



RULES (updated 2026)

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1.0 NAME AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1.01. The name of the Club is the Helford River Sailing Club, hereinafter referred to as 'HRSC' or the 'Club'. The Club shall be affiliated to the R.Y.A.

1.02. The purposes of the Club are to encourage and promote sailing, cruising, racing and generally messing about in boats in a seamanlike manner, and to maintain a Club House for this purpose and for the social use of the Club members. The Club shall also aim to promote community participation in the sport of sailing.

1.03. The Burgee shall be azure on a cross gules bordered argent a galleon or. The Flag Officers may fly broad pennants with the usual distinguishing marks of Rank.

2.0 MEMBERSHIP

2.01. Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone on application regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs. Membership may however be limited according to available facilities on a non-discriminatory basis.

2.02. The Membership year will run from January 1st to December 31st, the privileges of membership shall include the right to fly the Club burgee, use Club premises and vote at General Meetings subject to their rights accorded to type of membership as outlined below, such privileges not being transferable and terminating when membership ceases, or is suspended.

2.03. An application for Membership shall be in the form from time to time prescribed by the Committee, and shall include the name and address of the applicant and any other particulars that the Committee require, and shall be lodged with the HRSC Office. Applicants must have a Proposer and Secunder and their names shall be displayed on the Club Notice Board for 72 hours.

Details of the candidate(s) (Name and whether inport or outport), when received by the HRSC Office, shall be issued to all members of the Committee by email, who will then have 72 hours to comment, election is by simple majority of a minimum of five members. Every Member shall furnish the Secretary with an up-to-date address which shall be recorded in the Register of Members and any notice sent to such address shall be deemed to have been delivered to that Member.

2.04

(1) Following the election of a candidate to membership the new Member shall not be admitted to the privileges of membership until the applicant has either:-

(a) paid the annual subscription in accordance with the following Rule 2.02(2), or

(b) completed and lodged with the HRSC Office a Banker's Direct Debit in a form approved by the General Committee providing for the payment of the annual subscription.

(2) Upon admission an applicant shall pay, within thirty days such fees as shall be requested. In default of such payment for membership, boat storage & any mooring fees, the admission shall be null and void.

2.05. Once admitted to the Club and after complying with Rule 2.04 the Member will not be able to purchase intoxicating liquor for a period of 48 hours to accord with the requirements of the Club Premises Certificate.

2.06. The Club, on the recommendation of the General Committee, may in General Meeting elect Honorary Members but the total number of such Honorary Members shall not at any one time exceed 5% of the total number of all members. Honorary Members shall pay no subscription. The list of Honorary Members shall be reviewed by the General Committee before the Annual General Meeting.

2.07. The Club, on the recommendation of the General Committee, may, in General Meeting, elect Honorary Life Members so that the total number of Honorary Members and Honorary Life Members shall not at any one time exceed the numbers specified in the preceding Rule. The honour shall be conferred only on members who have

- (a) rendered outstanding service to the Club of a continuous or exceptional nature, or
- (b) made some outstanding contribution to the sport.

Nominations for Honorary Life Membership shall be sent in writing to the Secretary not less than 14 days before the Annual General Meeting. Honorary Life Members shall pay no subscription.

2.08. Any Member wishing to resign shall notify the HRSC Office in writing stating the date on which his or her resignation shall become effective. A member resigning shall not be

entitled to any refund of subscription unless the HRSC office is advised of the resignation by 31st Jan of the year of resignation.

2.09 The Club Committee may refuse Membership or, subject to Rule 2.1, remove it, only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or sport into disrepute. The Committee's decision will be final.

2.10. Every Member on joining the Club impliedly undertakes to comply with these rules and any refusal or neglect to do so or any conduct which in the opinion of the General Committee is either unworthy or otherwise injurious to the interests of the Club shall render a member liable to expulsion by the General Committee provided that before expelling a member such Committee shall call upon the member for an explanation of the conduct and shall give the Member an opportunity of defending the action or resigning membership. The vote on a resolution for expulsion shall be by ballot and the resolution shall only be carried if not less than three quarters of the members of the General Committee present vote in favour of the resolution.

