



European Hobie Cat Association Constitution and Bylaws

As ratified by the EHCA Council on February 25th, 2024.

European Hobie Cat Association Constitution and Bylaws

CONTENT:		page
Article 1	Title & Geographic Boundaries	3
Article 2	Purpose and Aims	3
Article 3	Policies & Definitions	4
Article 4	Membership	4
Article 5	European Executive Committee	6
Article 6	European Council	9
Article 7	Constituent associations	10
Article 8	Standing committees and councils	12
Article 9	Appeals	12
Article 10	Suspension and removal from office	12
Article 11	Amendments	12
Appendix A	Honorary & Honorary Life Members	14
Appendix B	EHCA Bylaws, Rules, Definitions and Procedures as decided by the European Council	15
	1. Allocation of Pre-Qualified Spots for Hobie 16 European Championships.	15
	2. Limitation to the total number of Nation spots.	-
	3. Deadline of reporting pre-qualified teams.	-
	4. Hobie 16 Europeans Gold Fleet size.	-
	5. Hobie 16 Europeans Gold Fleet series.	-
	6. Hobie 16 Europeans Youth series.	16
	7. Number of races per day at the Europeans.	-
	8. Spot for Women.	-
	9. Women HC16 Europeans sailed without spinnaker.	-
	10. Spot for the combined master's series at Hobie 16 Europeans.	-
	11. EHCA Class Event Per Diem.	-
	12. Hobie Europeans - host country report.	-
	13. EHCA Class Event Fee.	-
	14. EHCA Class Event Per Diem.	-
	15. Sailor Nationality.	17
	16. Allocation of Pre-Qualified Spots for World Championships.	-
	17. Policy for Hobie European Championships in years with Hobie World Championships.	-
	18. Nations reports.	-
	19. Membership requirements at national championships.	-
	20. EHCA membership fee	-
Appendix C	Format Guidelines of the Hobie Europeans	18
Appendix D	Hobie 16 Europeans Spot Allocation System	19
Appendix E	Actual fees	20

Article 1.
Title & Geographic Boundaries

1. Title: The name of the association shall be the European Hobie Cat Association, hereinafter referred to as the EHCA. The EHCA contains National organizations and fleets, all of which are components of the association.
2. Geographic Boundaries/Jurisdiction: Europe is a region of the IHCA (International Hobie Class Association). EHCA has authority over all activities of the Hobie Class Associations throughout the Region, and its powers shall be vested in and carried out by the European Council.
3. Insignia: The emblem of the EHCA shall be the recognized Hobie symbols.
 - A. The mark "HOBIE" and "HOBIE CAT" written in any form and stylized "H" are registered trademarks.
 - B. The EHCA and its associations shall require no right, title or interest in the Hobie trademark in any form, but may use it for its interest, publications and events.
4. Headquarters: The location and official address of the EHCA headquarters shall be left to the discretion of the EHCA Executive Committee.
5. The official publication platform of the EHCA shall be the EHCA website.
 - A. All decisions and interpretations of the EHCA Council and Executive Committee shall be published therein.
 - B. The EHCA Executive Committee shall have the right to approve the final copy of these decisions and interpretations.

Article 2.
Purpose and Aims

1. Purpose: The purpose of the EHCA is to establish and promote the highest standards of Hobie Cat sailing/racing in its geographic boundaries in collaboration with IHCA, National, and international sailing authorities.
2. Aims: The aims of the EHCA include:
 - A. To promote and develop Hobie Class Racing in all countries within the region under uniform rules.
 - B. To authorize, co-ordinate and promote European Championships and other international events.
 - C. To provide a medium of exchange of information among Hobie sailors throughout Europe.
 - D. To encourage and foster the enjoyment of the sporting, competitive, and recreational aspects of sailing.
 - E. To keep each boat as equal, simple, and cost free as possible by rigidly maintaining, without deviation, the one-design features of Hobie class racing.
 - F. To encourage the use of sole racing tactics and sailing skill to increase boat speed.
 - G. To actively cooperate with the IHCA, the World Sailing (WS) and national sailing authorities in all countries within the European Region where Hobie Cats are sailed.

Article 3. Policies & Definitions

1. Policies: The policies of the EHCA include:
 - A. To maintain Hobie Cat sailboats as one-design sailboats.
 - B. The EHCA shall be affiliated with the IHCA and to the WS by its membership of the IHCA.
 - C. To host Hobie events according to the racing rules of the WS and the class rules of the IHCA using procedures as outlined by IHCA and/or EHCA”.
 - D. English as the official language of the EHCA constitution, bylaws and all official communications.
 - E. All references within these bylaws to the male gender also equally refer to the female gender.
 - F. The European Council is solely responsible for the definition, determination, and modification of EHCA policies.

