

# WHF003

## Constitution



WORLD  
**HOVERCRAFT**  
FEDERATION

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*PROPELLING GLOBAL HOVERSPORT*

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[www.worldhovercraftfederation.org](http://www.worldhovercraftfederation.org)

World Hovercraft Federation

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## Article 1. FORMATION

- A. A non profit making organisation comprising member associations set up under this constitution and shall be known as the:

### **WORLD HOVERCRAFT FEDERATION (WHF)**

- B. The Federation is to be set up for an indefinite period.

## Article 2. AIMS

The aims of the Federation are:

- A. To expand the potential use of Hovercraft.
- B. To encourage the construction of new prototype craft and scale models.
- C. To promote the use of Hovercraft for sport, competition and tourism.
- D. To make appropriate useful contacts in the public and private sectors with a view to achieving the aims of the Federation.
- E. To purchase such property and equipment as are deemed necessary to achieve such aims.

## Article 3. ACTIVITIES

The activities of the Federation could include:

- A. The holding periodic meetings.
- B. The publishing of a periodic bulletin.
- C. The administration of World Championship Race meetings.
- D. The Federation will not permit any discussion or event of a political or sectarian nature.

## Article 4. MEMBERSHIP

- A. The WHF will only recognize one Club or Organization representing amateur hovercrafting from each Country. In the event that there are more than one who wishes to represent their country and agreement cannot be reached between the representatives the WHF will decide.
- B. Representatives should be established Clubs or Organizations who are non-profit making. Where a Country is represented by a Commercial entity it must be clearly understood that it should do so with benevolent intentions and not to financially exploit their privileged position. One of the principal aims of the WHF is to expand the use of recreational hovercraft and organize sporting events, and not just help Commercial companies increase their sales. Any new country accepted by the WHF will be granted provisional membership until such times as **representatives from the WHF** get to meet with their representative and drivers and gain a full understanding of their intentions.
- C. The official language of the WHF is English and will take precedence at all times. However, it will be necessary for any country representative to translate the principle Rules and publications of the WHF into their own language, and keep them updated, AND send electronic copies in PDF format to the WHF Secretary. These will then be placed on the official WHF web site so that they are available as information to anyone who has an interest in them, or can be sent to anyone who asks for them.

## **Article 5. ADMISSION**

- A. Application for membership must be made to the Governing Board of the WHF who will consider applications at the next WHF Governing Board meeting.
- B. Whilst awaiting the decision applicants are entitled to participate in the activities of the WHF, with the exceptions of voting at a General meeting.

## **Article 6. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Membership may be terminated by:
  - a) Resignation
  - b) Expulsion by the Governing Board for non-payment of fees or other serious reason.
- B. Termination of membership will not take place until the member Country has been invited to explain its case before the Governing Board, or a General meeting of the Federation.

## **Article 7. FINANCIAL RESOURCES**

- A. The resources of the Federation will comprise:
  - a) A levy (charge) made on each hovercraft driver competing at any WHF competition. The current charge per driver is 5 Euro or equivalent.
  - b) Local or state grants or subsidies.
  - c) Sponsorship and donations
  - d) Sale of goods
  - e) Interest on investments.

## **Article 8. LANGUAGE**

- A. The official language for all texts, publications or declarations will be English.

## **Article 9. GOVERNING BOARD**

- A. The WHF will be Governed by a Governing Board (the Board) comprising two representatives nominated by each member Country. Each full member country will have one vote. This vote will be enhanced with one extra vote where that country has had drivers competing in two out of the last three WHF World hovercraft championships.
- B. The Board may co-opt experts or Officers to fulfil specific posts or initiatives. These co-opted members will not be eligible to vote unless they are the sole representative of their Country.
- C. The Board may appoint sub-committees to undertake special areas of work. These committees will report their findings to the Board for official ratification.

- D. The Board shall elect a group of Officers for a two year, renewable, period.
  - a) President
  - b) Vice-Presidents who will represent world areas
  - c) Secretary
  - d) Treasurer
  - e) Technical Director
- E. The Officers can be elected from nominated or co-opted members. Officers will not have voting rights unless they also act as the sole representative of their National Body.
- F. Should a position become vacant a replacement will be found by the Board. Replacements must be confirmed at the next board meeting. The term of office of members elected in this manner expires at the end of the term of the Officer they are replacing.

## **Article 10. BOARD MEETINGS**

- A. The Governing Board will be convened by the President at least once every two years.
- B. The Board meeting will be chaired by the President or in his place the Vice-President or a Member elected as an Acting Chairman.
- C. The Board will be convened at the request of 25% of the membership.
- D. The Secretary shall notify all Members of the date and place of the Meeting at least 8 weeks before it is due to take place. A draft agenda will be sent out with the notification.
- E. On receipt of the notification, Members should notify the Secretary of any additional agenda items they wish to be included, together with a discussion paper.
- F. Decision of the Board will be carried on the basis of a majority vote.
- G. **Should the voting be equal the President, or in his place the acting Chairman at the meeting, will have the casting vote. This will be in addition to any delegate vote they may hold.**
- H. **A Country may appoint another member to act as Proxy, but this must be confirmed in writing directly to the Secretary, prior to the meeting.**
- I. **Any Member Country which fails to send a representative to two consecutive Board meetings, without explanation, will be deemed to have resigned membership.**

## **Article 11. HEAD OFFICE**

- A. The Board will decide on the Head Office of the WHF which will be located in one of the member Countries.

## **Article 12. ACCOUNTS**

- A. The funds of the Federation will be held by the Treasurer, who will produce a statement of accounts for each Governing Board meeting.

## **Article 13. INTERNAL REGULATIONS**

- A. The Board may draw up regulations designed to cover various matters which are not provided for in the Constitution, particularly matters relating to the internal administration of the WHF.

## **Article 14. GENERAL OPEN MEETINGS**

- A. A General Open Meeting of all Members of National bodies shall be held when the Governing Board feel it is necessary or requested by 60% of National Bodies who are fully paid up members of the WHF.
- B. The Secretary will notify all Federation Members of the date and place of the Meeting at least 8 weeks before it is due to take place. A draft agenda will be sent out with the notification.
- C. On receipt of the notification, Members should notify the Secretary of any additional agenda items they wish to be included, together with a discussion paper.
- D. Agenda items only will be discussed at Open Meetings.

## **Article 15. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

- A. The Constitution of the WHF can be amended only at a Governing Board or General meeting.
- B. Amendments to the Constitution require a 60% in favour vote.
- C. Voting may only take place on one proposed amendment at a time.
- D. Voting on proposed constitutional changes by member Countries is mandatory, either in person or by proxy. Each member Country shall have one vote.

## **Article 16. ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS**

- A. All members of the WHF must respect National legislation when in a host Country.
- B. Members should inform the WHF Secretary of any changes to regulations within their Country.
- C. The WHF may draw up its own rules in respect of matters relating to personal safety and property particularly concerning competition.

## **Article 17. EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

- A. The WHF is the sole representative of the Clubs, Federations and Associations of member Countries in relationship to World sporting Hovercraft matters.
- B. The Federation may decide to delegate such dealings and appoint representatives. Representatives must report directly back to the Governing Board of the WHF.

## **Article 18. DISSOLUTION OF THE WHF**

- A. The WHF shall be dissolved on a 60% vote at a General meeting. The Governing Board will appoint Receivers to distribute assets equally to fully paid up National Bodies.
- B. Voting on the dissolution of the WHF by member Countries is mandatory, either in person or by proxy. Each member Country shall have one vote.