

HOBIE CLASS ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA

DIVISION 3

BYLAWS

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ARTICLE ONE - NAME AND GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES

The name of the organization is the Hobie Class Association of North America (HCANA) Division 3, hereafter referred to as the Division. The geographic boundaries of this Division include that part of California State north of Bakersfield to Carpinteria up to the Oregon border and from the Pacific Ocean east to the Nevada State Border including Western Nevada. Subdivisions, called Fleets, can organize themselves within the Division according to geographic proximity.

ARTICLE TWO - PURPOSE

The Division was organized for the following purpose:

1. To encourage and promote the racing of Hobie Cat sailboats.
2. To encourage and promote Hobie Cat activities among the members of the Division and other Hobie Cat organizations in the U.S. and throughout the world.
3. To formulate rules governing sailing competitions among the members and fleets of the Division.
4. To exercise advisory jurisdiction over activities carried on by the members and fleets of the Division and to enforce the bylaws and rules of the Division upon all members, fleets, and individuals who are subject to its jurisdiction.
5. To foster educational programs for the training of members' seamanship and navigation.
6. To provide training for candidates and crews for international, national and regional competitions, by organizing and holding competitive events similar in nature.
7. To foster and promote public interest in participation in international, national, regional, and divisional events.
8. No person shall be denied the right to participate in any event within the jurisdiction of the Division or to manage or otherwise be involved in the participation of such an event, or having participated shall suffer any penalty on the grounds of race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin. This section shall not prevent the conduct of separate events for males and females and juniors.

ARTICLE THREE - MEMBERSHIP

All HCANA members residing within the geographic boundaries of the Division (see Article One) are members of the Division.

No person or Fleet resident in the geographic area of the Division who is interested in the racing of Hobie Cats or any activity related thereto shall be denied membership in the Division for any reason other than for misconduct or nonpayment of dues.

All Members shall have the privilege of attending and voting at all Annual and Special meetings of the Division, and shall receive all publications, as the Board of Directors shall from time to time prescribe. All Members shall be eligible to serve on Division Committees.

ARTICLE FOUR - MEETINGS

1. The Annual meeting of the Division shall be held in October, November, or December of each year at such time and place as the Board of Directors may determine. The meeting must not be held before the last regatta of the year, but, if possible, should be held in conjunction with it. Notice shall be sent to all Members at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the meeting.
2. 20% of all Members, but no less than 10, shall constitute a quorum and shall be necessary to conduct the business of the Division. A meeting at which there is no quorum may be adjourned for a period of not more than three (3) weeks and the Secretary shall send notice to all members stating the date of the rescheduled meeting.
3. The Division Chair, when deemed in the best interest of the Division, may call special Meetings of the Division. A notice of a Special Meeting shall state the reason for the calling of the meeting and the nature of the business to be transacted.
4. At the written request of a majority of the Board of Directors or at the written request of not less than 50% of the Members, the Division Chair shall call a Special Meeting to be held within six weeks of the receipt of such request and notice of the meeting shall be sent to all Members at least twenty-one (21) days before the date set for the Special Meeting.
5. No business other than that specified in the notice of a Special Meeting may be dealt with at such meeting without a 75% majority consent of the Members attending the meeting.

ARTICLE FIVE – VOTING - *RETIRED*

1. *HCANA Fleets shall be represented by delegates, in person, at all meetings of the Division. They shall be entitled to one vote per Fleet. A delegate's authority to represent and vote on behalf of the Fleet, if challenged, must be in writing and attested to by the Secretary or some other appropriate officer of the Fleet represented.*
2. *Delegates shall be chosen from persons who are active members in the Fleet, which they represent and are current members of the North American Hobie Class Association.*
3. *Fleet, which is delinquent in its dues or other financial obligations to the Division, shall not be permitted to vote at any meeting of the Division.*

ARTICLE SIX - ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Roll call
2. Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting
3. Reports of Officers
4. Election of Officers and members of the Board of Directors
5. Reports of Committees
6. Unfinished business
7. New business
8. Setting the new Division budget

The above order of business may be changed from time to time at the discretion of the Division Chair.

ARTICLE SEVEN - OFFICERS

The Division shall have the following Officers:

1. Chair
2. One or more Vice Chair(s)
3. One or two Secretary/Treasurers

If there are more than one Vice Chair (Secretary/Treasurers), one will be designated as Senior Vice Chair (or Senior Secretary/Treasurer).