2. Definitions: These words and their definitions shall represent the interpretations to be utilized throughout this document:
 - A. Calendar year .The calendar year shall be defined as January 1 through December 31.
 - B. Deadline Postmark .The deadline postmark or other electronic method date shall be 11:59 PM of the specific deadline date.
 - C. In Good Standing .In good standing shall be membership status that represents completion of the membership application and full payment of membership dues within the current calendar year.
 - D. Majority .A majority shall consist of the greater number of member votes received by the specific deadline.
 - E. Quorum .A quorum is the minimum number of members of the EHCA’s European Council necessary to transact business.
 - i. European Council Meeting Quorum: The European Council meeting quorum shall consist of fifty-one percent (51%) of the eligible members as defined in article 6, section 1.
 - ii. European Council Vote by posted Ballot: The quorum for a council vote utilizing a written mailed or dated other electronic ballot, shall be fifty-one percent (51%) of the eligible voting members (as defined in article 6, section 1.), completed ballot responses received by the specific deadline.

Article 4. Membership

1. Qualifications: Membership shall be open to all people interested in the sport of Hobie Cat sailing.
2. Privileges: A member in good standing, who has joined through constituent national association, shall have membership privileges as follows:
 - A. Entitled to participate in all sailing events sanctioned by the EHCA/IHCA in such events without additional membership fees.

- B. Introduce motions, vote and hold office and serve on committees.
3. Obligations: Membership implies that the applicant undertakes and agrees to be bound by the constitution and bylaws of the EHCA/IHCA upon being accepted to membership.
 4. Classification: There shall be four classifications of membership: Individual, Honorary, Honorary Life, and Corporate.
 - A. Individual: Membership shall be through the respective national Hobie Class association subject to the provisions of the national associations of these bylaws. Except for the Channel Island Hobie Cat Association (CIHCA) and changes according to Article 7. In these Bylaws only one association per country will be accepted by the EHCA. Each National Hobie Class Association recognized by their national sailing authority, has the right to a membership of the EHCA. A minimum number of individual members to a National Association may be required in order to get full voting membership. If a fleet or national Association do not exist in a specific country, the sailors from this country can get a EHCA Direct Membership. EHCA Direct Membership does not qualify to vote in the Council. The definitions of junior and youth members follow the criteria outlined in the class rules.

“Individual” membership is defined in the following categories:

- i. Category A – Active members

Membership in Category A shall be open to all. Hobie owners (whole or partly), or members actively racing as skipper/helm/crew shall always be admitted in this category.
(IHCA, regional and national/fleet membership fees apply).
 - ii. Category B – Non racing members/supporters
 - a. International supporters:

Everyone interested in supporting the Hobie Class and the international “Hobie Way of Life” and who cannot be referred to category A can be admitted in this category.
(IHCA, regional and national/fleet membership fees apply).
 - b. Local supporters:

Everyone interested in supporting the local “Hobie Way of Life” and who cannot be referred to category A can be admitted in this category. Membership privileges in this category are limited to the local fleet and/or national association as per their bylaws. Local supporters cannot race in any Hobie sanctioned event.
(IHCA and regional membership fees do not apply).
 - iii. Category Gold – members through the IHCA Gold Membership Program

Everyone interested in supporting the Hobie Class and the international “Hobie Way of Life” through the IHCA Gold Membership Program. An IHCA GOLD member has full membership privileges at IHCA level, in home region and in home nation.
- B. Honorary: The European Council may grant Honorary Membership to any individual who it deems has rendered outstanding service to the EHCA and for any period at its discretion (see appendix A. Honorary & Honorary Life Members).
 - C. Honorary Life: The European Council may grant Honorary Life Membership to any individual who it deems has rendered outstanding service to the EHCA. Any national association, the European Council and the EHCA executive committee may make recommendations for Honorary Life Membership. Recommendations shall be approved by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote on the European Council (see appendix A. Honorary’ & Honorary Life Members).
 - D. Corporate: Corporate membership shall be open to any company partnership or closed cooperation, or sporting body, or group where authorized by the European Council. The

European Council may set any subscription or levy, or may impose any terms, conditions, qualifications or grant specific privileges or benefits to each Corporate Member, as it shall deem appropriate.

5. Dues: In order to retain membership, all categories must pay annual dues as required by the association:
 - A. The membership year shall be the calendar year.
 - B. Annual membership dues of the EHCA shall be the amount recommended by the Executive Committee and approved by a quorum vote of the European Council.

