

# International Marblehead Class Association

## Marblehead Class Championship Rules

July 2021

### 1 ABBREVIATIONS

CCR	Class Championship Rules
DNM	Delegated National Member of IMCA
ICA	International Class Association
IMCA	International Marblehead Class Association
EVC	IMCA Events Sub-Committee
WS	World Sailing
MNA	Member National Authority as defined by WS
NCA	National Class Association
NCS	National Class Secretary of the DNM
IRSA	International Radio Sailing Association
EC	Executive Committee of IMCA
OA	Organising Authority
RC	Race Committee
RO	Race Officer
RRS	Racing Rules of Sailing
IJ	International Jury

### 2 DEFINITIONS

Where the following words and phrases are used in their defined sense in this Document, they appear in an italic typeface.

<i>Member NCA</i>	A NCA, or a NCS, which has been granted membership of IMCA. A Continental Member NCA is a NCA for a country assigned to the relevant continent according to the current World Sailing regional classification.
<i>Organising Authority</i>	MNA, NCA/NCS in cooperation with the hosting venue that has been given authority by the IMCA to organise and host an event.
<i>Shall/may</i>	In the CCR, the word “shall” specifies a mandatory action or procedure, while the word “may” is permissive.
<i>List</i>	A list of competitors placed in order of priority determined by the IMCA EVC or delegated authority based on the rules in this document for Championship selection and competition.

Except where inappropriate to the context, the masculine gender used in these Championship Rules, shall include the feminine.

### 3 STATUS

- 3.1 The status of the event is subject to the Organising Authority complying with these CCR and other relevant regulations of the IRSA and the IMCA.

### 4 CHAMPIONSHIPS

#### 4.1 World Championships

The Marblehead Class *may* hold a World Championship biennially, subject to the WS Regulation 25.3.

#### 4.2 Continental Championships

The Marblehead Class *may* hold a Continental Championship in each continent biennially in the year when there is no Marblehead World Championship. Continental Championships already agreed are:

- i) Europe
- ii) North America
- iii) South America
- iv) Asia
- v) Africa
- vi) Oceania

#### 4.3 Regional Championships

4.3.1 The Marblehead Class *may* hold Annual Regional Championships. A Regional Championship is defined as being for competition between entrants from two or more geographically adjacent *Member NCAs*.

4.3.2 Except as in 4.3.5, there is no restriction on the number of distinct Regional Championships that may be held in any one year.

4.3.3 A Regional Championship *may* be held as a single event or as a series scheduled as multiple dates in different country/venue events.

4.3.4 Sections 5, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6.1, 8.7, 8.8, 8.9, and 9 do not apply to Regional Championships which *may* be organised in such manner that is best suited to the IMCA *Member NCAs* and *Organising Authority (OA)* involved.

4.3.5 Regional Championships *shall* respect a maximum number per each Continent per year:

- i) 3 Europe
- ii) 1 North America
- iii) 1 South America
- iv) 2 Asia
- v) 1 Africa

- vi) 1 Oceania

## **5 APPLICATION AND SELECTION OF THE *ORGANISING AUTHORITY***

- 5.1 An *OA* wishing to host a Championship *shall* apply to the IMCA in good time so there is time for the application to be processed and for the *OA* to put in place the organisation to run the event. Where possible such application *shall* be sent to the IMCA at least 18 months in advance.
- 5.2 The application *shall* clearly state the *OA* acceptance of the obligations imposed by the CCR and its commitment to conduct the Championship in full conformity with the CCR, by completing the Championship Questionnaire and having it signed by two Officers of the *OA*.
- 5.3 The IMCA *shall* consider all applications for Championships and make decisions based upon:
  - i. The suitability of the proposed site.
  - ii. The response to the Championship Questionnaire.
  - iii. The best possible circulation of Championships around the World and Continents.