2.11. There shall be the following categories of Membership with power to vote at an Annual General Meeting as noted:

(a) Adult Full Members - being a person who is at the age of 26 on the 1st January of the subscription year, entitled to one vote.

(b) Joint Members – see Membership Application form for details

(c) Junior Members - being a person who is below the age of 18 on the 1st January of the subscription year. Junior members shall have no vote. Junior Members are required to be family members of Full members.

(d) Cadet Members - being a person who is over the age of 18 but below the age of 26 on the 1st January of the subscription year, entitled to one vote.

(e) Holiday Membership – A person, otherwise eligible for membership, may be admitted as a Holiday Member for a maximum period of 2 weeks in any one year. Holiday Membership may be extended to the applicant's immediate family. Application for Holiday Membership shall be in such form as shall be prescribed by the General Committee, the membership fees for a Holiday Member, and family, shall be decided by the General Committee in each Club year and the fee or fees so decided shall be shown on the Club web site.

No person admitted to Holiday Membership under the Rule shall be entitled to purchase intoxicating liquor on the Club premises until the expiration of 48 hours after the application for membership, during such period of 48 hours an applicant for Holiday Membership may be permitted to use the Club premises. A Holiday member is not entitled to vote.

(f) Limited Temporary membership may be given free of charge to any person attending an event organised by the Club or assisting the Club in some way. Limited Temporary

Members shall have no rights to introduce visitors to the Club or the facilities, neither shall they have any right to take part in any management of the Club. This membership is for a limited period only and requires that the person complete a Limited Temporary Membership form. A Limited Temporary Member is not entitled to vote.

(g) Winter Membership - A person eligible for Membership who applies after 30th September in any year. Winter membership is from October 1st until March 31st when the Member will be entitled to take out Full Membership. Winter Members are not entitled to vote.

(h) Bond Subscription Members – those holding membership bonds as provided for in Rule 3.01(b) hereof. entitled to one vote.

(i) Life Members (Subscription) – Members may on request become a Life Member by paying a once only premium payment of 20 times, if aged 59 or younger, or 10 times, if aged 60 or over, the current adult yearly subscription. entitled to one vote.

(j) Honorary Members and Honorary Life Members. entitled to one vote.

3.0 SUBSCRIPTIONS

3.01. (a) The annual subscription for all membership categories shall be payable on election and thereafter in the first week of January in each year and shall be such a sum as the General Committee may from time to time prescribe.

(b) The Club may, on the recommendation of the General Committee, issue Membership Bonds. Such Membership Bonds may be issued to members or their spouses. The holder of a Membership Bond shall not be required to pay an annual subscription: Membership Bonds shall be redeemable by the member or a personal representative, on ceasing to be a member of the Club or by the Club at any time on 6 months' written notice. Applications for the issue of Membership Bonds shall be in writing addressed to the Secretary of the Club and shall be allocated by the General Committee. In the event of applications exceeding the numbers for Membership Bonds to be allocated preference shall be given to applicants who have made gifts or interest free loans to the Club.

(c) The annual subscription of all Members shall be payable by Banker's Direct Debit and in no other way provided always that a Member wishing to pay the subscription otherwise than by Banker's Direct Debit may make written application to the Treasurer to do so. The Club will indemnify Members of the Committee against claims which may arise against them personally due to the operation of the Direct Debit Scheme

(d) For the convenience of candidates for membership and to avoid unnecessary correspondence, a suitable form of Direct Debit will be attached to the form of application for membership.

(e) The General Committee shall, at a meeting held before the end of November in each year, fix the annual subscription for the ensuing year and any change in the annual subscription shall be notified to members by:

(i) HRSC Office sending out notice of the change to all Members as soon as possible and in sufficient time so that such notice will be received by the membership at least 10 working days before 1st January.