The IHCA membership fees collected by the EHCA shall be the amount decided and approved by the International Council.
 - C. Each National Hobie Class Association shall pay annual EHCA/IHCA dues to the EHCA payable by the first banking day of each calendar year based on the number of category A and B a. (*international supporters*) members of the respective National Hobie Cat Class Association.
 - D. Organizing authorities hosting a Hobie Cat European Championship or any other EHCA authorized international event shall pay a percentage of the total entry fees to the EHCA as shall be set in the event contract recommended by the EHCA Executive Committee and approved by European Council. These entry fee levies shall become due and payable on the final day of the respective event.
6. Suspension/Termination: The Executive Committee shall have the power to recommend suspension/termination of membership for:
 - A. Failure to pay annual dues as required by the EHCA, within sixty (60) days after the membership expiration date or the assessment due date. Notice of arrears shall be given by registered mail allowing 30 (30) days to respond with remedial action.
 - B. Illegal or unprofessional conduct of such nature that it conflicts with the EHCA/IHCA's purpose and aims. Individual, national or corporate membership may not be terminated on this ground until the individual(s) have been notified in writing by registered mail of the charges and have an opportunity for a hearing before the European Council. A quorum vote by the European Council shall be necessary for termination.

Article 5. European Executive Committee

1. Composition: The elected Executive Committee shall consist of a President, two Vice-Presidents and the Vice President IHCA responsible for the European Region.

An Executive Director may be appointed by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee will appoint someone to verify the accounts on an annual basis.
2. Eligibility: Individual members in good standing status shall be eligible to hold any one of the elected Executive Committee positions. Candidates should have significant experience in the Hobie Class organization.
3. Nomination/Election Procedures:
 - A. Candidates for positions shall be nominated not less than forty-five (45) days prior to an annual meeting. Candidates can be nominated, but not elected for more than one office.

- B. The elections shall take place using secret ballots, at a meeting of the European Council AGM.
4. Terms of office:
- A. The term of each office is two (2) years.
 - B. The term of each office shall begin immediately following the elections.
 - C. To keep continuity the elections are scheduled as follows:
2005, 2007, 2009..... election of: President and 1 Vice President,
2004, 2006, 2008, 2010... election of: 1 Vice President and the VP IHCA European Region.
5. Vacancies:
- A. Vacancy of the office of President shall be filled for the duration of the not expired term by one of the Vice Presidents.
 - B. Vacancy of any other office shall be filled for the duration of the not expired term by a person appointed by the rest of the Executive Committee
6. Officers and Duties of the officers: Officers shall perform those duties prescribed by this constitution and bylaws, and the European Council.
- A. President: The President shall:
 - i. Be responsible for coordinating the affairs of the EHCA.
 - ii. Act as spokesperson for the policies of the EHCA.
 - iii. Preside over all Executive Committee meetings and European Council meetings.
 - iv. Assume such additional responsibilities as requested by the European Council.
 - v. Be responsible for the contact to IHCA.
 - vi. Assist national associations selecting a person to carry their assigned vote in the EHCA.
 - B. Vice Presidents: The Vice Presidents shall:
 - i. Assume the responsibilities as requested by the European Council and the President.
 - ii. Assume the responsibilities of the President in his absence.
 - C. IHCA Vice President, responsible for European Region shall:
 - i. Assume the responsibilities as requested by the European Council and the President.
 - ii. Prepare proposals for IHCA meetings.
 - iii. Represent EHCA at IHCA meetings.
 - D. The Executive Committee duties:

As to Regattas, the Executive Committee shall:

 - i. Oversee the running of European Championships and participate in their organization along with the President.
 - ii. Have the authority with the consent of the Technical Director, over any European event in rule interpretation and on the water racing.
 - iii. Be experienced with IHCA racing procedures and rules, WS rules and the organization of championship events.
 - iv. Ensure a standardized, acceptable racing format, regardless of locality.
 - v. Serve as Race Chairman at European Championships when necessary.
 - vi. Design/modify/update the European Championship minimum requirements for

- vii. European Council approval and ensure that these criteria are met.
- viii. Assist countries in preparation of European bids.
- ix. Assist European Championships committees on boat preparation, measurement etc.
- x. Assist European Championships committees on drafting NOR's and Sailing Instructions.
- xi. Act as liaison between Race Committee and International Jury.
- xii. Supervise all activities relating to European Championships, including site inspections, and allocation of pre-qualified positions according to EHCA rules.
- xiii. Co-ordinate regional and national events if necessary and ensure racing under a standardized format.

As to rules and regulations, the Executive Committee shall:

- i. Be responsible for the Class Rules are complied with within the European Region.
- ii. Be responsible for technical inspection/measurement of boats at EHCA events unless these duties are delegated.
- iii. Be responsible for receiving technical problems and proposals for further discussion with the IHCA Rules Committee.

E. Executive Director*: The Executive Director shall:

- i. Maintain the general administration of day-to-day activities of the EHCA.
- ii. Serve as liaison between the members and the Executive Committee.
- iii. Coordinate communication, marketing, promotion, and collection of membership dues, and maintain the EHCA database.
- iv. Promote and maintain the fleet charter program in cooperation with the IHCA.
- v. Distribute communications and IHCA/EHCA reports to national and corporate members.
- vi. Management of EHCA merchandise.
- vii. Maintenance of photograph and video library.
- viii. Be responsible for preparation and distribution of notices and agendas of official Executive Committee and European Council meetings as well as collection and distribution of minutes.
- ix. Serve as manager of the European Championship bid process: assist National and Divisional Associations in preparation of European bids using the minimum requirements criteria as guide.
- x. Oversee and be responsible for the collection, accounting, and distribution of EHCA funds.
- xi. Account for all transactions on a one-year basis to all members of the European Council, including a review of performance against the budget. These records shall be made available upon request to any member of the European Council at any time.
- xii. Work under the direction of the Executive Committee.
- xiii. Maintain EHCA web site.

