners and joint owners not being members of the Association.
- (l) At meetings of the Committee, one-third of the elected members shall form a quorum.
- (m) The Committee shall have the power to make recommendations to the members in General Meetings, or by post, for alterations in or additions to the Association Rules.
- (n) The Committee may arrange an Annual National Championship of the class and shall coordinate such Area 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 ISAF and the International Association.
- (o) 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 Class Secretary, and any Committee Member not answering a motion communicated to him in writing within three weeks of the date of sending shall be deemed to have agreed to such a motion.
- (p) Acceptance of a Certificate by an owner or joint owners shall ipso facto render him or them subject to the jurisdiction of the Association or the Committee in any matter pertaining to class rules.
- (q) All interpretations obtained by the Committee on Rules of Measurement and Construction shall be communicated to all Members of the Association within 18 months of the rule being made.

- (r) No member shall be required to conform to a ruling which has not been published within 18 months of the rule being made.
- (s) If upon winding up or dissolution of the Company there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Company, but shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having objects similar to those of the Company.

#### **6. Powers of the Committee**

Subject to the provision of these rules, and in particular to the objects of the Association as expressed in Rule No.2, the Committee shall be empowered to perform all functions of management and administration. The making of payments and receipts of monies shall be validly evidenced only by the signature of the Treasurer or his Deputy as appointed by the Committee. Payments of monies exceeding the sum of £100 shall require the signature of the Class Secretary or Treasurer and at least one other Officer.

#### **7. Conduct of Meetings of the Association**

- (a) The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held annually 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 shall be at the Committee's discretion.
- (b) A Special General Meeting shall be called by the Commodore or Class Secretary or upon receipt by the Class Secretary of a written request, signed by not fewer than thirty full members of the Association.
- (c) At least twenty-one days written notice shall be given to members of any General Meeting.
- (d) At any General Meeting or Committee Meeting decisions shall be limited to items on the agenda and, other than those concerning Measurement Rules, shall be carried by a majority vote. Voting shall be by a show of hands, unless a poll is demanded by not fewer than three of the full members present. At any meeting the Chairman shall have a casting vote. The Class Secretary 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 Class Secretary within two weeks of the date of posting the ballot paper.
- (e) At any General Meeting of the Association, 12 members entitled to vote shall form a quorum.
- (f) At any General Meeting of the Association a decision in favour of a motion to recommend to the International Association a change in, or addition to, the Measurement Rules shall require a majority of two thirds of the members present entitled to vote.
- (g) Any motion to be put to a General Meeting of the Association shall be proposed and seconded by the Committee or by full members and shall be submitted in writing to the Class Secretary at least 14 days before the date of such meeting.
- (h) Any motion put to a General Meeting of the Association shall not be considered unless the Proposer, or the Seconder or a person appointed by them to accept amendments to the motion on their behalf, is present. Any person so appointed must be a member entitled to vote.

#### **8. Subscriptions and Registration Fees**

Subscriptions payable for all classes of membership of the Association shall be payable annually and shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting and shall become due on the first day of January of the following year. A Membership Card shall be issued upon payment of the annual subscriptions. A member joining the Association after 1st October, in any year and paying a subscription at the rate set for the following year shall be a member for the rest of the year and all of the following year. Any member whose subscription has not been paid within three months of the date due may have his name removed from the list of members of the Association by the Committee. A member's name may be restored to the Association Register at the discretion of the Committee, or on payment of any subscription due.

#### **9. Annual Contributions to the International Association**

A percentage of the Association's annual income from subscriptions, which shall be the same as that applied to all other National Mirror Class Associations, may be contributed to the International Association annually as a general levy.

#### **10. Accounts**

- (a) The Committee shall cause true accounts to be kept giving full particulars of:-
  - (1) All moneys, assets and liabilities of the Association.

- (2) All moneys received and expended by the Association, and the reason for such receipts and expenditure.
- (3) All sales and purchases by the Association.
- (b) The Committee shall cause an annual financial statement to be prepared and presented at every Annual General Meeting of the Association.

