



BRENTWOOD MODEL BOAT CLUB

Section 1 Constitution (V1.2)

1.1 The club shall be known as the Brentwood Model Boat Club with the aim of furthering the hobby of building and sailing model boats. Membership shall be open to all persons regardless of age, sex or race who have a genuine interest in this hobby.

1.2 The affairs of the club shall be controlled by an Executive of Chairman, General Secretary and Treasurer with a non executive Events Secretary. These officers shall be elected by the membership annually at the Annual General Meeting. Other members can be elected to specific roles but without being part of the Executive. The Committee will have the power to co-opt members on to the Committee during the annual term as required but any co-options must be ratified at the next Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting whichever is held first.

In the event that the Chairman vacates his/her post the committee will nominate one of the other Executives to assume the role of Chairman until the election of a new incumbent at a Special General Meeting or the next regular Annual General Meeting.

1.3 The financial year of the club will run from 1st November to the 31st October annually.

1.4 The Annual General Meeting of the club must take place prior to the last day in November annually. For the purposes of a Quorum at any Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting there must be a minimum of 7 adult members present. The Committee will be elected at this meeting and any Committee member may stand for re-election if desired. Junior members shall not be permitted to vote at any such meeting. If any Annual General Meeting is declared void another meeting must be arranged within 28 days.

1.5 The Committee shall have the power to increase subscriptions by a maximum of up to 10% of the existing yearly subscription with advice to members. Any increase would be ratified at the next AGM.

All renewal fees must be paid to the club by January 31st annually

1.6 Subscription fees to the Club shall be ratified at the Annual General Meeting and shall provide for the following categories of membership: -

- (i) Adult (Members aged 16 and above) This category of membership includes spouse or partner.
- (ii) Associate Member defined as spouse or partner of an existing member who wishes to take full advantage of Club Facilities (e.g. running a boat on a regular basis). This category will pay 50% of the Adult member fee and will have full voting rights.
- (iii) Student (members aged 16 to 21 in full time education)
- (iii) Junior (members aged under 16)

1.7 The finances of the Club will be held in a Bank selected by the Committee. Any change of Bank must be ratified by the membership at the next Annual General Meeting. The account(s) will be in the name of the Club and cheque books will be held by the Treasurer. The three executive members of the Club will be authorised signees on these accounts. Any cheque of less than £100 may be signed by the Treasurer only, all cheques above this amount will require signature by the Treasurer and one other Executive member. A copy of the signatures of all signees will be held by the Bank.

The bank account will be administered wherever possible by On Line Banking.

1.8 All members must ensure that all monies received and all accounts payable are cleared to the Treasurer by the last day of each calendar month where practical. All financial matters must be cleared to the Treasurer by October 15th annually to enable the books to be closed.

1.9 Allocation of Club funds shall be controlled by the Committee and be subject to periodic review. Any member may review the books at any reasonable time by prior arrangement with the Treasurer.

1.10 The books shall be audited annually after the close of the financial year and prior to the Annual General Meeting.

1.11 The Committee shall have the power to discipline, suspend or expel any member who shall offend against the Rules or Constitution of the Club. The member shall have right of appeal against any disciplinary action by putting it in writing to the Secretary within 14 days of the disciplinary letter. The appeal will be reviewed by the Committee or in exceptional circumstances by a meeting of the full membership but in either case the majority decision will be final.

1.12 Any member shall have the right to call a Special General Meeting by giving the Secretary not less than 28 days notice in writing and outlining the reason for calling such meeting and containing the signatures of at least 9 other adult members.

1.13 No member may stand for election as a Club official until he or she has completed 6 months membership.

1.14 The Club is affiliated to the Model Power Boat Association (MPBA) which provides insurance cover. Membership is normally arranged through the Club but will be waived for members who can prove affiliation either through another organisation or as individuals or who can provide proof of individual insurance cover.

1.15 The members may invite as an Honorary Member any person who has given outstanding service to the furtherance of the objectives of the Club. These shall be restricted to two positions and shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. Honorary Members shall not be required to pay a subscription.

1.16 The Committee shall have the authority to amend, repeal or add to the Club rules as they consider expedient for the internal management of the Club but any such amendments must be ratified at the next Annual General Meeting or next Club meeting whichever is the sooner.

1.17 Members and their guests using property owned, leased or otherwise retained for the benefit of the Club do so entirely at their own risk.

1.18 Members are reminded that the lake and surrounds together with the access track are the property of the Riparian Owner and must be respected as such. Speed on the access track must be restricted to 15MPH. No changes to the lake or surrounds are to be made without reference to the Committee who will liaise with the Riparian Owner as necessary. All contact with the Riparian Owner must be through the Committee.

1.19 In the event that the Club should cease to exist, the value of all assets will be realised, all outstanding debts cleared and the residue, if any, distributed amongst the fully paid up members existing at that time.

1.20 The lake is available to all members at any reasonable time except for Open and National events organised by the Committee, which will have absolute priority.

1.21 Life membership may be conferred on any member at the discretion of the Committee.

1.22 The lake has unlimited use by members of the club. The water is unsuitable for deep keel Yachts and I.C. engine boats.

Section 2 Rules

2.1 Members are expected to ensure that all visitors/guests observe the rules of the Club.

2.2 Membership cards are to be carried at all times and must be shown at the request of any other club member.

2.3 Transmitters must not be activated in the Car Park as they may interfere with boats on the water.

2.4 Dogs are not allowed on the jetties and are to be kept on a lead when within the area where boats are being handled.

2.6 Members may loan their boats and equipment for a day to visitors who are thinking of joining the Club, but after that period, visitors are expected to become members..

2.7 Junior members must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or responsible adult nominated by a parent, when at the lake. Daughters, sons, nieces and nephews under the age of 16 may use a member's boat without restriction.

2.8 Rescue boats must never be used by lone members, for safety reasons, and **LIFEJACKETS MUST BE WORN IN THE BOAT AT ALL TIMES.** Junior members are not allowed to use the boats

2.9 All steam models must have a Boiler/Pressure Certificate before being allowed to use the lake. The certificate should be issued by an authority designated by the Club Committee and must be renewed in accordance with MPBA regulations.

Update History

- 12-11-2014 V1.0 Document created for new Scale Club.
- 22.11.2014 V1.1 Amend as per the minutes of the Inaugural Meeting 21-11-2014
- 20.09.2015 V1.2 Amend as per the minutes of the Special Meeting 18-09-2015
- 26.11.2015 V1.3 Amended Para1.6 added Associate member, altered junior to 16