(ii) Publishing the same in the Club's Yearbook for the following year.

(f) Members applying and elected after 30th September in any year will be entitled to apply for Winter Membership and will then be eligible for Full Membership the following January, in which case when they pay a Full members annual subscription it will be discounted by the cost of their Winter membership.

(g) Junior members shall become Cadet Members on 1st January in the year following that in which they attain the age of 18 years and shall be liable to pay the appropriate Cadet subscription from that date accordingly.

(h) Cadet members shall become Adult Members on 1st January in the year following that in which they attain the age of 26 years and shall be liable to pay the appropriate annual subscription from that date.

3.02. Any Member failing to make payment of the annual subscription before 1st March shall be notified, and if no satisfactory reply is received within 14 days, after which the Member's name shall, at the discretion of the Committee be removed from the list of members. A Member shall not be permitted to take part in any debate or proceedings of the Club until the subscription for the current year has been paid.

4.0 OFFICERS

4.01. The Officers of the Club shall be Adult Full Members of the Club and shall consist of:

Commodore	Flag Officer
Vice Commodore	Flag Officer
Rear Commodore (Sailing)	Flag Officer
Rear Commodore (Amenities)	Flag Officer
Honorary Secretary	
Honorary Treasurer	

The Commodore, Vice-Commodore and the Rear Commodores shall be the Flag Officers of the Club.

4.02. Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting in each year and shall hold office for one year, retiring at the Annual General Meeting and shall be eligible for re-election. Candidates for election as Flag Officers shall be those Members with previous service of at least one year on the General Committee whose nominations, duly proposed and seconded in writing by Members of the Club, shall be sent to the Honorary Secretary not less than 7 days before the Annual General Meeting.

4.03. Officers retiring from one office shall be eligible for election to another office or to the General Committee.

4.04. Flag Officers shall not hold office for more than three consecutive years in any one rank but shall be eligible for re-election after a period of one year has elapsed.

5.0 GENERAL COMMITTEE

5.01. The General Committee shall consist of the Officers and up to eight Members of the Club elected by the Club in General Meeting. Elected Members of the General Committee shall be known as Captains and hold the office for a maximum of three years, two retiring in rotation each year and not being immediately eligible for re-election. Candidates for election to the General Committee shall be those Members who shall have been a Club Member for a minimum of one year whose nominations are duly proposed and seconded by Members of the Club in writing shall have been sent to the Honorary Secretary not less than 7 days before the Annual General Meeting. Members retiring from the General Committee shall be eligible for election to any office in the Club.

5.02. Members co-opted to the General Committee for a specific task shall be a full voting Committee member. They shall be required to stand for election at the subsequent AGM and serve a minimum of one year before serving as a Flag Officer

5.03. Any casual vacancy on the General Committee occurring through death or resignation may be filled by the General Committee, the member so co-opted holding office until the next Annual General Meeting.

5.04. If the number of candidates duly proposed and seconded for election at the Annual General Meeting shall exceed the number of vacancies the election shall be by ballot.

5.05. Any Member entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting shall be eligible for election to the General Committee subject to Rules 5.01 and 5.02.

5.06. At meetings of the General Committee five members (including one flag officer) shall form a quorum except that at a meeting for the purpose of Rule 2.10 the quorum shall be eight.

5.07. The General Committee shall be convened by the Honorary Secretary when required, but there shall be a meeting of the General Committee not less than 21 days before the Annual General Meeting to pass the Accounts and Annual Report for submission to the Annual General Meeting.

5.08. Subject to the provisions of the rules, the General Committee shall have the general control and management of the Club. Such Committee shall apply the funds of the Club in such manner as complies with Rule 11.04 and shall make such bye-laws, rules and regulations as it thinks fit as to the management of any Club premises. The Members of the Club may in General Meeting reserve the management of such affairs as they think fit to General Meeting. It shall be the responsibilities of the Honorary Treasurer to keep a complete and accurate account of the Club's finances.