#### **11. Protection of 'One-Design' of the Class**

- (a) The Association shall assist the International Association to maintain the one-design character of the Mirror Class Dinghy and shall report to the International Association any matter which may appear to violate or threaten the spirit of the International Class Measurement Rules.
- (b) No yacht shall be entered on the Association Register as an International Mirror Class Dinghy unless it has been supplied by an ISAF Mirror licensed Builder or Kit manufacturer.
- (c) Certificates for International Mirror Class Dinghies shall be obtainable from the RYA upon production of a measurement form properly completed by an Official Measurer appointed by the Association and the RYA. and showing the boat to be within the requirements of the Measurement Rules.
- (d) The Association shall arrange for inspection of certificates of all International Mirror Class Dinghies competing in National Championships, and shall arrange that entry forms for such Championships give notice that all certificates shall be inspected.
- (e) The Association and the RYA. shall be responsible for the appointment of Official International Mirror Class Measurers and for the compilation and distribution of measurement forms. No responsibility shall rest with the Association or the RYA in respect of errors made by these Measurers. Official International Mirror Class Measurers may not measure their own Mirror Dinghies or sails, nor those built by themselves or their immediate relatives. Designers, builders and sailmakers or their Agents who are Official International Mirror Class Measurers may not measure their own products.

#### **12. Class Racing**

- (a) All class racing and handicap racing shall be sailed under numeral pendant 6 and in accordance with the Association's sailing Instructions.
- (b) No boat shall be permitted to race in any event for International Mirror Class Dinghies unless it holds a valid Measurement Certificate and displays on the vertical face of the aft buoyancy tank or the aft transom the coloured self-adhesive sticker supplied, showing current membership of the Association. In the event of the alleged loss of or damage to the sticker, disqualification of the boat from the race may only be avoided by the immediate production to the race Committee of his/her current Membership Card by the owner.
- (c) For all Association events there shall be two persons in each boat (one of whom shall be a member of their National Association) except in a race which has been specifically designated as single-handed (then the helm must be a member of his or her National Association). In order to compete in Open coaching, Travellers. Regional and national competitions, membership of the Mirror Class Association is required for both the helm and crew.

#### **13 Trophies**

- (a) No National or Area Championship trophy or title other than those specifically designated for non-U.K. competitors, may be won by a person not normally resident in the U.K. unless that person was invited to compete in that event by the Committee of the Association (non-UK residents may sail in these events with the approval of the Association but in that case shall not be eligible for titles or trophies).
- (b) Trophies owned by the Association shall be presented in accordance with the wish of the person( s) who originally gave the trophy to the Association. The Association may decide that a trophy should be awarded for a different purpose. Consent should be sought from the giver of the trophy or his successor. If this is not possible, the decision shall be made by the Committee. [Trophies of the Association are listed on later pages.]

#### **14. Mirror Class Association Prescriptions**

- (a) International Mirror Class Dinghies sailing only at Club level including Club Open Meetings, but excluding all Area, National and International Championships, shall not be subject to the International Measurement Rules part B.1. Hull, provided they comply with the relevant Class Rules in effect when they were first certificated.

- (b) International Mirror Class Dinghies sailing in UK National and Area championships shall be “grandfathered” until 1st March 1993 and thereafter provided:-
- 1) prior notice to that effect is given in the notice of the event published in the Association’s official Year-book or in “Reflections” and;
  - 2) they comply with the relevant Class Rules in effect when they were first certificated.

**NOTES**

- (1) In these rules references to the “owner”, “joint owner” or “ownership” of an International Mirror Class Dinghy mean the person or persons, corporation or association associated with that boat in the Association Register or on a Certificate who may not be the legal owner.
- (2) The 1992 AGM ruled that under rule 14 (b) notice shall be deemed to have been given in all cases until such time as an AGM decides otherwise.
- (3) The 1994 AGM ruled that the Association’s Sailing Instructions (as set out in this Yearbook) must be used for all Events held in the Association’s name.
- (4) The Committee has issued a blanket invitation to all Members of the Mirror Class Association of Ireland under Rule 13(a).
- (5) Members rebuilding a boat are asked to notify the Class Secretary so that the rebuild can be registered.