

The Queenborough Yacht Club

7 High Street, Queenborough, Kent ME11 5AA

Tel: 01795 663955

Club Constitution and Rules

NAME & OBJECT

1. The name of the club is "The Queenborough Yacht Club" whose address is 7 High Street, Queenborough, Sheppey. Kent ME11 5AA.
2. The object for which the club is formed is to promote and facilitate the Sport of yachting and also to provide social and other facilities for members as may be from time to time determined.

MEMBERSHIP

3. All persons of either sex whether the owners of a yacht or boat or not who are interested in yachting are eligible for membership provided that they are not professional yachtsmen or women.
4. A candidate for membership shall send to the Honorary Secretary a form setting out his or her name and address and any other particulars the general committee shall require and containing the signature of two Full members in support as proposer and seconder. Persons who are candidates for membership have no privileges whatsoever in relation to the use of the club or its premises. Persons may not be admitted to membership without an interval of at least 2 days between application and admission.
5. Election of candidates to membership shall take place at a meeting of at least one flag officer and one member of the general committee duly convened for that purpose.
6. The club on the recommendation of the general committee may in general meeting elect honorary members but the total number of such honorary members shall not at any time exceed five percent of the total number of all members.
7. Any members desirous of retiring from the club shall notify his intention to the Honorary Secretary in writing on or before the 21st December otherwise he shall be liable for the next year's subscription.
8. Every member on joining the club impliedly undertakes to comply with these rules and any refusal or neglect to do so or any conduct which in the opinion of the general committee is either unworthy of a member or otherwise injurious to the interests of the club shall render a member liable to expulsion by the general committee provided that before expelling a member such committee shall call on him for an explanation of his conduct and shall give him an opportunity of defending himself or of resigning his membership. A vote on a resolution for expulsion shall be by ballot and the resolution shall only be carried if not less than three-quarters of the members of the general committee present vote in favour of the resolution.

ENTRANCE FEE & SUBSCRIPTION

9. The rate of Entrance and Subscription fee for each category of membership shall be proposed by the treasurer to the general committee before the 30th November each year. Any proposed changes shall be approved by a majority of those present and shall become operative on the first day of January in the year following. The current rate of Entrance and Subscription fee shall be prominently displayed in the club premises.
10. There shall be the following categories of membership with power to vote at all meetings of the club as indicated hereunder:
 - A FULL MEMBER** – being a person who, at the date of election, is over the age of eighteen shall have one vote.
 - A FAMILY MEMBER** – which expression shall include one or two parents (as may be) and all children under eighteen years of age. The family unit shall have one vote, exercisable by either parent.
 - A JUNIOR MEMBER** – being a person who, at the date of election, is under the age of eighteen shall have no vote. Such a member shall be one who at the commencement of the subscription year joins the club other than as a full member of a family member.
 - AN HONORARY MEMBER** – who shall be nominated and elected in the manner described in rule 6, shall have no vote.
 - CREW MEMBER** – who shall have no vote.
 - AN OUTPORT MEMBER** – who shall have no vote.
 - A SOCIAL MEMBER** – who shall have no vote.

Any member may introduce as his or her guest any person provided that the member so introducing enters the name and address of the said guest in a book kept for such purpose and at no time leaves the club premises while the said guest is thereon. No member may introduce more than two guests in any one day and may not introduce the same person as a guest more than four times in a year.

11. (a) Any member who has not paid his subscription by the 1st day of March shall be requested in the name of the general committee to pay the same within fourteen days and if his subscription is not paid by the 31st day of March his name may be removed from the list of members by the general committee. A member's name may be restored at the discretion of the general committee.
 - (b) No member shall in any year be entitled to exercise any rights or privileges of membership until his entrance fee and subscription for that year and all arrears (if any) are paid.
 - (c) A member elected after the 1st October in any year who shall have paid his subscription for that year shall not be required to pay any subscription for the following year.