5.09. A General Meeting may at any time remove any Member from any position which he or she may hold within the Club or within the Committees.

6.0 TRUSTEES

6.01. There shall be **not** more than four trustees who shall be appointed by the General Committee from among Full, or Honorary or Honorary Life Members who are willing to be so appointed.

6.02. The trustees shall hold office until death or resignation or until removed from office by the General Committee. Where, by reason of such death, resignation or removal, it is necessary that a new trustee or trustees be appointed, the General Committee shall nominate the person or persons to be appointed the new trustee or trustees. For the purpose of giving effect to such nomination the Commodore is hereby nominated as the person to appoint new trustees of the Club within the meaning of Section 36 of The Trustee Act 1925, and shall by deed duly appoint the person or persons so nominated by the General Committee.

6.03. All the property of the Club, including land and investments and goods, shall be held by the Trustees for the time being, in their own names so far as it is necessary and practicable, on trust for the use and benefit of the Club. In the event of the death, resignation, or removal from office of a Trustee, the Committee shall nominate a new Trustee in their place, and shall as soon as possible thereafter take all lawful and practicable steps to procure the vesting of all Club property into the names of the Trustees as constituted after such nomination. For the purpose of giving effect to any such nomination, the **Commodore** for the time being is hereby nominated as the person to appoint new Trustees of the Club within the meaning of Section 36 of the Trustee Act 1925 and they shall by Deed duly appoint the person or persons so nominated by the Committee.

6.04. The Trustees shall in all respects act, in regard to any property of the Club held by them, in accordance with the direction of the Committee and shall have power to sell, lease, mortgage or pledge any Club property so held for the purpose of raising or borrowing money for the benefit of the Club in compliance with the Committee's directions (which shall be duly recorded in the Minutes of the proceedings of the Committee) but no purchaser, lessee or mortgagee shall be concerned to enquire whether any such direction has been given.

6.05. In pursuance of the authority vested in the Trustees by the Members of the Club, the Trustees shall be indemnified by the Members of the Club out of the assets of the Club from and against any liability, costs, expenses or payments whatsoever which may be properly incurred or made by them or any one of them in the exercise of their duties or relation to any property of the Club vested in them, or in relation to any legal proceedings, or which otherwise relate directly or indirectly to the performance of the functions of a Trustee of the Club.

6.06. If the Committee wish to make or allow any changes to Insurance Policies carried by the Club (excluding those changes concerning replacements or additions of either Clubhouse equipment or Club boats) then the written agreement of the Trustees must be obtained. The Committee must notify the Trustees of the changes in writing and the

Trustees must respond within seven days, if a response is not received then Trustees will be deemed to have accepted the changes, a majority response is not required.

7.0 ORGANISATION AND SUB-COMMITTEES

7.01. The General Committee may appoint such sub-Committees as it may deem necessary and may delegate such of its powers as it may think fit upon such terms and conditions as shall be deemed expedient and/or required by the law. Such sub-Committees shall consist of such Members of the Committee or of the Club as the Committees may think fit. Officers of the Club shall be ex officio Members of all such sub-Committees.

7.02. The Captains shall be at liberty to form their own Sub-Committees from Members selected by them and approved by the responsible Rear Commodore. Rear Commodore Sailing being responsible for all water-based sub-Committees, Rear Commodore Amenities being responsible for shore-based sub-Committees. The Captains shall appoint a secretary for each Sub-Committee. Members may serve on more than one Sub-Committee. Names of the Members of the Sub-Committees shall be notified to the Honorary Secretary on appointment.

7.03. There shall be a Sailing Committee, consisting of the Rear Commodore (Sailing), Captain Yachts, Captain Dinghies, Captain Juniors, Captain Adult Sailing and Captain Safety Boats.

