



Phoenix Marine Model Club

Founded April 1996

Constitution and Rules

April 2023

INDEX

	Page
Club Name	3
Objectives of the Club	3
Membership	4
The Committee	6
General	8
Membership Conduct	10
Dissolution of the Club	11
Policy on Child Protection	11
Marine Rules	12
Steam Powered Models	13
Radio Frequencies/Equipment	14
Trophies	15

Page 3

1. Name

The name of the Club shall be **Phoenix Marine Model Club** (herein referred to as 'the Club')

2. The objectives of the Club shall be:

- 2(a) To elect a Management Committee (herein after referred to as 'The Committee').
- 2(b) To promote and encourage the building of model boats and the sailing of model boats, subject to the sailing restrictions set out elsewhere in these rules.
- 2(c) To hold competitions, for which trophies may be presented.
- 2(d) To provide third party insurance.
- 2(e) To encourage and assist young people in all aspects of model boat building and sailing.
- 2(f) To encourage and assist disabled people in all aspects of model boat building and sailing.
- 2(g) To circulate to Members from time to time such Club, local and national information on modelling and associated matters as the Committee view as appropriate.
- 2(h) To arrange events for Members, including meetings, debates, demonstrations, presentations, excursions and social activities.
- 2(i) To obtain for the Members 1) a water, and 2) suitable premises, as authorised by a general meeting of Club Members.
- 2(j) To purchase equipment for the use of the Members. Expenditure of up to £100 may be authorised by the Committee but expenditure of more than £100 requires the approval of the Membership.
- 2(k) The Club shall be a members Club and shall consist of Full, Associate and Junior Members. Life Members will be appointed by the Committee and Honorary Members may be appointed by the Members.

3. Membership

- 3(a)** Candidates for Membership (other than Founder Members) must be proposed by one Member of the Club and seconded by a Member of the Committee, both the proposer and seconder being ordinary Members and vouching for the candidate's fitness for Membership. Election to Membership shall be by the Committee. No reason shall be given to any candidate in the event of rejection.

Membership is subject to annual renewal upon payment of a fee determined from time to time by the Committee. Membership shall include the Members spouse and children up to the age of ten years, but a Members spouse has no voting rights unless admitted separately as an associate Member.

- 3(b)** **Associate Members** may be admitted to the Club at the discretion of the Committee and are liable to pay such annual subscription as shall be determined by the Committee.

An Associate Member is generally regarded as the spouse or partner of a Full Member who accompanies said full Member to Club Meetings and at sailing days / events at the lake. Also as a person who by reason of work or infirmity may only be able to attend Club meetings or other events occasionally.

An Associate Member has voting rights at the AGM.

- 3(c)** Renewal of Membership is at the discretion of the Committee. Any Member who is refused renewal will have the right of appeal to the Committee and, if requested, to a general meeting of the Club in accordance with rule 6(c), the decision of which meeting will be final.

- 3(d)** **Life Members** may be appointed by the Committee as a reward for long term service or a significant contribution to the Club and its activities.

Life Members shall not pay any subscription, shall enjoy all the privileges of Membership and have voting rights and their views on Club matters, if made known or solicited, may be used to inform the Committees decisions.

Page 5

- 3(e) Junior Members** (aged from 10 to 18 years) may be elected in their own right by the Committee. Junior Members shall be entitled to all Club privileges other than voting at annual, extraordinary or other general meetings.

Any application for Junior Membership must be signed by the parent or guardian of the applicant, showing their consent to the applicant becoming a Junior Member of the Club.

On attaining the age of 18 years Junior Members shall be eligible for and shall be admitted to full Membership provided they have been of good behaviour during their Junior Membership.

Junior Members must be accompanied by a parent or guardian when attending the Club water.

- 3(f) Honorary Members** may be proposed at the AGM by any Club Member of more than three years full Membership who is not related to the proposed member.

Said candidate must have performed voluntarily and for an extended period some service which has genuinely benefitted the whole Club.

Honorary Members pay no annual subscription but have full voting rights and their views on Club matters, if made known or solicited, may be used to inform the Committees' decisions.

- 3(g)** All Members, other than Life or Honorary, will pay to the Club the annual subscription appropriate to their class or Membership. The Committee has the discretion to set and levy a reduced subscription in respect of any new Member joining after the start of the membership year to cover the period from the time of joining to the end of the membership year.

- 3(h)** The Committee will from time to time and at least annually, review and set the level of annual subscription payable by each class of membership.