* If an Executive Director is not appointed, relevant duties will be carried out by the Executive Committee.

F The President and the Executive Director or the Vice-President holding the treasurer duties shall be empowered to make purchases and contracts on behalf of the EHCA. Either executive may approve expenditures under € 500,00. Both shall approve all expenditures over € 500,00.

Article 6. European Council

1. Composition:
 - A. The European Council shall be composed of:
 - i. President
 - ii. Vice President
 - iii. Vice President
 - iv. IHCA Vice President responsible for European Region (*no vote*)
 - v. Executive Director (*if appointed, no vote*)
 - vi. An appointee from Hobie Cat Company II (HCC II)
 - vii. Immediate Past President of the EHCA (*no proxy*).
 - viii. One representative from each National Association in good standing

2. Meeting Format:
 - A. The European Council Annual General Meeting shall be held each year, when possible, in February. There shall be no more than a fifteen (15) month period between such meetings.
 - B. The European Council shall be authorized to hold the General Meeting by mail, telephone or other electronic method provided the requirements of the bylaws are met.
 - C. Items for the meeting may be proposed in writing by a National Association, any member of the European Council and the Executive Committee. Items must be received by the President at least forty-five (45) days before the European Council meeting. The agenda will then be distributed not less than thirty (30) days before the meeting.
 - D. Notice of a European Council Meeting must be posted, mailed, or transmitted via other electronic method to all members of the European Council and the Executive Committee sixty (60) days prior to the scheduled meeting.
 - E. Approval of minutes from European Council Annual General Meetings shall be conducted by electronic method and silence procedure as soon as possible and not later than forty-five (45) days after the meeting.

3. Duties:
 - A. Establish major administrative policies governing the EHCA and provide for the transaction of general business in the interim between meetings.
 - B. Approve the expenditure, investment, and surveillance of EHCA funds for adoption and fixation of dues for the adoption and administration of a budget and for a periodic annual review statement.
 - C. Approve the Executive Director as nominated by the Executive Committee.
 - D. Employ legal and other counsel as deemed necessary. Define dues and fix compensation.
 - E. Create and define duties for the Executive Committee in accordance with these Bylaws.
 - F. Approve all European Championship bids recommended by the Executive Committee.
 - G. Create, define duties, and dissolve standing and ad hoc committees in accordance with these Bylaws.
 - H. Determine National and Fleet boundaries according to membership distribution and/or geography.

- I. Appoint honorary members.
 - J. Assume duties as may be provided elsewhere in these Bylaws.
4. Voting procedure:
- A. Each member of the European Council who is in good standing, except the immediate Past President, shall have the right to give his/her proxy vote to a person of his/her choice; however, this person must be a member of the EHCA in good standing and from the same constituent association.
 - B. A proxy vote will be accepted only with a signed original letter or electronic copy hereof confirmed by a telephone call to the President from the European Council member that the individual is representing. The letter must be provided to the President prior to or during the European Council meeting roll call.
 - C. In the event of a tie vote on any motion, the person presiding may exercise a second and deciding vote. This is also valid for standing committees like the Executive Committee.
 - D. Any member, except the immediate Past President, who cannot attend a scheduled European Council meeting may vote on certain issues he deems important in signed letter form via mail, electronic copy hereof or messenger. His/her thoughts shall be read and registered as a vote.
 - E. All officers of the EHCA will be elected by simple majority of the national representatives and/or their proxies.
 - F. Any person holding more than one position in the European Council shall have only one vote.

Article 7. Constituent associations

1. Composition; The EHCA shall be composed of national associations.
- A. The EHCA Executive Committee, on the recommendation of its members where applicable, shall by constitution and Bylaw, establish National or Divisional Associations in distinctive areas deemed appropriate and relevant, having regard to all considerations including geography, language, distance and population for the development of the Hobie Class and the fulfillment of the purpose and aims of the EHCA.
 - B. The EHCA Executive Committee, upon establishing a new National/Divisional Association, shall initially appoint Association officers, comprised of a Chairman, Vice chairman, Secretary and treasurer to hold office until their successors are elected.
 - C. The National or Divisional Association shall consist of the foregoing officers, who will be elected from among the fleet representatives or individual members to the division or notion. Each Fleet or, if decided so, each member shall have only one vote. The Association may appoint additional officers to hold office for such term as it may determine necessary.

