



**MARSHALL SANDPIPER CLASS
ASSOCIATION**

CONSTITUTION

Sandpiper Class Association[©], South Dartmouth, Massachusetts, USA
Initiated: Monday, November 15, 2012.
Amended: April 1, 2014

1. NAME

The name of the Association shall be the SANDPIPER CLASS ASSOCIATION, with Head Office at: 55 Shipyard Lane, PO Box P-266, South Dartmouth, Massachusetts, USA

2. INSIGNIA

The emblem of the Class shall be the recognized Sandpiper symbol as described by Marshall Marine, and the insignia of the officers shall be those prescribed by By-Law.



3. OBJECTS

The objects of the Association are:

- 1) To provide a medium of exchange of information among Sandpiper sailors and to enhance the enjoyment of these sailboats
- 2) To promote and develop Sandpiper class racing in all countries, under uniform rules
- 3) To encourage and foster the enjoyment of the sporting and recreational aspects of sailing.

4. POLICY

It shall be the policy of the Association to maintain the Sandpiper as a strict one-design class of sailboat.

5. JURISDICTION

The Association has authority over all activities of the Sandpiper class, and its powers shall be vested in and carried out by the Executive Committee and Fleets as provided in this Constitution and any By-Laws passed pursuant to the provisions hereof; all subject to and in accordance with the General Rules and By-Laws of US SAILING.

6. ORGANIZATION

Association Council

- 1) The Association Council shall be comprised of:
 - a. Executive Committee (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer)
 - b. Advisory Council (two representatives from the Builder, Non-Voting)
 - c. Fleet Captains
- 2) Association Council members must be Full members of the Association.
- 3) The Association Council shall be elected by the membership and shall hold office for a term of two (2) years. There is no limit to how many terms a member can hold.
- 4) The Association shall meet not less frequently than once per year.
- 5) The Association Council shall be responsible for the management of all business of the Association, subject to and in accordance with the Constitution, By-Laws and the direction of the Association, including:
 - a. The co-ordination of all inter-regional activities
 - b. The organization of all activities relating to National and Regional Championships
 - c. Liaison between the Association and US SAILING
 - d. Liaison between the membership and the Chief Measurer
- 6) The Association Council shall appoint, for a term of two (2) years, with no limit to how many terms may be held, a Chief Measurer, who shall rule on all questions and

challenges relating to the Class Rules, and shall issue Interpretations thereof deemed necessary by him/her. All such Interpretations shall be binding until approved, rejected, or modified by decision of the Association duly published to the members of the Association.

7. FLEETS

- 1) A Fleet may be granted a charter upon application to the Class Association by members of the Association who are owners of Sandpipers within any area or club deemed appropriate, having regard to the locality where regular racing activity is easily accessible to members of that Fleet. There may be more than one fleet in any given locality.
- 2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a special Fleet may be chartered in any locality for the purposes of accommodating specific members of the armed forces, an educational institution, a junior program or any other non-profit organization.
- 3) A Fleet Captain, and such other officers if any as the Fleet may deem necessary, shall be elected annually from among the members of the Fleet in such manner as is prescribed by the Fleet, unless otherwise provided by the By-Laws, and shall be responsible to the Association for the organization of the Fleet and the due compliance by the members of the Fleet with the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association. Each officer shall be a Full member of the Association.

8. MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

- 1) There are two levels of membership, Full and Associate
 - a. Full Member: Owners or partial owners of a Marshall Marine Sandpiper. Full members are eligible to compete in class championship regattas, vote and may hold office.
 - b. Associate Member: Future owners, crew or other Sandpiper enthusiasts who receive the benefits of membership. Associate members may participate in any class event, however, are not eligible to vote or hold office.
- 2) Any person may become a member of the Association by making application to the Class Secretary, or the appropriate Fleet Captain, and payment of the prescribed Association dues, provided that he/she has not been disqualified from membership for cause by decision of the Association or under suspension from membership.
- 3) An application for membership implies that the applicant undertakes and agrees to be bound by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association upon being accepted to membership.
- 4) A member of the Association belongs to the Fleet in which he/she normally sails, even though such place may not be their permanent residence; but such member, for valid reason and with the approval of Association Council, may select instead the Fleet in which he/she has permanent residence.
- 5) A member of the Association may become a member only of the Fleet in his Region where he/she normally sails for the purpose of qualification, where required, for sanctioned events; and any dispute shall be settled by decision of the Association which decision shall be final.