- 3(i)** The membership year begins on the 1st February each year. The annual subscriptions are to be paid in full by that date. Those whose subscriptions remain unpaid on the second Monday in February will be deemed to have terminated their membership. The Committee may, however, exercise discretion and keep open the membership of any Member whose subscription, for whatever exceptional or compassionate reason the Committee considers valid, remains unpaid after 1st February.

- 3(j)** The membership list and its entire contents are for the use of the Committee Members only and must not be disclosed to any third party.

4. The Committee.

4(a) The Management Committee shall consist of six Members, as listed below:

Chairman
Secretary
Treasurer/Membership Secretary
Committee Member
Committee Member
Committee Member

A quorum of three of these committee Members shall be required to convene a meeting of the Committee.

4(b) One Junior Member may also be elected to the Committee and will have voting rights at Committee meetings.

4(c) The Committee shall appoint two auditors annually.

4(d) At any meeting of the Committee the Club Chairman shall have the casting vote. If at any Committee meeting the Chairman is absent the Secretary shall take the chair and shall have the casting vote.

4(e) The Committee shall manage the Club in accordance with these rules. In matters not covered by these rules the Committee shall decide and report its decision at the next general meeting.

4(f) The Committee shall raise funds by subscription, and by other means if required and agreed by the Committee or by Club Members at an Annual General Meeting, an extraordinary general meeting or a general meeting of the Club.

4(g) The Treasurer shall keep such proper records as will enable an accurate report and statement of the Club's finances to be presented to the Annual General Meeting of the Club, or, with reasonable notice, at any other time to the Committee.

Page 7

- 4(h)** The Club secretary shall keep accurate records of Committee Meetings, the Annual General Meeting, Extraordinary General Meetings and other special general meetings of the Club. The Chairman or the Club Secretary shall circulate to the Membership, either electronically or otherwise in writing, the minutes of any general meeting of the Club within 28 days (was 29) of that meeting having taken place. The Secretary shall also arrange the Club's third party insurance cover and shall deal promptly with correspondence, referring to Members of the Committee where appropriate.
- 4(i)** The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer/Membership Secretary shall each be elected by Members of the Club at the Annual General meeting for a period of three years to maintain continuity.

Other Committee Members shall be elected by Members of the Club at the Annual General Meeting to serve a period of two years but shall be eligible thereafter to stand for re-election for further periods of two years.

5. General

- 5(a)** An Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held every year and there shall elapse not more than fifteen months between Annual General Meetings.
- 5(b)** Admissions to and voting at all Annual General Meetings, Extraordinary General meetings and any other special general meetings shall be upon production of a valid Club Membership card. Every Member shall be entitled to be present and every Member, with the exception of Junior Members, shall be entitled to vote on all proposals and nominations. In the case of equality of voting at any meeting the Chairman, or a Club Member elected to the chair for the meeting in advance of the commencement of proceedings, shall have a second or casting vote.
- 5(c)** Club Members must be given at least 28 days' notice in writing, transmitted by hand, by post or electronically, of the date and time of the Annual General Meeting or of any Extraordinary General Meeting or of any other special general meeting. Such written notice shall also invite the submission of written proposals for consideration at the meeting and nominations for vacant posts.
- 5(d)** Proposals and nominations made under rule 5(c) must be delivered to the Secretary in writing by hand, by post or electronically, not less than 14 days prior to the date of the meeting. Only in exceptional circumstances, to be decided by the Committee, will the Committee distribute proposals and nominations to the Members prior to any meeting.
- 5(e)** Accidental omission to send any notice of any Annual General Meeting, Extraordinary General Meeting or other special general meeting or the non-receipt of any such notice shall not invalidate the proceedings of that meeting.
- 5(f)** The Committee may call an Extraordinary General Meeting or a special general meeting or any other general meeting at any time by giving notice to Members as required by rule 5(c) and will also do so when a request is made in writing to the Secretary by no less than 60% of Club Members for such a meeting.