OFFICERS

12. (a) The officers of the club shall consist of a Commodore, a Vice-Commodore, a Rear-Commodore (House), a Rear-Commodore (Sailing), an Honorary Secretary and an Honorary Treasurer who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting in each year to hold office until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting. The Retiring Officers shall be

eligible for re-election except the Commodore who having held office for two consecutive years shall not be eligible for re-election until one full year has elapsed.

(b) No candidate for election to an office (other than the retiring officers) shall be proposed unless the name of such candidate and of his proposer shall have been sent to the Honorary Secretary before the 1st February in writing.

GENERAL COMMITTEE

13. (a) The general committee shall consist of the officers, ex-officio and not more than twelve members of the club elected by the club in general meeting to hold office until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting.

(b) Candidates for election to the general committee shall be those members of the retiring general committee who shall offer themselves for re-election and such other members of the club whose nominations duly proposed and seconded by members of the club in writing shall have been sent to the Honorary Secretary on or before the 1st February.

(c) If a casual vacancy occurs by death or resignation the general committee may co-opt a member to fill the vacancy.

(d) If the number of candidates duly proposed and seconded exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled the election shall be by ballot.

(e) Subject to the provisions of sub-rule 11 (b) hereto any member may be nominated for election to the general committee in accordance with sub-rule (b) of the Rule.

SUB-COMMITTEES

14. The general committee may appoint such sub-committees as it may think fit provided that one member of the sub-committee is a member of the general committee and who will act as a chairman of that sub-committee, that the total number is not less than three and that vacation of office on the general committee shall also involve vacation of notice on any sub-committee.

MANAGEMENT OF THE CLUB

15. (a) The affairs of the club shall be wholly managed by the general committee according to these rules. Such committee shall apply the funds in such manner as complies with Rule 25, shall make such bye-laws, rules and regulations as it thinks fit as to the management of any club premises. The members of the club may in general meeting reserve the management of such affairs as they think fit to general meeting and/or a special committee.

(b) It shall be the responsibility of the Honorary Treasurer to keep a complete and accurate account of the club's finances.

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

16. The Honorary Treasurer shall be required to create and then present the years accounts of the club as required by the general committee.

Two full members of the Club, appointed at the Annual General Meeting, shall examine and give assurance as to the accuracy of the prepared Accounts. These shall then be agreed and accepted by the general Committee before the AGM. In the event of the person as appointed at the AGM being unwilling or unable to act, the general committee shall appoint a substitute.

Copies of the accounts will be available on request by members and be prominently displayed in the club premises 14 days immediately prior to the Annual General Meeting.

The general committee must approve the creation or termination of all club bank accounts. Cheques drawn on these accounts must be signed by two officers or members nominated by the general committee. In the event payments made by electronic transfer, all payments must have been sanctioned by the general committee or Officers of the club in accordance with the current financial rules. All income must be passed to the Honorary Treasurer or banked directly under his/her instructions.

Expenditure limits of the officers and general committee will be set and agreed each year at the AGM.

GENERAL MEETINGS

17. An Annual General Meeting shall be held on some day in the month of March, April or May, to be fixed by the Commodore. No business (except the passing of the accounts and the election of the officers, general committee and appointed members), and any business that the general committee may order to be inserted in the notice convening the meeting, shall be discussed at such meeting unless notice thereof be given to the Honorary Secretary in writing before the 1st February prior to such meeting.
18. (a) The general committee may at any time instruct the Honorary Secretary to call a general meeting of the club for any specific business. The discussion at such general meeting shall be confined to the business stated in the notice sent to members.
(b) 30 members (or if the total membership of the club is less than 150 – one fifth of the said total) may join together to summon or cause the Honorary Secretary to summon by notice in writing as hereinafter mentioned a general meeting.
19. (a) The Honorary Secretary shall at least 14 days clear before the date of the Annual General Meeting or any general meeting post or deliver to each member notice thereof and of the business to be brought forward thereat.
(b) At the Annual General Meeting or a general meeting of the club each member shall have a vote as laid down in Rule 10. In case of an equality of votes the Commodore shall have a second/casting vote.
20. A general meeting may at any time but not without reason given, remove any member from a position which he or she may hold within the club or its committees.