ARTICLE EIGHT - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

1. Chair: The Chair shall preside at all meeting of the Division and perform such other duties as may be delegated to him/her from time to time by the Board of Directors. Specifically, the duties shall include:
 - a. Calling the annual Division Meeting,
 - b. Being the focal point for all Division appeals of protest committee rulings,
 - c. Arrange for all Division Regatta insurance, and to verify all Fleets have regatta insurance, which list the Division as an also-insured,
 - d. Handling logistics for Points Regattas.
 - e. Advising regatta chairpersons on the conduct of regattas.
2. Vice Chair: The Senior Vice Chair, if present, shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the Chair. In the event the Chair is unable to perform the designated duties, the Board of Directors may designate one of the Vice Chair(s) to be Interim Chair. Specific duties of the Vice Chair include:
 - a. The responsibility for all Division regatta equipment, but he/she may delegate this job to another who will then be known as a Regatta Equipment Manager.
 - b. Keeping record and compiling of Division standings.
3. Secretary/Treasurer: The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Division and of the Board of Directors. The Secretary/Treasurer shall conduct the correspondence of the Division, send out all notices and perform such other duties as usually pertain to the position of Secretary. Specific duties of the Secretary/Treasurer include:
 - a. Collecting and receiving all moneys.
 - b. Keeping a correct account thereof and depositing said moneys in such bank or banks as may be designated by the Board of Directors.
 - c. Submitting a written report of the financial condition of the Division.
 - d. Emailing the minutes of the Division Meetings to all Members via Hobie Google Group.
4. The Officers of the Division, by virtue of their office, shall be members of the Board of Directors.
5. No officer or member of the Board of Directors of the Division may receive a salary or compensation from the Division, but nothing herein shall be construed to prevent

an officer or member of the Board of Directors from receiving compensation for expenses from the Division for duties performed on behalf of the Division.

ARTICLE NINE - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. There shall be a Board of Directors consisting of the Officers of the Division.
Members of the Board shall be selected without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, or sex.
2. The Board of Directors shall have general control and management of affairs and funds of the Division. It shall have full power and it shall be its duty to carry out the purposes of the Division according to law and as provided in these bylaws.
3. The Chair of the Division shall preside at all meetings. In the absence of the Chair, the Senior Vice Chair, or if none has been designated, the Vice Chair shall preside.
4. Two-thirds of the entire Board shall constitute a quorum and a vote of a majority of the Board of Directors present at any board meeting at which a quorum is present shall be necessary for the transaction of the business.
5. Without in any way limiting the powers of the Board of Directors, it shall:
 - a. Appoint committees and chair(s) thereof as it may deem appropriate to further the purpose of the Division.
 - b. Determine the recipients of the Division awards.
 - c. Fill vacancies in the Officers and the Board of Directors until the next annual meeting.
 - d. Hire all consultants of the Division and fix their compensation.
6. The business of the Board of Directors may be carried out by correspondence and phone. The Board shall meet at the call of the Chair. Members unable to attend a meeting may vote by mail (fax, E-mail, etc.) on questions that have been submitted to them for the vote. Members voting by mail shall be deemed to be present for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum with respect to the particular matter that was voted on by mail (E-mail, etc.).
7. The Board of Directors may expel or suspend any member of the Division by a two-thirds vote of the entire Board for any violation of the bylaws or any conduct, which in the opinion of the Board is improper and/or prejudicial to the welfare, reputation, or best interest of the Division. No member shall be expelled or suspended for a period exceeding three months without having been given two weeks written notice of the charges and of the time when said member can submit to the Board a written response to such charges. Any member expelled or suspended will be prohibited from competition, and if the member is determined to complete, the member will not be scored nor be eligible for any awards.

ARTICLE TEN - COMMITTEES

(other than the appeals committee)

1. All committees and their chairmen as herein provided shall be appointed and the Board of Directors shall delineate their duties.
2. All committees shall be subject to the direction and control of the Board of Directors, but each Committee shall be authorized to prescribe rules and procedures for the direction of the activities assigned to it.

ARTICLE ELEVEN - ELECTION AND TERMS OF OFFICE

The Chair, Vice Chair(s), and Secretary/Treasurer(s) shall be elected at the Annual Meeting for a term of one year and may be successively re-elected.

ARTICLE TWELVE - APPEALS COMMITTEE AND APPEALS

1. The Chair of the Division shall appoint Appeals Committee members and their chair when needed.
2. It shall be the duty of the Appeals Committee to hear and decide, in conformity with the Racing Rules of Sailing, all appeals herein provided for. A member of the Appeals Committee, who is the skipper, crew or owner in whole or in part of the yacht which is a party to an appeal shall not act as a member of the Appeals Committee in connection with such appeal.
3. The Appeals Committee shall accept appeals from a competitor or representative concerning the decision of the Race Committee or Protest Committee of the race in question.
4. The decision of the Division Appeals Committee must be unanimous, or the Appeal must be sent to the HCANA for decision.
5. If any party to the Appeal is dissatisfied with the decision of the Appeals Committee, that party may appeal to the HCANA and/or to the Appeals Committee of the United States Sailing Association. The appealing party is responsible for the payment of fees, if any, associated with the appeal.
6. Appeals by members of the Division must be filed in writing within two weeks of the decision by the Race Committee or Protest Committee, and the procedures for making appeals shall comply with Appendix B of the Rules of Sailing.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN - DUES

1. There are no dues to be a member of the Division.
2. The Division shall aim at maintaining a minimum of \$5,000 in its bank account. A multi-year budget shall be established to reach this aim, if necessary, with special consideration given to events that will enhance the Division's standing in the Hobie community and the communities the Division operates in.