- D. Each National or Divisional Association shall be administered in accordance with and subject to the provisions of Constitution and Bylaws of the Nation or Division, approved by the EHCA Executive Committee or if the Nation or Division has no Constitution and Bylaws, the National/Division Association Bylaw of the IHCA
- E. The officers of each National or Divisional Association shall be elected annually by the members of the association within the Nation or Division in accordance with the provisions of the National or Divisional Constitution and Bylaws or in the absence thereof, the EHCA Bylaws.
- F. All Nations and Divisions shall submit current records of the membership status as outlined by the EHCA Executive Committee. This information must be sent to the EHCA directly.
- G. The Boundaries of a National or Divisional Association may be varied by the EHCA Executive Committee on the application of any Nation or Division concerned and one or more Associations may be amalgamated or may be subdivided into one or more National or Divisional Associations with the approval of the National or Divisional Associations concerned.
- H. If any National or Divisional Association is within the jurisdiction of a National authority, such Association shall in addition to any other requirements of this Constitution and Bylaws, be subject to such rules, regulations, and directions of such National authority.
- I. The governing body of each National or Divisional Association shall make available its financial records upon request of the EHCA Executive Committee.

2. Fleets:

- A. A Fleet may be granted a charter upon application on the standard form submitted by the EHCA Executive Director. Fleet numbers shall be issued only by the IHCA Executive Director following the approval of the EHCA Executive Committee. The application must be sent to the EHCA Executive Committee (Executive Director) by five (5) or more Hobie Cat owners located within any club or area deemed appropriate, having regard to the locality where regular activity is easily accessible to members of the fleet.
- B. Notwithstanding paragraph (a), a special fleet may be chartered in any locality for the purpose of accommodating specific members of armed forces, an educational institution, a junior program, or any other nonprofit organization.
- C. A Fleet Commodore, Vice-Commodore, Secretary and Treasurer, and such other officers the Fleet deems necessary, shall be elected annually from among the members of the Fleet, in such manner as prescribed by the Fleet, unless otherwise provided by the Bylaws, and shall be responsible to the National or Divisional Association for the organization of the Fleet and the dues compliance by members of the Fleet with the provisions of the Bylaws of the IHCA.
- D. The governing body of each fleet shall make available its financial records upon request of their National or Divisional governing body and its individual members.
- E. All Fleets within the EHCA shall be a part of and must report to the national association or to EHCA if no national association.
- F. All Fleets shall report annually on the status of their activities, members and elected officers to the national association or to EHCA if no national association.

Article 8.
Standing committees and councils

1. Standing Committees:

The Executive Committee may establish standing committees representing special interest groups as needed. These may include Youth- or Junior Sailing, Women's Hobie Class Racing and other groups.

Article 9.
Appeals

1. General:

- A. Any dispute arising in relation to a Fleet's, Division's, Area's, Nation's eligibility to race. The interpretation of these Bylaws, or similar matters may be made to the European Council, whose decision shall be final and binding subject to IHCA and WS approval.
- B. Any dispute as to interpretation of IHCA Rules or protests within the jurisdiction of the Class Rules shall be directed to the IHCA Rules Committee with copy to the EHCA Executive Committee.

Article 10.
Suspension and removal from office

1. General:

- A. Any member of the European Council, the Executive Committee and any Standing Committee may be suspended for gross violation of the rules and Bylaws, for committing an unlawful act in relation to the Association, or for unsportsmanlike conduct or gross misbehavior contrary to the interest of the Association.
- B. Any suspension carried out under these provisions shall be on terms determined by the European Council and shall be communicated to the members of the individuals National Sailing Authority and the IHCA.
- C. A National or Divisional Committee member or officer may be removed from office by the European Council for a willful and unjustifiable act detrimental to the Association or its members.

Article 11.
Amendments

1. General:

- A. This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended if passed by a two-third (2/3) majority vote of the European Council at a special or general meeting.
- B. The European Council may make further Bylaws for the purpose of carrying out the objectives of this Constitution and Bylaws with the two-thirds (2/3) majority approval of the European Council.
- C. Proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws shall be submitted to the European Council for consideration by the following:

- i. European Council member(s)
- ii. The Executive Director/Executive Committee, where notice of motion has been received from at least two (2) National or Divisional Associations, each having been signed by a minimum of twenty (20) members in good standing from that Nation or Division. Proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws must be received by the European Council no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the General Meeting. The Executive Director/Executive Committee shall distribute all proposed amendments to the European Council members no later than three (3) business days following the closing date.
- iii. The Executive Committee
- iv. The President
- iv. The licensed manufacturer

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Appendix A.