Page 9

- 5(g)** The Committee may from time to time make, vary and revoke the Constitution or Rules but will notify Members in writing of any changes in accordance with the timescale set out in section 5(c) in advance of Annual General Meeting or other general meeting of the Club at which any changes will be put to the membership for ratification.
- 5(h)** Rules may be made, varied and revoked by a majority of not less than two thirds of those members present and entitled to vote at any annual general meeting, extraordinary general meeting or other general meeting of which notice has been given in accordance with rule 5(c) and with which notice members are informed of the intention to consider rule changes at the meeting and given full details thereof.
- 5(i)** Members are asked to keep the Treasurer / Membership Secretary informed of their current postal and e-mail addresses and telephone number(s).
- 5(j)** Neither the Club nor any official thereof shall be liable to any member or any guest for any loss of or damage to any property occurring from whatever cause in or about any club meeting-place nor for any injury sustained by any Member or any guest at or entering or leaving any Club meeting-place.
- 5(k)** Membership cards should be worn visibly at all Club events including those taking place at the Club waters.
- 5(l)** Any equipment, including keys and membership cards, issued to Members remain the property of the Club.
- 5(m)** All Members attending any event and/or meeting will be responsible for clearing their own rubbish.
- 5(n)** All indoor Club meetings will be **non-smoking**.
- 5(o)** Members attending indoor meetings should ensure that their name has been taken on arrival for the attendance/evacuation list. Members should ensure that the names of guests are also noted. In the absence of a teller an attendance sheet will be provided upon which Members themselves should note their name and those of any guests.

6. Conduct of Members.

6(a) The Committee may suspend the membership of any Member whose conduct, whether on Club premises or elsewhere, is or has been, in the opinion of the Committee, contrary to the interests of the Club or injurious to its reputation.

6(b) Immediately upon the suspension of a Member the Secretary shall:

(1) Call a Special general Meeting of the Club on a date not later than 31 days following the suspension, and

(2) Give notice of that meeting to the suspended Member at the address last notified to the Membership Secretary, informing the suspended Member of the right to be present at the meeting.

6(c) At any such meeting a Member of the Committee shall relate to the meeting any allegations against the suspended Member, in the presence of that suspended Member, if attending. The suspended member shall have the right to address the meeting in reply. A reasonable adjournment should be offered by the Chairman of the meeting to enable the suspended Member to prepare a response.

The decision of the Club at said meeting or at any adjourned meeting either to reinstate or to terminate the membership of the suspended Member shall be taken by vote, and shall be final.

6(d) Any Member whose membership is terminated shall return immediately to the Club all items of Club property held, including the membership card, as defined by rule 5(1), and shall not be entitled to any refund of subscription paid.

7. Dissolution of the Club

- 7(a)** If for whatever reason the Committee and/or the membership believe that the Club is no longer viable and/or should cease to exist, a meeting shall be called in accordance with rule 5(f) to discuss the Club's future. Any motion to dissolve the Club must be passed by a majority of at least two thirds of those Members present at the meeting and entitled to vote.
- 7(b)** If a motion to dissolve the Club is carried the Committee shall take immediate steps to convert into money all property owned by the Club and, from Club funds including the proceeds of that conversion, to discharge all the Clubs debts and liabilities.
- 7(c)** Any balance of monies remaining after discharging the Club's debts and liabilities shall be donated to a marine related registered charity or charities as chosen by the Committee.
- 7(d)** In the event of the Club's dissolution existing Members and those ex-Members who left the Club within one year of the dissolution will each be liable to contribute, if necessary, a sum not exceeding one year's subscription at the rate current at the time of dissolution towards discharging the Club's liabilities.

8. Policy on Child Protection

- 8(a)** The child's welfare is paramount.
- 8(b)** All children, regardless of age, culture, disability, sex, language, racial origin, religious belief and/or sexual orientation, have the right to protection from abuse.
- 8(c)** All suspicions and/or allegations of inappropriate behaviour will be taken seriously and addressed swiftly and appropriately. The Committee must be made aware immediately of any such suspicions and/or allegations.
- 8(d)** As defined in the Children's Act 1989, anyone under the age of 18 years should be considered as a child for the purposes of this document.
- 8(e)** The Committee will review this policy and statement periodically.

8. Marine Rules

M1 Models not to be used on Club waters.

M1(a) Models powered by internal combustion engines.

M1(b) Fast electrics, both racing boats and scale models.

M1(c) Flash steam powered models.

M2 Conduct

M2(a) Members must always operate models in a safe manner and with due regard to others using the water, including wild life and anglers.

M2(b) Members must not distract other modellers on the water, especially during competitions.

M2(c) Each Member should endeavour to maintain a clear view of their model on the water.

M2(d) Members must take their rubbish home with them.

M3 Safety

M3(a) Children and Junior Members must be accompanied by a parent or guardian when attending Club waters.

M3(b) Members must not sail on Club waters whilst alone. To ensure personal safety there must be no fewer than two Members present at the waterside for sailing to take place.

M3(c) Members must not leave unattended such items as fuel canisters, sharp edged or pointed tools, hot soldering irons or anything else which could cause injury.

M3(d) Steam powered models steaming up or in steam must be located in a reserved area at the end of Silvermere 'island' most distant from the Restaurant. Operators of steam boats must have ready access to a fire extinguisher. Further rules governing the operation of steam powered models are set out in section **M4**.