ARTICLE FOURTEEN - POINTS REGATTA RACE MANAGEMENT

1. The US Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing shall be adhered to, except where modified by the IHCA Rules.
2. IHCA Standard Sailing Instructions shall be used in the form supplied by HCANA to Division. Minor changes may be made in the starting sequence and the type of marks and/or shapes used at the ends of the start and finish lines. A copy of the sailing instructions be used at all Points Regattas is included in these Bylaws in Article Seventeen - Appendix 1.
3. All Points Regattas must use the flag and sound signals as shown in Article Seventeen - Appendix 2. It is strongly recommended that races other than Points Regattas also use the standard signals.
4. Events run by Division or using Division funds shall submit a budget to the Division Treasurer for event approval.
5. Fleets, at their choosing, may limit the size of their regattas through registration or pre-registration.
6. The following is a list of people and committees, which should be considered when organizing a Division Points Regatta:
 - a. People in charge:
 - Chair
 - Vice-Chair
 - Race Committee Chair
 - b. Committees:
 - Clean-up
 - Finance
 - Photography
 - Protest
 - Publicity
 - Racing/Chase Boats
 - Trophies
 - Registration
 - Social - Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner
 - Sponsorship
 - Town Liaison
 - Traffic Control
 - Communication

ARTICLE FIFTEEN – DIVISION POINTS

The Division Points System is intended exclusively for Division ranking and not for the qualification for Continental Championships. The points assigned to each finisher in a given regatta scale with the number of boats racing in a fleet according to the scoring chart included in these bylaws in Article Seventeen - Appendix 3. Four (4) additional comments must be made.

1. The number of Points Regattas counting for the Division points championship will be one plus the integer part of the number which is one-half the total number of Division Points Regattas for one year. (i.e. 10 Points Regattas, $5 + 1 = 6$; 11 Points Regattas, $5 + 1 = 6$). Each skipper's highest points value of 6 regattas will be counted. If 6 or less regattas are attended, then all regattas are counted toward Division points.
2. The points system is equally applied to Division and State Championship and regular points regattas.
3. The calendar year will delineate the season for earning points. (i.e. regattas held in 2024 will determine Division Champions for 2024).
4. The Points Regatta Race Chair, who opted not to compete in the points regatta, will receive 2nd place points for working any Points Regatta. All others involved in activities, which prevent them from racing in the regatta, may earn points for working their Fleets Points Regatta. The number of points awarded will be determined by dividing the total number of points the person earned during the season by the number of Points Regattas participated in. These points will be awarded to each participant listed above for only one regatta per season. All names of these participants are to be given to the Secretary.

ARTICLE SIXTEEN - AMENDMENTS

Any amendment in the Bylaws shall be initiated by the majority of the entire Board of Directors, shall be circulated to all Members at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting or special meeting called for the purpose of ratifying such proposed amendment, and shall not be effective until ratified by a majority vote of the Members at an Annual or Special Meeting; provided that if such proposed amendment is not so circulated at least 30 days prior to such meeting, the ratification of such amendment shall require the unanimous vote of all Members at such meeting.

ARTICLE SEVENTEEN - APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1

INTERNATIONAL HOBIE CLASS ASSOCIATION STANDARD SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

<http://hcana.hobieclass.com/standard-sailing-instructions/>

APPENDIX 2

THE FLAGS (REF. US SAILING RULE 4)

APPENDIX 3

DIVISION SCORING

<https://div3.hobieclass.com/regatta-results-2024/>

APPENDIX 4

DIVISION OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

<https://div3.hobieclass.com/officers-and-directors-for-2025/>

APPENDIX 5

EXISTING DIVISION GUIDELINES

1. Fleet Race Committees retain the responsibility to group low participation boats at Point Regattas.
2. Regatta Points are given to classes with three (3) or more boats only; all others will be combined and scored in an open class.
3. At a Points Regatta, there must be an A Fleet skipper who will act as advisor to the race committee and will be designated Fleet Captain. Compulsory Information Regarding Division Regatta Fliers:
 - a. All Regatta Fees, all registration fees, HCANA membership at one of the five levels, and/or any other fees relating to the event.
 - b. Comptips are mandatory at all Division Points Regattas. A skipper can get a one-time exemption from this rule. A skipper sailing without a COMPTIP will be noted on the score sheet and recorded with the Division Secretary.
 - c. Insurance Disclaimer: "This Regatta is officially sanctioned by Division. All activities are staffed by Division volunteers."