SUPPLY OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR

21. The purchase for the club and the supply by the club of intoxicating liquor shall be exclusively controlled by a special committee appointed under the provision of Rule 14. Such committee shall in no way be restricted in freedom of purpose. Subject to the requirements of the licensing authorities, the Committee shall cause the club bar to be opened at convenient times (and such times shall be prominently exhibited in the club premises) for the sale of excisable goods to persons who are entitled to the use of the premises of the club in pursuance of these rules (except Junior Members as aforesaid) PROVIDED THAT visitors' names and addresses and the name of their introducer shall have been entered in the Visitors Book upon entry to club premises.
Intoxicating liquor may only be sold for consumption on the club premises to persons over the age of eighteen who are entitled to the use of the club premises in pursuance of the Rules, Byelaws and Regulations for the time being in force. No Junior Member under the age of eighteen may purchase or attempt to purchase intoxicating liquor within the club

- premises nor may a Junior Member under the age of eighteen purchase or attempt to purchase tobacco or cigarettes within the club premises.
22. A member of any club recognised by the Royal Yachting Association (a list hereof is contained in the Year Book of the said Association) may be authorised to use the premises of this club by any member of the general committee of this club such authorisation shall specify between which dates not being more than 4 days apart the said person may so use the premises.
 23. Any person who is a competitor in any race sponsored or organised by or on behalf of the club and any person who is a member of the crew of such competitors for the purpose of the race is entitled to the use of club premises within a period of 24 hours before and after the race in which they are competing.
 24. The Honorary Secretary or any person who has received the authority of two members of the general committee may suspend any person who has the right to the use of the club premises, cessation of this suspension shall be subject to a decision by the General Committee.
 25. No money or property of the club or any gain arising from the carrying on of the club shall be applied otherwise than for the benefit of the club or for a benevolent or charitable purpose to be nominated by a general meeting.
 26. The property of the club shall be vested in (four) trustees who shall be appointed by the committee and the property of the club shall be vested in them to be dealt with by them as the committee may from time to time direct by resolution (of which an entry in the minute book shall be conclusive evidence). The trustees shall be indemnified against risk and expense out of the club property. The trustees shall hold office until death or resignation or until removal from office by the committee. Where by reason of such, death, resignation or removal it is necessary that a new trustee or trustees be appointed the committee shall nominate the person or persons to be appointed the new trustee or trustees. For the purpose of giving effect to such nomination the Secretary if hereby nominated as the person to appoint new trustees of the club within the meaning of Section 36 of the Trustees Act 1925 and he shall by deed duly appoint the person or persons so nominated by the committee.

NEW RULES, AMENDMENTS AND ALTERATIONS

27. (a) Notice of any alteration or addition to the rules intended to be proposed by a member of the club shall be given to the Honorary Secretary in writing before the 1st February if the same is to be proposed at the Annual General Meeting or at least one month before any general meeting at which the same is to be brought forward and full particulars of any such proposed alterations or additions shall be set out in the notice convening the meeting.
(b) All such proposed alterations or additions and any amendments to them which may be proposed and seconded shall be put to the vote of the meeting, and provided that on a show of hands, or if demanded, on a poll, a majority of two-thirds of the votes of those present and voting shall be cast in favour any proposed alterations or additions or amendments then the same shall be deemed to be carried.
(c) As from Feb 2015 any full member joining Queenborough Yacht Club after this date has to be a full active member both social and sailing for 10 years before benefitting from any disposal sale re QYC.



BURGEE SCHEDULE

Blue badge on a yellow background

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Author: Alan Peddar, Honorary Secretary