

# **North American Olson ULDB Owners Association Constitution**

## **ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the North American Olson ULDB Owners Association (NA Olson ULDB OA).

## **ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVE**

The objective of the NA Olson ULDB OA shall be to promote One Design and PHRF Racing of the Olson ULDB. The Association shall serve as a means of communication between owners and facilitate the sharing of information to improve the performance and enjoyment of the designs.

## **ARTICLE III - POLICY**

It shall be the policy of this Association to:

- A) Cooperate with all yachting organizations in an effort to improve and promote yacht racing.
- B) To recognize that yacht racing is dynamic, not static, and that, within Class Rules, owners shall be encouraged to develop and modify the Olson ULDB as new equipment becomes available.
- C) To develop an attitude of cooperation and exchange of ideas so that the Olson ULDB can remain competitive in PHRF Racing.
- D) To keep the cost of being competitive in both handicap and class racing at a level that will enhance the enjoyment and value of all Olson ULDB `s.
- E) To protect the investment of all owners of the Olson ULDB by a vigorous development of a strong Owners Association.

## **ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION**

A) NA Olson ULDB OA - shall be governed by an Executive Board composed of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Webmaster. The NA Olson ULDB OA Executive Board shall administer all matters pertaining to Association membership and policies, and shall annually conduct at least one Championship Regatta in which Association members may participate. In addition, members of the Olson 30 US National Class Association are invited to compete in the Association's Championship Regatta. The NA Owners Association Executive Board shall hold office for a period of one year beginning March 1st.

B) Regions and Fleets - a Region shall be composed of at least three yachts of any one Olson ULDB design, whose home ports are separated geographically, while a Fleet shall consist of at least three yachts of any one Olson ULDB design, all of whom hail from the same port. Regions and Fleets may elect such Officers as may be deemed necessary to further the activities of the Fleet or Region. Fleets and Regions shall promote an exchange of ideas, concepts, techniques, and equipment, and shall annually conduct sufficient racing

activities to allow the designation of a Fleet or Region Champion. These regattas may be solely one design races or may be sailed as part of a larger regatta. It is the intention of this Association that Fleets serve as educational units and that a cooperative atmosphere exist among its members so that each member may learn to achieve the ultimate performance and pleasure from sailing.

## **ARTICLE V - MEMBERSHIP**

There shall be three classes of membership:

1) FULL - Full members must be a registered owner or part-owner of an Olson ULDB. Such a member or their husband, wife, sons, or daughters may skipper in any sanctioned event. In the event an Olson ULDB is owned in good faith by more than one person, the owners shall determine which the principal owner is, and he or she shall pay dues of a Full member. The remaining co-owners shall pay dues of an Associate member. Members of any Region or Fleet shall be Full members of the NA Olson ULDB Owners Association.

2) ASSOCIATE - Associate members shall be co-owners or non-owners of an Olson ULDB who have demonstrated interest in promoting the development of the Olson ULDB. A co-owner Associate member may skipper in any sanctioned event in the absence of the Full member co-owner. A non-owner Associate member shall be eligible to assume the helm in any Class sanctioned event, but shall not vote nor hold office in this Association.

3) HONORARY - An Honorary member is one who has made a significant contribution to yacht racing. Generally, but not exclusively, this membership shall apply to those whose contributions to yacht racing benefit this Association or the Olson ULDB.

## **ARTICLE VI – DUES**

1) The dues for a Full member shall be \$40 per calendar year. The dues for an Associate member shall be \$20 per calendar year. No dues are required from Honorary members.

2) Dues shall be distributed for the promotion of the designs, for Association administration and other costs as designated by the Executive Board, including distributions to Regions, or Fleets.

3) The Association bank accounts shall be capped at one thousand (\$1000) dollars. If the aggregate total of association funds exceeds one thousand dollars at end of any calendar year, that portion above one thousand dollars will be made available to Fleet or Regions for promotional activities. The percentage of this money distributed to a Fleet or Region in any given year shall not exceed its percentage of membership as a whole of the Association.

4) The Executive Board may distribute funds to a Fleet or Region at any time if three quarters of the Executive Board vote in favour of doing so.

5) All dues are payable on or before January 31, except for new owners of record having purchased on Olson ULDB after January 1. In that event, the new owner shall have 90 days to join the Association without late fees. Dues not paid by January 31 shall be assessed a \$5.00 late fee.

## **ARTICLE VII - MEETING**

The Association Annual Meeting shall be held by telephone conference or on-line conference during the month of February each year. A quorum shall be declared upon the participation of at least one third of the Full members or their proxies. If a quorum exists at roll call it exists throughout the meeting. Two weeks notice of the meeting date and start time will be provided to all Full members by e-mail to the address of record for each Full member.

## **ARTICLE VIII - VOTING**

Each Full member shall be entitled to one vote. However, no Fleet or Region may cast more than one-third of the votes on any matter resolved by voting. Should representation exceed one third, that Fleet or Region shall caucus and vote as a unit either unanimously or in proportion to its membership.

## **ARTICLE VIII – NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA’S**

Each design shall be entitled to run a North American Championship Regatta each year and trophies will be awarded as long as a minimum number of vessels compete in the regatta. In order for trophies to be awarded, the Olson 29 and 40 designs will require a minimum of 5 boats to compete in the regatta and the Olson 30 design will require a minimum of 7 boats to compete in the regatta. These annual events must be held in a different state or province each year when interest exists from a different region to host the event. If three or more regions are interested in hosting the event no region will host the event more than once every three years. The venue of the next calendar years regattas will be determined by majority vote at the AGM in February each year.

## **ARTICLE X - IMPEACHMENT**

Any member or Officer may be expelled by a three-fourths vote at an Annual meeting or a special meeting. For this purpose a special meeting shall be called within thirty days of presentation of suitable evidence that more than fifty percent of the Association members or member Fleets wish to impeach.

## **ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution shall not be suspended but may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any NA Olson ULDB Owners Association meeting. Any amendment to the Constitution shall be put to vote only if the proposed amendment has been mailed via the Postal Service or electronic mail to the entire membership. For these purposes it shall be sufficient that the proposed amendment be postmarked or transmitted no later than thirty days prior to the day of voting.

## **ARTICLE XII - ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Annual Meeting: 1) Call to Order 2) Roll Call 3) Minutes of the last Meeting 4) Reports 5) Review of Charters 6) Review of Executive Board Actions 7) Unfinished Business 8) New Business 9) Election of Officers 10) Adjournment