- 6) The Association may grant honorary membership in the Association, for such period as it determines, to any person who, through special contribution to the Class or through special relationship to the Association, is considered meritorious.
- 7) The Association may grant an honorary life membership to any member who has achieved, in the opinion of the Association, international stature as a result of his yachting achievements.
- 8) An honorary and an honorary life member are entitled to full privileges of membership, but are not required to pay the annual dues of the Association.
- 9) Association dues shall be in the amount determined by and shall be payable within the time prescribed by the Association, and shall include all amounts required for Association and Fleet purposes as determined by each authority.
- 10) The Association may ask for special contribution in addition to dues, provided any such contribution shall be for a specific purpose and shall not be mandatory.
- 11) Dues shall be collected by the Fleet Captain, but the Association Council may direct the Fleet Captain to collect such dues under such terms and conditions as to reporting and accounting as may be required.

9. VOTING RIGHTS

1. Voting rights are restricted to Full members of the Association.
2. If there is more than one owner of an individual boat, and both owners are voting members of the Association, only one vote per boat is allowed.
3. If a voting member is an owner of more than one boat, only one vote is allowed.
4. Any organization that may own one or more Marshall Marine Sandpipers may become a Full member of the Class Association, however, will be allowed only one vote.
5. If a voting member is unable to be present at the time of voting to cast a vote he/she shall be given the opportunity to submit their vote in writing to the class Secretary prior to or within one (1) week of the voting.

10. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- 1) A member may be suspended by the Association, on the recommendation of a Fleet Captain for gross violation of the Rules and By-Laws, for committing an unlawful act in relation to the Association or one of its members, or for any unsportsmanlike conduct contrary to the interests of the members of the Association.
- 2) The duration of a suspension shall be fixed by the Association Council and a suspended member shall during such period be prohibited from racing and enjoying any other rights of membership.
- 3) An Executive Officer or Fleet Captain may be removed from office by the Association for a willful and unjustifiable act of commission or omission detrimental to the Association or to its members.

11. APPEALS

- 1) Any dispute arising in relation to regions, fleets, eligibility to race, the interpreting of this Constitution, the By-Laws or similar matter, other than any dispute as to the interpretation of the Class Rules or any protest within the jurisdiction of the

applicable racing rules, may be made to the Association's Executive Branch whose decision shall be final and binding.

12. ADVISORY COUNCIL

- 1) Two persons nominated by the Builder shall constitute the Advisory Council and shall assist and co-operate with the Association in the carrying out of their responsibilities, and shall have the responsibilities as set forth in paragraph 13. The Advisory council shall be non-voting.

13. BY-LAWS

- 1) The Association Council may make By-Laws for the purpose of carrying out the objects of this Constitution and of the Association and, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, may make By-Laws:
 - a. Amending the Rules of the Sandpiper Class, hereby established as By-Law 1 of the Association
 - b. Respecting the establishment of Regions, and the powers of the Regional Committees
 - c. Delegating specific powers of the Association Council to Regional Committees
 - d. Respecting the establishment of Districts and the powers of District Committees
 - e. Respecting the Constitution and By-Laws of District Committees
 - f. Respecting registration of members and collection of dues
 - g. Respecting the measurement of boats
 - h. Respecting the conduct of championship and other regattas, including the classification of regattas and the eligibility of members for major racing events
 - i. Respecting the acceptance of deeds of gift of trophies
 - j. Changing the Headquarters of the Association
 - k. Respecting the procedures for meetings of the Association Council and Regional Committees, including the conduct of business by mail or other means of communication.

14. AMENDMENTS

- 1) Amendments to this Constitution shall be approved by each of:
 - a. The Association Council
 - b. At least two thirds of the Association Membership replying in writing to the Association Council in response to a postal ballot published by the Association Council. Only those postal votes returned to the Association Council within 1 month from the date of publication of the proposed change shall be valid.