

CONSTITUTION OF THE ROCHESTER CANOE CLUB

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of the organization shall be THE ROCHESTER CANOE CLUB, hereinafter referred to as the "Club".

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purposes for which the Club is formed are to organize, equip and operate a yacht club for the pleasure and recreation of its members and to advance the interest of sailing on Lake Ontario and Irondequoit Bay.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. The classes of members shall be as follows:

(a) Regular Membership. A regular membership shall entitle the family members to participate in all club activities. The family shall include any children who are under 21 years of age or are students attending any institution of higher learning on a full time basis. All family members 18 years of age or older shall each be considered voting Members, subject to the terms of Article III, Section 2.

(b) Individual Membership. Individual membership entitles an individual age 30 or over to participate in all club activities. No other family members shall be considered club members. Individual members may benefit from reduced annual dues.

(c) Introductory Membership. An Introductory Membership is a provisional first year membership in which the initiation fee is deferred. In the second year payment of the initiation fee is required and upon such payment the membership is upgraded to Regular, Individual, or Under 30 membership. Introductory members have full Club privileges except for voting rights. A family or a member of a family will be allowed one Introductory Membership only. Applications accepted prior to August 15th will be for that current sailing season only. Applications accepted after August 15th will be eligible for Introductory Membership the following year only. Current and former Regular, Life, Associate, and Under 30 members shall not be eligible for an Introductory Membership.

(d) Associate Membership. Associate members shall be persons who do not regularly use the club facilities. They are entitled to attend all social functions of the Club, but may not keep or bring boats to the Club, except for regattas, nor have private parties at the Club, nor possess a key to the clubhouse. Associate Membership is not available as a first time membership.

(e) Honorary Membership. Honorary memberships may be awarded for one (1) year by the Board of Governors. Honorary members shall not be subject to the payment of any dues or initiation fees.

(f) Life Membership. Life Membership is a Regular Membership in which the head of household meets the following qualifications:

- a) The head of household is age sixty or over
- b) The head of household is retired

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- c) The head of household has been a member of the Club for at least 15 years
The benefit of being a "Life Member" may be reduced annual dues.

(g) Under 30 Membership. Under 30 Membership is a Regular Membership in which all household members or the primary sailor(s) are under 30 years of age on April 1st. An Under 30 Membership must be upgraded to Regular or Individual Membership in the season that any member in the household unit or the primary sailor attains 30 years of age by April 1st. Under 30 Members may benefit from reduced annual dues and deferral of a portion of the initiation fee until the membership is upgraded to a Regular or Individual Membership.

SECTION 2. The right of voting to elect officers and directors and to amend this Constitution or to decide any other proposal deemed appropriate by the Board of Governors shall be vested in Regular, Individual, Life, and Under 30 members and in no others. Said members are hereinafter referred to as Voting Members. Voting rights on any issue are limited to two per family unit.

SECTION 3. Members shall be elected by the Board of Governors as provided by the By-Laws.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

SECTION 1.

(a) The elective officers of this Club shall be: Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore, Harbor master, Purser, Secretary, and a Fleet Captain from each active fleet, whose term of office shall be one (1) year. All officers except Fleet Captains must be elected from the Regular, Individual, Life, or Under 30 membership. Fleet Captains must be elected by their respective fleets.

(b) There shall be elected four (4) Directors whose term of office shall be two (2) years; two (2) Directors being elected each year.

SECTION 2. There shall be a Board of Governors consisting of the Elective Officers, the past Commodore most recently holding office, the Directors and the Fleet Captains of the respective Fleets.

SECTION 3. The following committees, together with the chairpersons, shall be appointed annually by the Commodore:

- (a) Nominating Committee
- (b) Membership Committee
- (c) Race Committee
- (d) The Commodore shall have the authority to appoint any other committee deemed advisable.

ARTICLE V - DUTIES OF OFFICERS, BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. Officers

(a) The Commodore shall be the executive officer of the Club, shall preside at all

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meetings of the Club and of the Board of Governors, and shall be ex-officio member of all committees.

(b) The Vice-Commodore shall assist the Commodore in the discharge of his duties and in his absence act in his stead. In addition, the Vice Commodore shall be in charge of all entertainment and regattas.

(c) The Rear Commodore shall assist the Commodore and Vice-Commodore in the discharge of their duties and in their absence act in their stead. In addition, the Rear Commodore will be responsible for the maintenance of the Club and waterfront facilities and organize and be in charge of all work activities and special construction projects.

(d) The Harbor Master will be responsible for the following:

(1) Operation and maintenance of all racing equipment, including Race Committee boat, crash boats, course markers and radios.

(2) Installation and Maintenance of facilities associated with boats, including docks and hoist.

(e) The Secretary shall be responsible for the following:

(1) File, maintain, and preserve all records, reports, communications and documents connected with this Club.

(2) Record all proceedings of Club meetings, Board of Governors meetings of which a record may be deemed advisable.

(3) Maintain membership and fleet lists.

(4) Mail or email the required notices of all meetings of this Club or of the Board of Governors.

(5) Notify the members of the Nominating Committee's report.

(6) Advise applicants of their election or rejection to membership, and members of their expulsion or suspension from the Club.