## **6 OBLIGATIONS OF THE *ORGANISING AUTHORITY***

- 6.1 The *OA* for the event *shall* be the host *Member NCA/NCS*, in conjunction with the host *MNA* or *DNM*, and with the host venue.
- 6.2 The *OA shall* appoint a Race Officer (RO) for the Championship. The RO *shall* be responsible for the conduct of the Championship and *shall* be empowered to select and replace all other officials as may be required.
- 6.3 For World and Continental Championships the RO *shall* be able to speak English well and *shall* make announcements in that language.
- 6.4 For World and Continental Championships, the *OA shall* appoint an International Jury according to the provisions of Appendix N of the RRS.
- 6.5 For a World Championship, the Jury *shall* consist of a minimum of 5 members. For Continental Championships, the Jury *shall* consist of a minimum of 5 members according to the provision of Appendix N 1.2.
- 6.6 For Regional Championships, the *OA shall* appoint only one member to the IJ.
- 6.7 EVC *shall* propose a list of names for the *OA* to appoint an International Jury Chairman as in 6.5 and 6.6. The EVC *shall* approve all members of the Jury.
- 6.8 The Notice of Race *shall* conform to the IMCA Standard Notice of Race and to the requirements of the RRS. Any requested modifications to the Standard Notice of Race from the *OA shall* be sent to the EVC Chairman for approval twelve months before the Championship. Nine months before the first day of the Championship, the *OA shall* publish the Notice of Race. For Regional Championships, modifications

to the Standard Notice of Race from the *OA shall* be sent to the EVC Chairman for approval 60 days before the event and 45 days before the first day of the Championship, the *OA shall* publish the Championship's Notice of Race.

- 6.9 The EVC *may* adjust this time scale for applications received less than twelve months before the proposed start of the Championship.
- 6.10 Sailing Instructions *shall* conform to the IMCA Standard Sailing Instructions and to the requirements of the RRS. Any requested modifications to the Standard Sailing Instructions from the *OA shall* be sent to the EVC Chairman for approval three months before the event. The Championship Sailing Instructions *shall* be published by the IMCA Race Committee and *shall* be made available to all competitors before the start of the Championship.
- 6.11 Within three months of the completion of the Championship the *OA shall* forward a report to the EVC including a detailed summary and an evaluation/review of the Championship to assist future events overseen by the IMCA.

## 7 ELIGIBILITY

- 7.1 Competitors *shall* comply with the requirements of RRS 75 and the additional requirements of the following clauses.
- 7.2 Any competitor in the Championship *shall* be a national citizen or permanent resident of the country of the *Member NCA* that is entering him/her.
  - 7.2.1 A permanent resident is defined as someone having lived in the country, for which they wish to sail, for at least nine months of the year prior to the initial closing date of entries for the Championship.
  - 7.2.2 Proof of permanent residency *shall* be submitted to the EVC, together with a letter of confirmation from a senior official of the *Member NCA* that is proposing to enter the competitor.
  - 7.2.3 The EVC shall review all such applications regarding eligibility.
- 7.3 Competitors from other World Sailing member countries where there is no *Member NCA may* be invited to enter a Marblehead Championship by the EVC subject to compliance with 7.2 and to compliance with Part 6 of the RRS.

## 8 ENTRIES

- 8.1 The maximum number of boats for any Marblehead Championship *shall* not be greater than that appropriate to the racing system used. IMCA strongly recommends a maximum entry of 80 boats. The final entry limit shall be stated in the Notice of Race.
- 8.2 The initial closing date *shall* be six calendar months before the start of the event for World Championships, three months for Continental Championships and 15 days for Regional Championships.

- 8.2.1 For Continental or Regional Championships, in order to be included in the allocation of places, a NCA on a different continent *shall* declare its intent to send entries six months before the start of the event.
- 8.3 The allocation of places *shall* take place within 14 days of the initial closing date.
- 8.4 *Member NCAs shall* only send entry fees for those competitors gaining places allocated in Stage One.
- 8.5 *Member NCAs shall* send entry forms for their competitors entering in Stages Two, Three and Four only if they are prepared to guarantee payment of the entry fee for those competitors allocated a place. Once a place is allocated payment is required whether that competitor races or not.
- 8.6 Stage One
- 8.6.1 No *Member NCA shall* have allocation of more than 7 places in Stage One, except in the case of 8.6.3. The initial allocation of places *shall* be:
- a. A personal place for the previous World Champion for World Championships or previous Continental Champion for Continental Championships; this place *shall* not be counted in any *Member NCAs* total.
  - b. A personal place, if not already allocated, for the previous Champion (I to iv) or top finishers (v) in Continental Championships for World Championships.  
Continental zone:
    - i. North America – 1 place
    - ii. South America – 1 place
    - iii. Asia – 1 place
    - iv. Oceania – 1 place
    - v. Europe – 3 places.

