



## **RYA TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

#### **PREAMBLE**

The RYA Technical Committee (the “Committee”) is a policy-forming committee of the RYA Council.

#### **1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The general purpose of the Committee is to identify and service the boat-related technical needs of the RYA.
- 1.2 The specific purposes of the Committee include to:-
  - 1.2.1 Identify requirements and demands for the RYA Technical Department;
  - 1.2.2 Investigate solutions to technical requirements of the RYA Technical Department;
  - 1.2.3 Consult with the Technical Manager regarding Technical Department priorities when necessary;
  - 1.2.4 Offer, promote and support the commercial services of the Technical Unit as appropriate.

#### **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 Nominate RYA technical delegates to the ISAF in consultation with the Racing Committee;
  - 2.2.2 Appoint technical task forces as and when necessary;
  - 2.2.3 Nominate RYA technical delegates to other outside bodies as appropriate (RORC, BSi, BSS, MCA etc);
  - 2.2.4 Appoint RYA Technical operatives including Measurers, Boat Inspectors, Surveyors etc;
  - 2.2.5 Consult and work with ISAF Technical and other MNA technical units;
  - 2.2.6 Create and dissolve informal working groups for specific purposes;
  - 2.2.7 Offer technical consultation and/or representation to external bodies as and when appropriate;

### ***Classes***

- 2.2.8 Recommend and Approve Alterations to National Class Rules;
- 2.2.9 Administer and Publish National Class Rules;
- 2.2.10 Interpret National Class Rules;
- 2.2.11 Recommend alterations to Class Rules;
- 2.2.12 Advise on the appointment of UK builders of National and International classes;
- 2.2.13 Oversee the administration of the measurement and certification of National Class, delegated International Classes and other racing boats;

### ***Measurement***

- 2.2.14 Investigate measurement methods and equipment for measurement;
- 2.2.15 Train RYA Measurers;
- 2.2.16 Advise Class Associations on the method and standards for training measurers and to undertake such training where necessary;
- 2.2.17 Appoint Measurers for RYA events;

### ***Safety & Standards***

- 2.2.18 Monitor and advise on the development of national and international technical rules, standards and controls for safety;
- 2.2.19 Monitor and advise on UK, EU and International technical directives, legislation and codes of practice relevant to small craft, their equipment and their use;

### ***Racing Rules***

- 2.2.20 Monitor and advise on any technical or measurement aspects relating to the development of Racing Rules;
- 2.2.21 Recommend alteration to any technical or measurement items relating to Racing Rules;

### ***British Ship Registration***

- 2.2.22 Oversee the administration of measurement and certification of craft for tonnage and appoint RYA tonnage measurers;

### ***Handicapping and Rating***

- 2.2.23 Investigate empirical and analytical methods of handicapping;
- 2.2.24 Determine and disseminate the RYA Portsmouth Numbers;
- 2.2.25 Agree those rating or handicap rules, schemes or systems recommended for national application.

## **3. MEETING ARRANGEMENTS**

- 3.1 The Committee shall meet at least [three] 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 as non-voting Corresponding Members 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 Measurements of boats;

5.1.2 Building of boats;

5.1.3 Naval Architecture, yacht surveying, test methodology;

5.1.4 Offshore racing yacht measurement;

5.1.5 Club and Class Associations;  
5.1.6 Marine safety 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: 26<sup>th</sup> June 2013