7.04 The Committee shall have power to make such bye-laws for the conduct of Club affairs delegated to them as they think fit.

8.0 GENERAL MEETINGS

8.01. An Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of December or January in each year on a date to be fixed by the Commodore.

No business (except the passing of the Accounts and the election of the Officers and General Committee, the appointment of the Accountant, and any business that the General Committee may order to be inserted in the Notice convening the Meeting) shall be discussed at such meeting unless notice thereof be given to the Honorary Secretary at least 28 days prior to such meeting, provided that if in the opinion of the Commodore, the business stated in such Notice is sufficiently important or contentious in nature, require Notice thereof to all Members and may, instead of bringing such business forward at the Annual General Meeting, cause the General Committee to call an Extraordinary General Meeting under Rule 8.02.

8.02. The General Committee can at any time (upon giving twenty one days notice in writing) call an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club for any special business. The discussion at such Extraordinary General Meeting shall be confined to the business in the notice sent to Members.

8.03. (a) The Honorary Secretary shall, at least 21 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting or of any General Meeting, email, post or deliver a specific notice to each Member and of the business to be brought forward thereat.

(b) Thirty Members (or if the total membership of the Club is less than 150 one fifth of the said total) may join together to summon or cause the Honorary Secretary to summon by notice as herein mentioned a General Meeting.

8.04. At the Annual General Meeting or at any General Meeting of the Club only Members entitled to a vote are allowed to attend. In case of equality of votes the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

8.05. Subject to Rule 8.03(b) Notice of Motion for the amendment of these Rules from an ordinary Member must be sent to the Secretary in writing by the proposer and seconder by the 31st October in any year.

9.0 PURCHASE AND SUPPLY OF EXCISABLE GOODS (INTOXICATING LIQUOR)

9.01. The purchase for the Club of excisable goods and the supply of the same upon Club shall be exclusively under the control of the Committee, or of a special sub-Committee appointed by the Committee.

9.02 Intoxicating liquor may only be sold to or for consumption on the premises by those persons over the age of eighteen who are entitled to the use of the Clubhouse in accordance with the Rules, Bye-laws and Regulations for the time being in force. No Junior member under eighteen may purchase or attempt to purchase intoxicating liquor within the Club premises.

9.03 The Committee shall cause the bar in the Clubhouse to be opened (subject to the terms of the Club Premises Certificate) at convenient times (and such times shall be prominently exhibited in the Clubhouse) for the sale of intoxicating liquor to persons who are entitled to the use of the premises of the Club in pursuance of these Rules, provided that guests' names shall have been entered in the Guest Book upon entry to the Club premises.

9.04 No person shall take a commission, percentage or other such payment in connection with the purchase of excisable goods for the Club. Any profit deriving from the supply of such goods shall (after deduction of the costs of providing such goods for the benefit of the Club) be applied to the provision of additional amenities or the purchase of property to be held in trust for the benefit of the Club.

9.05 Proper accounts of all purchases and receipts shall be kept and presented at the Annual General Meeting in each year and such information as the Secretary or Reviewers may require shall be furnished to enable any statutory return or statement and the payment of excise or other duty or tax to be made.

10.0 USE OF CLUB PREMISES

10.01 Subject to Rule 10.02 the following persons may be extended the privilege of using the Club premises:

- (a) Sailors of boats visiting Helford River for a period of up to 7 days at any one time, who arrive by sea.
- (b) Sailors competing in any race starting or finishing in the Helford River for a period of 24 hours before and after the race in which they are competing.
- (c) Persons belonging to organisations holding functions on the Club premises with the approval of the General Committee.

10.02. The Honorary Secretary, or any member of the General Committee may expel temporarily or permanently any person who has the privilege of using the Club premises only under the preceding Rule.