These places *shall* not be counted in any *Member NCAs* total.

RSA (South Africa) *may* be granted membership of a Continent zone of their choice, where such choice *shall* be binding for a period of 5 years from the date it is made.
  - c. A personal place, if not already allocated, for the previous Champion (I, ii, iv) or top finisher (iii, v) in Regional Championships for World Championships.  
Continental zone:
    - i. North America – 1 place
    - ii. South America – 1 place
    - iii. Asia – 2 places. If 2 Regional Championships, the Champions; or if a single Regional Championship, the top 2 finishers.
    - iv. Oceania – 1 place
    - v. Europe – up to 3 places. If 2 or 3 Regional Championships, the Champions. If a single Regional Championship, the top 3 finishers.

These places *shall* not be counted in any *Member NCAs* total.

RSA (South Africa) *may* be granted membership of a Continent zone of their choice, where such choice *shall* be binding for a period of 5 years from the date it is made.

- d. A personal place, if not already allocated, for the previous top finishers in Regional Championships for Continental Championships.

Continental zone:

- i. North America – 5 places
- ii. South America – 5 places
- iii. Asia – up to 5 places. If 2 Regional Championships, the top 2 finishers in each; or if a single Regional Championship, the top 5 finishers.
- iv. Oceania – 5 places
- v. Europe – up to 5 places. If 3 Regional Championships, the Champions; if 2 Regional Championships, the top 2 finishers in each; or if a single Regional Championship, the top 5 finishers.

These places shall not be counted in any Member NCA's total.

RSA (South Africa) *may* be granted membership of a Continent zone of their choice, where such choice *shall* be binding for a period of 5 years from the date it is made.

- e. For World Championships, two places to each *Member NCA* (one if number of certified owners in the previous year is 20 or below), or for Continental Championships, two places to each Continental *Member NCA* and one place to each *Member NCA* which has declared interest as in 8.2.1.
- f. Four additional places for the host Member NCA.
- g. For World and Continental Championships, the EVC *may* allocate guest places to competitors either not represented by a *Member NCA*, or who have demonstrated noteworthy dedication and service to the class, to a maximum of 5.
- h. For World Championships, the remaining places *shall* be allocated to *Member NCAs* according to the finishing order of boats from the *Member NCAs* in the previous World Championship.

8.6.2 For Continental Championships, available places *shall* be allocated to Continental *Member NCAs* according to the finishing order of boats from the Continental *Member NCA* in the previous Continental Championship and, if none, then in the previous World Championship.

8.6.3 For Regional Championships there is no prescribed allocation of places. Places shall be allocated in date order until the limit of entries stated in the Notice of Race is reached.

## 8.7 Stage Two

8.7.1 No *Member NCA* shall have an allocation of more than 9 places in Stage Two.

- a. For World Championships available places *shall* be allocated to *Member NCAs* that have sent in applications for additional places before the closing date, using the finishing order of boats from the *Member NCAs* in the previous World Championship.
  - b. For Continental Championships, available places *shall* be allocated to Continental *Member NCAs* that have sent in applications for additional places before the closing date, using the finishing order of boats from Continental *Member NCAs* in the previous Continental Championship.
- 8.7.2 For Continental Championships, available places *may* be allocated by the EVC. These places *may* be allocate to non-Continental *Member NCAs* to a maximum of 8, where no more than 2 places *shall* be allocated to any one non - Continental *Member NCA*, using the finishing order of boats from the non-Continental *Member NCAs* in the previous Continental Championship and, if none, then in the previous World Championship. If none of these conditions apply, then the EVC *may* allocate available places at their discretion as per 8.8.1 and 7.3.
- 8.7.3 Then, if there are still places available,
- a. For World Championship, those *Member NCAs* still requiring places *shall* be placed on a *List*:
    - i. In order of their highest finishing place in the previous World Championship, followed by
    - ii. Those not in the previous World Championship, in reverse numerical order of their IMCA voting entitlement. A tie between those with the same number of votes shall be split by drawing lots.
  - b. For Continental Championships, those Continental *Member NCAs* still requiring places *shall* be placed on a *List*:
    - i. In order of their highest finishing place in the previous Continental Championship, followed by
    - ii. Those not in previous Continental Championship, in reverse numerical order of their IMCA voting entitlement. A tie between those with the same number of votes shall be split by drawing lots, followed by.
    - iii. *Member NCAs* which were not represented at the previous Continental Championship and have asked for additional places, in reverse numerical order of their IMCA voting entitlement. A tie between those with the same number of votes shall be split by drawing lots.
  - c. For World Championships, places *shall* then be allocated one per *Member NCA* going down the *List* repeatedly until each *Member NCA* reaches the Stage Two maximum allocation, or has the places applied for if less.
  - d. For Continental Championships, places *shall* be allocated one per Continental *Member NCA* going down the *List* repeatedly until each