(7) Report at the annual meeting for the Board of Governors

(8) Perform such other duties as may be recommended by the Commodore or the Board of Governors

(9) Conduct general Club correspondence.

(f) The Purser shall:

(1) Control and account for all funds of the Club, subject to the direction of the Board of Governors.

(2) Collect all receivables.

(3) Control and account for all payables subject to the direction of the Board of Governors.

(4) Report in writing to the Board of Governors and at the Annual Meeting, the financial position of the Club.

(5) Report members in arrears to the Board of Governors and report action required thereon by the By-Laws.

(6) Keep accurate records of all money received and dispersed

(7) Recommend any action to the Board of Governors which (s)he feels beneficial to the financial position of the Club.

(g) The Fleet Captains shall

(1) Conduct skippers' meetings and provide written racing instructions that

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have been reviewed and approved by the Board of Governors.

(2) Appoint protest committees as needed and designate Chairman of the same.

(3) Appoint weekly assistants to the Race Committee and safety boat operators.

(4) Maintain and post Club racing fleet standings, maintain season race records for award purposes and be responsible for the awarding of all trophies.

(5) Assign boat parking and/or summer rack storage.

SECTION 2. Board of Governors.

(a) The Board of Governors shall

(1) Have general charge of the policy, management, finances and property of the Club, and shall exercise its power generally to promote the welfare of the Club.

(2) Enforce the Constitution and By-Laws of the Club

(3) Hold meetings at which a quorum shall consist of a majority of its members. Club members shall have the right to be present at meetings and all Committee Chairmen shall attend when their recommendations are considered.

SECTION 3. Committees.

All appointive committees shall perform such duties as requested by the Commodore and Board of Governors. They shall also recommend policies and actions to be taken by the Board of Governors.

ARTICLE VI - BY LAWS

SECTION 1. The Board of Governors shall prescribe and adopt the By-Laws of this Club.

SECTION 2. The By-Laws shall be adopted or amended only upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote at any meeting Of the Board of Governors at which a quorum is present, but in any event only by a majority vote of the entire Board of Governors and upon fifteen (15) days written notice by the Secretary to each member of the Board of Governors. Notice of the proposed By-Law or amendment thereto must be posted at least fifteen (15) days on the Club bulletin board prior to the date of the meeting at which the Board of Governors will take action if the proposal is made during the sailing season. If not during the season, such notice shall be given by mail or email to the voting members at least thirty (30) days prior to such meeting.

SECTION 3. The By-Laws originally adopted by the Board of Governors must be posted on the bulletin board for thirty (30) days and amendments thereto shall be posted in a like manner.

ARTICLE VII - DUES AND CHARGES

SECTION 1. Annual dues, initiation fees and charges, if any, shall be determined by the Board of Governors.

ARTICLE VIII - RESIGNATIONS AND SUSPENSIONS

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SECTION 1. A member in good standing may resign by notifying the Secretary in writing, who shall in turn notify the Board of Governors. Resignations of members not in good standing shall take effect only on acceptance by the Board of Governors.

SECTION 2. Any member delinquent in the payment of dues or other charges may be suspended or expelled at the discretion of the Board of Governors.

SECTION 3. The Board of Governors shall have the power to suspend or expel members for other causes after such hearing and upon such notice as shall be provided in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE IX - MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The annual meeting for the election of officers and such other business as properly may come before the meeting, shall be held in September.

SECTION 2. Special meetings may be called upon request of the Board of Governors, or petition of fifteen (15) voting members, and such meeting shall be held not less than fifteen (15) days nor more than thirty (30) days after receipt of such petition by the Secretary.

SECTION 3. The Secretary shall mail or email notice of the Annual Meeting and the text of any proposed amendment to the Constitution, to the voting members at least fifteen (15) days before such meeting. The Secretary shall mail or email notice of a Special Meeting to the voting members at least fifteen (15) days before such meeting and such notice shall include the text of any proposed amendment to the Constitution.

SECTION 4. All questions shall be determined by a majority vote, except as otherwise provided in the Constitution. The presiding officer shall vote only in case of a tie.

SECTION 5. Robert's Rules of Order shall determine all Questions of procedure.

SECTION 6. Fifteen percent (15%) of the voting memberships shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.

ARTICLE X - ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. The nominating Committee of at least three (3) members, shall be appointed by the Commodore on or before September 1st of each year, and the nominating Committee shall elect one (1) candidate for each elective office (except for the Fleet Captains who are elected by their fleets) and file a list of such candidates with the Secretary fifteen (15) days prior to the annual meeting, and the Secretary shall immediately post said list on the Club bulletin board. Nominations for an office may be made from the floor at the annual meeting. The elective officers shall assume their duties the first of the year following the year of election.

SECTION 2. A vacancy occurring in any office shall be filled by appointment by the Commodore until the next annual meeting of the Club.

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ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. The Constitution may be amended or repealed by the voting members at an Annual or Special Meeting, provided fifteen (15) days notice of such proposed amendment shall have been mailed or emailed to each voting member. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the memberships shall be represented in person at the meeting to constitute a quorum and, subject to the terms of Article III, Section 2, an amendment shall be approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members present or by a majority of the total voting members, whichever may be the smaller.