Honorary & Honorary Life Members

1. Erwin Ocklenburg, GER Honorary Life Member, 1997
2. Thomas Poulsen, DEN Honorary Life Member, 2001
3. Shirley Palmer, USA Honorary Member, 2002
4. Ute Vrijburg, NED Honorary Life Member, 2007
5. Geert Schouten, NED Honorary Life Member, 2010
6. John Dinsdale, FRA Honorary Life Member, 2010
7. Erik Olsen, DEN Honorary Life Member, 2017
8. Nina Martinussen, DEN Honorary Life Member, 2022
9. Gordon Burgis, JER Honorary Life Member, 2023
10. Michel Corigliano, FRA Honorary Life Member, 2023

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Appendix B

EHCA Bylaws, Rules, Definitions and Procedures as decided by the European Council

- 1) Allocation of Pre-Qualified Spots for Hobie 16 European Championships.** At the EHCA Annual General Meeting on Skype 05.03.2023, it was decided to adopt a system of calculation using the number of paid-up members, who have actively participated in minimum one (1) Hobie 16 class racing event as either helm or crew with 150 members as limit and maximum 10 teams per Nation.

Further parameters in the allocation formula are as following:

a. Nation spots

- i. All Hobie Class associations in good standing within the EHCA area of jurisdiction are initially allocated one (1) basic spot.*
- ii. The remaining number of spots are allocated among above-mentioned nations using a ratio system.*

b. Event spots

- One (1) spot allocated for the host nation,
One (1) spot allocated for the defending champion,
one (1) spot allocated for the HC16 Youth with SPI provided there are a minimum of 8 boats,
One (1) spot allocated for the HC16 Youth without SPI provided there are a minimum of 8 boats, and finally.
One (1) spot allocated for women provided there are a minimum of 8 boats.
One (1) spot allocated for the combined Master classes provided there are a minimum of 8 boats.
Possibility to grand wild cards. (The EHCA Executive Committee is delegated the authority to adjust this number between 0-5).*

- 2) Limitation to the total number of Nation spots.** At the EHCA Annual General Meeting in Barcelona 22.02.2020, it was decided by vote to set a limit of approximately 30 Nation spots in order to keep the number of qualifier spots at an acceptable level.
- 3) Deadline of reporting pre-qualified teams.** At the AGM in Breitenbrunn, Austria 25.02.2011 it was decided that: Deadline for national Hobie Class Associations to report name and contact details of pre-qualified skipper(s)/helm(s) to the EHCA is two (2) weeks prior to start of the Hobie 16 European Championships Gold Fleet series.
After deadline the list is closed and cannot be altered.
- 4) Hobie 16 Europeans Gold Fleet size.** At the virtual EHCA Annual General Meeting March 5, 2023, it was decided: *The EHCA Council delegates the authority to decide the size of the Hobie 16 Europeans Gold Fleet to the EHCA Executive Committee. This within a span from 48-56 boats. The number must be decided before the Notice of Race for the event is released. Furthermore, the EHCA Executive Committee shall be delegated the authority to modify the spot allocation formula on the parameter "additional national spots" to ensure a minimum of 10 Gold Fleet spots in the Open Qualifying series.*
- 5) Hobie 16 Europeans Gold Fleet series.** Unfilled spots and spots allocated to skippers/helms not showing up at registration will be added to the number of open (qualifier) spots.

- 6) Hobie 16 Europeans Youth series:** At the EHCA Annual General Meeting on Skype 05.03.2023, it was decided that future HC16 Youth European Championships shall consist of a Hobie 16 SPI fleet and a Hobie 16 Non-SPI fleet. Titles are awarded in both fleets.
- 7) Number of races per day at the Europeans.** At the EHCA Annual General Meeting 6.03.2010 in Toulon, it was decided by vote to have a flexible number of races between 2-4 races per day.
- 8) Spot for Women:** At an Executive Committee e-mail vote on 18.03.2014 it was decided to lower the requirement of 12 entries to a minimum of eight (8) entries before granting one (1) spot for the Women category.
- 9) Women HC16 Europeans sailed without spinnaker.** At the EHCA Annual General Meeting in Castelldefels, March 1, 2014, it was decided by vote, that HC16 Women Europeans shall be sailed without spinnaker.
- 10) Spot for the combined master's series at Hobie 16 Europeans.** At the EHCA AGM in Barcelona 22.02.2020. it was decided to fuse the Master, Grand Master and Great Grand Master classes into one combined Master's series with the requirement of minimum eight (8) valid entries before granting one (1) Gold Fleet spot.
- 11) Class policy and event requirements.** At the EHCA Annual General Meeting in Noordwijk, February 18, 2017, it was decided by vote to adopt the following:
- Class policy and requirements for a European Championship and/or Eurocup:***
- i. There must be a minimum of eight (8) starting boats representing a minimum of two (2) European nations to launch a European Championship and/or Eurocup.*
 - ii. If an event is ranked as a European Championship, its title cannot be withdrawn. However, if the above-mentioned requirements are not met, the next European event will be ranked as a Eurocup.*
 - iii. In case the number of boats entering a Eurocup at a "Multi-Europeans" is below the required number, the EHCA Executive Committee may decide to let the boats start anyway in an "EHCA Cup" if it can be arranged with the organizing authority.*
- 12) Hobie Europeans - host country report.** At the AGM in Amsterdam 02.02.1997 it was decided: *At each EHCA AGM, every country which is hosting a European Championship or similar event is to produce a report for the council.*
- 13) EHCA Class Event Fee.** At the EHCA Annual General Meeting in Toulon, March 6, 2010, it was decided: *The EHCA Event (Europeans or Multi Europeans) Fee as agreed by the EHCA Council is non-negotiable as well as expenses for the EHCA event coordinator including an initial event check-up meeting/site inspection and expenses for one person during the entire event plus at least 1-2 days prior to start of event. This prescription applies unless dictated by special circumstances. The Council, through a 7-day hearing phase using the "silence procedure" principle must approve special circumstances and if expenses cannot be covered as outlined.*
- 14) EHCA Class Event Per Diem.** At the EHCA Annual General Meeting in Toulon, March 6, 2010, it was decided: *Members of the EHCA Executive Committee or officials appointed by the EHCA Executive Committee working at a Europeans or representing EHCA at an IHCA AGM shall per day receive a per diem as defined by the EHCA Council, when he/ she is not participating in the sailing event at the same time and provided per diem is not received otherwise.*