Continental *Member NCA* reaches Stage Two maximum allocation, or has the places applied for it less.

## 8.8 Stage Three

8.8.1 If there are still places available,

- a. For World Championships, the EVC *may* allocate guest places to competitors pursuant to rule 7.3, to a maximum of 6, where no more than 1 place shall be allocated to any one *Member NCA*.
- b. For Continental Championships, the EVC *may* allocate guest places to non-Continental competitors pursuant to rule 7.3, to a maximum of 6, where no more than 1 place shall be allocated to any one *Member NCA*.

8.8.2 Then, if there are still places available,

- a. For World Championships, there *shall* be no restriction on the maximum number of places for any *Member NCA*. Places shall be allocated one per *Member NCA* to those *Member NCAs* still waiting them, using the *List*. If any *Member NCA* has requested places after the initial closing date, they should be added at this stage.
- b. For Continental Championships, there shall be no restriction on the maximum number of places for any Continental *Member NCA*. Places shall be allocated on per Continental *Member NCA* to those *Member NCAs* still waiting them, using the *List*. If any Continental *Member NCA* has requested places after the initial closing date, they should be added at this stage.

## 8.9 Stage Four

8.9.1 If at any stage the entry limit is reached the EVC shall notify at least the next five places on the *List*, informing them that they are a reserve should anyone drop out. If places become available immediately prior to the start of an event, the EVC may make up the numbers to the entry limit, by informing the reserves and then continuing the allocation of places from the *List*.

## 9 FEES & PRIZES

- 9.1 The host *Member NCA shall*, for each entry in the Championship, pay to the IMCA the relevant levy as specified in the IMCA Regulations.
- 9.2 The IMCA is under no obligation to provide prizes for any Championship it has approved.

## 10 TROPHIES

10.1 The winner of any permanent Championship Trophy for which the IMCA is responsible *shall* sign an undertaking, with their personal contact details, for its safe custody and its subsequent return as notified to him by the EVC when required. This signed document *shall* be sent to the IMCA EVC no later than 3 weeks after the Championship is finalised.

- 10.2 The cost of returning the trophy by insured parcel post for the next required event *shall* be refunded following proof of payment being sent to the IMCA Treasurer.

## **11 CONDUCT OF THE CHAMPIONSHIP**

- 11.1 The Championship shall be governed by the regulations of the IMCA, the RRS, the Notice of Race, the Sailing Instructions, and the Marblehead Class Rules.

## **12 SAIL NUMBER CONFLICT**

- 12.1 In case of a conflict between 2 or more competitors regarding sail numbers, it shall be resolved by use of additional sail numbers as stated in Marblehead Class Rules and the IRSA Supplementary Class Rules.
- 12.2 The following order shall be used to define which competitor keeps their sail number:
- a. Personal agreement between competitors or,
  - b. If they cannot agree, final ranking of previous World Championship (for a World Championship) or Continental Championship (for a Continental Championship) or Regional Championship (for a Regional Championship).
  - c. If none of the competitors affected were at a previous event as defined in 12.2(b) the decision *shall* be based on the Stage in which the entry is accepted and by the date of the entry receipt within each stage. Stage N entries *shall* always get precedence over Stage N+1 regardless of the date of entry receipt.

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Voted on and approved by the Foundation Executive in the IMCA site Forum.

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