



RYA CRUISING & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

PREAMBLE

The RYA Cruising & Government Affairs Committee (the “Committee”) is a policy-forming committee of the RYA Council.

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The general purpose of the Committee is to represent the interests of recreational boating in all its forms, to sustain and defend recreational boating freedoms and rights and to promote safe, responsible boating.
- 1.2 The specific purposes of the Committee include to:-
 - 1.2.1 Develop and monitor the implementation of the RYA’s policies and strategies in relation to all proposed or existing legislation that may impact on any aspect of recreational boating or navigational safety;
 - 1.2.2 Supply expertise, advice and information on matters of common interest falling within the Committee’s remit; and
 - 1.2.3 Liaise with other appropriate cruising and boating organisations.

2. AUTHORITY

- 2.1 The Committee is authorised to act on the RYA Council’s behalf in pursuit of the above purposes.
- 2.2 The Committee has specific authority to:-
 - 2.2.1 Determine the policies required to pursue its purposes, provided that the Committee will refer to the RYA Council policy decisions on matters of fundamental principle likely to affect the RYA as a whole;
 - 2.2.2 Create and dissolve sub-committees and informal working groups for specific purposes;
 - 2.2.3 Refer business affecting other policy-forming committees to those committees; and
 - 2.2.4 Create consultation and liaison mechanisms to facilitate the representation of recreational boating interests to the Committee and the RYA Council and for the dissemination of information to recreational boaters.

3. MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

3.1 The Committee shall meet at least four times each year at such times and venues as the Chairman may decide.

3.2 The Quorum for Committee meetings shall be 50% of the voting members of the Committee.

4. COMPOSITION

4.1 Chairman

Appointed annually by the RYA Council after appropriate consultation.

Term: Not more than four years in any period of five.

The Chairman shall be *ex-officio* the Committee's representative on the RYA Council in accordance with Article 16 of the RYA's Articles of Association.

4.2 Deputy Chairman

Appointed by the Committee, at its discretion, from amongst the Standing Members and Ex-Officio Members.

Term: Not more than one year in any period of two.

4.3 Standing Members

Up to eight members appointed by the RYA Council on the nomination of the Chairman, to ensure that the Committee has the competencies identified in Section 5 below.

Term: Three years, subject to a maximum of two three year terms. Maximum six years in any period of seven.

4.4 Ex-Officio Members

The chairmen of the Committee's sub-committees shall be Ex-Officio Members of the Committee.

4.5 Non-voting Corresponding Members

The Chairman may additionally co-opt the following as non-voting Corresponding Members:-

4.5.1 Representatives of the Home Country Associations who are familiar with the legislative processes in their respective jurisdictions;

4.5.2 A representative of the British Marine Federation;

4.5.3 Any other person who appears to the Chairman to have expertise relevant to the Committee.

5. COMPETENCIES

5.1 Standing Members should, wherever possible, be appointed for their knowledge, skills and ability appropriate to the purposes of the Committee in the following areas:-

- 5.1.1 Relevant international, EU and UK law and legislative procedures;
- 5.1.2 Policy development at international, EU and national level;
- 5.1.3 Planning and environmental matters;
- 5.1.4 Safety of navigation and safety-related issues;
- 5.1.5 Hydrography and pilotage;
- 5.1.6 Harbour management and their regulation;
- 5.1.7 Inland waterways and their regulation;
- 5.1.8 Leisure marine industry;
- 5.1.9 Marinas and moorings;
- 5.1.10 Marine telecommunications and navigation equipment.

5.2 The Chairman should seek to achieve a fair and representative balance of age, gender, ethnicity and disability amongst the membership of the Committee.

Adopted: 26th June 2013