15) Sailor Nationality. In Amsterdam on the 14th of February 1998, it was decided: *It shall be necessary for a sailor to have lived for a continuous period of 6 months in a country in order to qualify for another national status of that sailor". A sailor may represent a country if: "he is a paid up recognized member of the country association or region, and or; he has been living in this country for more than 6 months.*

16) Allocation of Pre-Qualified Spots for World Championships. At the EHCA Annual General Meeting in Castelldefels, Spain 01.03.2014, it was decided by vote, *that for future Worlds, each National Class Association in good standing will receive a prequalified spot under the restriction that the team getting the spot must be in the top ten percent (10%) (decimals to be rounded up) in the National Ranking List or latest National Championships in the class considered. Remaining spots will be allocated according to the calculation system in use.*
At the AGM in Noordwijk 18.02.2017 it was decided by vote to add following to the Bylaw: *If neither ranking list nor nationals only the basic spot will be allocated.*

17) Policy for Hobie European Championships in years with Hobie World Championships. At the virtual EHCA Annual General Meeting March 5, 2023, it was decided: *In years with Hobie World Championships taking place within the EHCA area of jurisdiction there shall in principle not be arranged a Hobie European Championship for the involved class(es) the same calendar year. Force majeure situations and/or rescheduling of a World Championship may result in the policy has to be bypassed by the EHCA Council.*
The EHCA Council can furthermore decide not to organize a European Championship in years with a Hobie World Championship taking place outside Europe but within the normal EHCA sailing season.

18) Nations reports: At the AGM in Neusiedl 27.02.2016 the following was adopted:
The annual report to be provided by all EHCA member nations at each AGM shall be a written report (free form) of maximum 1 page. Furthermore, each nation shall provide the filled in report form even if some information is not available in the country. Missing key information might impact the number of spots to be allocated.

19) Membership requirements at national championships. At the EHCA Annual General Meeting in Toulon, March 6, 2010, it was decided: *National Associations within the EHCA area of jurisdiction have to ensure the Notice of Race for their national Hobie Class championships is prescribing all crewmembers on board a competing boat to be members in good standing of the national Hobie Class association in line with the definitions laid down in constitution of the EHCA.*

20) EHCA membership fee. At the EHCA Annual General Meeting on Skype 05.03.2023, it was decided to change the EHCA annual membership fees as outlined in Enclosure 2.

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NOTE 1:

The bylaws have been renumbered after implementation of the changes made necessary following the outcome of the 2023 AGM.

NOTE 2:

A document with previous bylaw versions is available on application to the EHCA Executive Committee.

Appendix C

Format Guidelines of the Hobie Europeans

Format Guidelines of the Hobie Europeans. At the EHCA on-line Annual General Meeting February 25, 2024, it was decided by vote to adopt the Guidelines of the Hobie Europeans as outlined below.

Event format:

- a. Option of 10 days of racing and 1 of Opening/Registration:
 - i. 1 day of registration.
 - ii. 4 days for Hobie Cat 16 Youth Spi & Classic - Hobie Dragoon/Hobie Cat 14 (*may be held together if a Europeans, only one of them if a Worlds*).
 - iii. 2 days in overlapping with previous classes for Hobie Cat 16 Masters / Hobie Cat 16 Spi Cup.
 - iv. 2 days for Hobie Cat 16 Open Qualification.
 - v. 4 days for Hobie Cat 16 Open Finals (*Gold / Silver*) - Hobie Dragoon/Hobie Cat 14 (*only one of them if a Worlds*).