10.03. Any Member, other than a temporary member, may introduce to the Club premises as a guest any person, providing the Member concerned enters the name of the guest in a book kept on the Club premises for that purpose. No guest shall be introduced to the Club premises on more than **6** days in any one Club year. The introducing Members shall be personally responsible for the behaviour and cost of entertainment of each such guest.

10.04. Complaints of any nature relating to the management of the Club shall be addressed in writing to the Honorary Secretary. Under no circumstances shall a servant of the Club be personally reprimanded by a Member.

10.05. The Amenities Sub-Committee with the approval of the General Committee may make such bye-laws and regulations for the administration of the Club premises as may be deemed proper and may from time to time amend or revoke such bye-laws and regulations. The bye-laws and regulations set out in the appendix to these Rules shall be in force until revoked or amended as aforesaid.

10.06. Members, their guests and visitors are bound by the following Rules which shall also be exhibited in a prominent place within the Club premises:

- (a) The Club will not accept any liability for any damage or loss of property belonging to members, their guests or visitors to the Club.
- (b) The Club will not accept any liability for personal injury arising out of the use of the Club premises and any other facilities of the Club sustained by Members, guests or visitors, whether or not such damage or injury could have been attributed to or was occasioned by the neglect, fault or negligence of any of them, the Officers, Committee or servants of the Club.

11.0 MISCELLANEOUS

11.01. No money or property of the Club or any gain arising from the carrying on of the Club shall be applied otherwise than for the benefit of the Club or for a benevolent or charitable purpose to be nominated by the General Committee.

11.02. For the purpose of the preparation of the Club's Annual Accounts, the financial year of the Club shall deem to end on the 30th September in each year.

11.03. All sailing races shall, unless otherwise directed by the Sailing Committee, be conducted under ISAF rules subject to RYA rules.

11.04. The Club is a non-profit making organisation. All surplus income or profits shall be reinvested in the Club and used to further its objects. No surplus or assets shall be distributed to members or third parties.

11.05. The Club acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and vulnerable adults. The Club will follow the RYA's Safeguarding and Equality Policies.

11.06. Members acknowledge that these Rules constitute a legally binding contract between each of them and the Club.

12.0 APPENDIX - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

12.01. The duties of the Commodore, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and other Officers shall include the following, as Honorary positions they will involve the assistance of the Club Office Staff, sub-Committee members and any external assistance that shall be deemed necessary and approved by the General Committee.

(a) Keep a register of Club Members' names and addresses securely and in accordance with GDPR regulations.

(b) Conduct the correspondence of the Club.

(c) Keep custody of all Club documents.

(d) Keep full minutes of all meetings of the Club, the General Committee and any sub-Committees which shall be confirmed and signed by the appropriate Chairman.

(e) Administer such Insurance policy or policies as may be needed fully to protect the interests of the Club, its Officers, Trustees and its Members.

(f) Maintain contact with the Club's Legal Advisors to ensure that the Club's affairs are managed in accordance with current law.

(g) Maintain any such certificates or registrations and complete any such non-financial returns as may be required by law.

(h) Cause such books of account to be kept as are necessary to give a true and fair view of the state of finances of the Club.

(i) Cause all returns as may be required by law in relation to such accounts to be rendered at the due time.

(j) Prepare an Annual Balance Sheet as at September 30th in each year and cause such Balance Sheet (and accounts as necessary) to be reviewed at least once annually and shall thereafter cause the same to be exhibited in the Club premises at least fourteen days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

(k) present the Annual Balance Sheet to the Club at its Annual General meeting.

12.02. At the Annual General Meeting in each year there shall be appointed an Accountant whose duty it shall be to certify the Accounts of the Club for the then current year. In the event of the person appointed as accountant being unwilling or unable to act, the General Committee shall appoint a substitute.

A copy of the certified Accounts shall be prominently displayed in the Club premises for at least 7 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

Updates reviewed and approved at EGM on 6th March 2026