M4 Steam Powered Model Boats.

- M4(a)** The rules below shall apply to all models in steam at any event or informal meeting arranged by the Club and to all steam powered models owned or operated by Club Members and sailed or steamed at other regattas or informally.
- M4(b)** The rules are designed to ensure that Club Members comply with the terms of the Club's third party insurance policy and hence covered by the policy. Members should note that the Club's policy does not cover damage to or loss of models.
- M4(c)** Any steam powered model with a commercially manufactured boiler tested by the manufacturer and with an energy capacity of not more than 3 bar-litres (43.5 psi) is exempt from maintaining a boiler certificate for insurance purposes.
- M4(d)** Any steam powered model using a boiler with an energy capacity of more than 3 bar-litres (43.5 psi) and any home produced boiler must be certified as having passed an initial hydraulic test of at least twice its working pressure. Boilers with a capacity of more than 3 bar-litres (43.5 psi) must pass a further test at least 1.5 times working pressure within 4 years of the initial test and every four years thereafter.
- M4(e)** For models fired by gas, commercially produced refillable gas containers tested at the time of manufacture and of not more than 250ml volume, do not need further testing in order to be covered by the Club's insurance policy. Commercially produced non refillable gas cartridges, such as those used for camping stoves, are covered by the policy regardless of their volume.
- M4(f)** Boiler certificates, if required, are to be produced on request. Certificates must contain the name of the organisation responsible for testing. In addition to commercial boiler manufacturers, competent authorities may include those affiliated to the Southern Federation of Model Engineering Societies, the Midland Federation of Model Engineering Societies, the Northern Federation of Model Engineering Societies and the Model Power Boat Association.
- M4(g)** The Secretary may be able to give advice to Members on the calculation of boiler energy capacities if required.

M5 Radio Control Frequencies and Equipment

M5(a) Members must only use such frequency bands, frequencies and equipment as are and may be approved from time to time by HM Government and/or its agencies for the remote control and telemetry of surface models.

M5(b) Users of equipment operating in the 27MHz and 40MHz frequency bands must:

- (1) Fly from their Transmitter aerial a pennant, displaying clearly the radio frequency in use.
- (2) Use the peg board to ensure that their transmitter frequency is not already in use before switching on their transmitter.
- (3) Supply, if necessary, a peg for use on the peg board, clearly marked with their name and radio frequency.
- (4) Fit a guard (e.g. a plastic practice golf ball) to the end of their transmitter aerial to prevent injury to others.

M5(c) Users of frequency agile radio equipment (e.g. in the 2.4GHz band) are exempt from complying with the requirements of rules **M5(b)** (1), (2) and (3).

M5(d) Users of radio transmitters fitted with stub aerials are exempt from complying with the requirements of rule **M5(b)** (4).

M6 Officer of the Day

An Officer of the Day is to be appointed when the water is being used for events or general use and will adjudicate on all aspects of conduct and safety both on and off the water.

M7 The Jetty

Users should take care when walking on to or off of the jetty, as occasionally there is a step in the levels of the sections, dependant on the lake water levels.

The jetty is not to be used for controlling models except when launching or retrieving them.

10 Annual Trophies

The following trophies will be awarded:

- 10(a)** To the winner and, if numbers permit 2nd and 3rd places of the IOM (I metre) class summer yachting competition.
- 10(b)** To the winner and, if numbers permit 2nd and 3rd places of the IOM (I metre) Class winter (Frostbite) yachting competition.
- 10(c)** To the winner and, if numbers permit 2nd and 3rd places of the “VICTORIA” class yachting competition.
- 10(d)** To the winner of the “Best Boat” competition at the Club Open Day.

The winner cannot receive the award for the same model in consecutive years.

10 (e) The R.Y. (Ron Young) Modellers Trophy.

Instigated to encourage the building or restoration of model boats including scale sailing models. (Scratch built models, models built from kits, restoration projects and models using both commercially available and scratch built items are eligible.)

The model must not have previously won any award at a national or international model boating event.

Any Member who wins the trophy may enter in subsequent years but not with the same model.

The presumption is to hold an annual competition for the Trophy but if the judge/s consider that no suitable model is presented for judging then the Trophy need not be awarded.

10(f) The Patrick Barnard Cup

Awarded to the Member, with the exception of the Club Officers, who has, in the opinion of the Committee, contributed outstanding services to the Club in the previous year or more.

The winner will be announced and the Cup presented at the AGM.

No Member may be awarded the Cup in consecutive years.