- b. Option of 9 days of racing and 1 of Opening/Registration:
 - i. 1 day of registration.
 - ii. 3 days for Hobie Cat 16 Youth Spi & Classic
 - iii. 2 days in overlapping with previous classes for Hobie Cat 16 Masters / Hobie Cat 16 Spi Cup.
 - iv. 3-4 days in overlapping with previous classes for Hobie Dragoon/Hobie Cat 14:
 - a. 3 days and may be held together if a Europeans.
 - b. 4 days and only one of them if a Worlds.
 - v. 2 days for Hobie Cat 16 Open Qualification.
 - vi. 4 days for Hobie Cat 16 Open Finals (*Gold / Silver*) - Hobie Dragoon/Hobie Cat 14 (*only one of them if a Worlds*).

- c. Option of 4 days of racing and 1 of Opening/Registration - only for Hobie Dragoon and Hobie Cat 14:
 - i. 1 day of registration.
 - ii. 4 days for Hobie Dragoon/Hobie Cat 14.

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Appendix D

Hobie 16 Europeans Spot Allocation System

At the AGM in Aachen 09.02.95. it was decided by vote to adopt a calculation system for allocating prequalified spots for the Hobie 16 European Championships. Following the decisions made at the virtual AGM 05.03.2023 the system has been modified to the following:

Hobie 16 Europeans - spot allocation system							
Apr/23							
Nation spots							
Country	Good standing spot	Basic spot	All paid-up HC16 members	Allocating numbers (Max. 150)	Additional spot(s)	Ad. spot(s) in whole numbers	Total number (max 10 spots per nation)
member nation	Yes	1	24	24	2,06	2	3
member nation	NO	0	0	0	0,00	0	0
member nation	Yes	1	166	150	12,88	13	10
member nation	Yes	1	24	24	2,06	2	3
totally		3	214	198	17	17	30
Country	enter all EHCA nations						
Good standing	enter YES or NO . If YES then give 1 Basic spot, if NO then change Basic spot to be 0 (zero)						
Basic spot	enter 1 Basic spot for all all countries in good standing.						
All paid-up HC16	All paid-up HC16 members, who has actively competed in min. one HC16 event as helm or crew						
Allocating numbers	enter the number of paid-up HC16 members, HOWEVER with a max of 150						
Additional spots	the formula will calculate the number of additional spots to be added the basic spot as the number per nation in ratio to the total number of allocating numbers						
Add. Spot whole num.	the formula will round up/down the additional spots to whole numbers						
Total number	the total number of spots per country (Basic spot + Add. Spots) HOWEVER, in case the formula calculate more than 10 spots to a nation then change manually						
totally	17	this number is used to regulate the total number of nation spots, and must be changed manually to reach the wanted total (voted to be approx 30)					
Event spots							
Host country					xxxxx		1
Past champion							1
Wild-cards							0
Women Champ			requires minimum 8 valid entries				1
Masters Classes			requires minimum 8 valid entries				1
Youth with SPI			requires minimum 8 valid entries				1
Youth without SPI			requires minimum 8 valid entries				1
totally							6
Wild-cards	eventual wild-cards can be awarded. The EHCA executive Committee is delegated the authority to adjust the number (range 0-5).						
Gold Fleet							
						Gold fleet	56
						minus nation spots	30
						minus event spots	6
						Qualifiers	20
The EHCA Executive Committee is delegated the authority to decide the size of the HC16 Gold Fleet between 48-56 boats.							

Paid-up member definition: Number of paid-up members, who have actively participated in minimum one HC16 class racing event as either helm or crew.

Appendix E

25 FEB 2024

ACTUAL EHCA FEES etc.:	
Category A – EHCA Active members	
Senior membership fee – age 21 or more	€ 24,00
Youth membership fee – age 16 to 20 years	€ 12,00
Junior membership fee – age under 16	€ 6,00
Category B – EHCA Non racing members - international supporters (EHCA/IHCA fees apply)	
Senior membership fee – age 21 or more	€ 24,00
Youth membership fee – age 16 to 20 years	€ 12,00
Junior membership fee – age under 16	€ 6,00
Category B – EHCA Non racing members - local supporters (EHCA/IHCA fees do not apply)	
Senior membership fee – age 21 or more	€ 0
Youth membership fee – age 16 to 20 years	€ 0
Junior membership fee – age under 16	€ 0
Direct & Event membership	
Direct* EHCA Active senior membership fee	€ 50,00
Direct* EHCA Active youth membership fee	€ 25,00
Direct* EHCA Active junior membership fee	€ 12,50
Direct* EHCA Non racing members/supporter (<i>international supporters</i>) senior membership fee	€ 50,00
Direct* EHCA Non racing members/supporter (<i>international supporters</i>) youth membership fee	€ 25,00
Direct* EHCA Non racing members/supporter (<i>international supporters</i>) junior membership fee	€ 12,50
EHCA event individual membership fee *	€ 35,00
Per diem & Event fee	
EHCA Class Event Per Diem/day	€ 15,00
EHCA Class Event Fee – percentage of all entry fees (<i>as of 2023</i>)	15 %

* For members from countries without a national association/fleet.

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