



# ***Articles of Association***

***March 2016***



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## PART ONE: ORGANISATION

### 1.0 The Association

The association shall be called the European Blokart Association, abbreviated to EBA, hereafter to be referred as 'the EBA'.

- » The EBA is created for an indeterminate duration
- » The head office of the EBA shall be at the EBA President's home
- » The Board may designate from time to time other offices for the use of a specific committee

### 2.0 Purposes and Goals

The primary objectives of the EBA are:

- to share information with its members, usually through the website of the EBA which is available for all its members and can be reached at url: [www.blokartassociation.eu](http://www.blokartassociation.eu)
- to represent the European blokart racers at an International level
- to act as an advisory body for all national blokart clubs recognised by the EBA
- to foster and to promote the sport of blokart land sailing/racing in general

The EBA will also endeavour to:

- support membership of a National Organisation and/or the EBA
- follow legal guidelines including health and safety and insurance requirements
- promote friendship and fair play
- Protect the environment where the sport takes place

The activities of the EBA shall be held and maintained in the spirit of these purposes.

- » Since the supervision of the European Blokart Open Championships is a main activity of the EBA, this activity is explicitly described. (see [Article 17 Activities](#))

### 3.0 Power

The EBA shall have all the powers necessary to provide activities to conduct its purposes including, but are not limited to, the power to collect, hold and disseminate information consistent with its purpose:

- to regulate blokart racing in Europe
- to ensure that the IBRA contest rules will prevail as the basis for the contest rules during an (open) European Championship
  - The organizing National Association or Club can make adjustments to these rules subject to approval of the EBA
- to ensure that this will also be pursued on (Open) National Championships
- to collect dues and disperse funds for the membership



## PART TWO: FORMATION

### 4.0 Members of the EBA

Membership of the EBA is intended for anyone riding a blokart, irrespective of race, age, gender, sexual orientation or ability. Membership of EBA is obligatory for everyone who participates in National or International blokart Championships.

Membership runs from January to December throughout the year, regardless of the month of registration.

Distinction is made between senior and junior membership

- » Senior Members are those who fulfil the conditions provided for in the present Articles of Association; they can be members of the Board, have voting rights and they pay to the association the subscription provided for by the present Articles of Association.
- » Junior membership is valid from the age of 8 until they reach the age of 18. They have no voting rights and cannot be member of the Board. Junior members are not required to pay a membership fee.

### 5.0 Conditions of Admission of Members

For admission as a member of the EBA, the following conditions must be met:

- » be an individual living in Europe
- » agree with the aims of the Association
- » be a blokart pilot and must be member of an EBA recognised and registered National Association or Club
- » have met the financial requirements  
(excluding Junior Members until the age of eighteen years is reached)

### 6.0 Termination of Membership

Membership of the EBA will be terminated by:

- » death of a natural person
- » resignation
  - any member of the EBA has the right to resign; to that effect, the member should notify EBA's Secretary of his decision directly or through his National Association or Club. Giving at least one month's notice in writing
- » expulsion from the EBA on serious grounds
- » loss of one of the conditions of membership admission

### 7.0 Rights and Obligations

The EBA may stipulate rights for the benefit of the members provided they do not conflict with the Articles of Association.

The EBA may designate a member to the enforcement of these rights and impose sanctions in appropriate circumstances.

Members are obliged:

- » to behave towards each other and the EBA with reasonableness and fairness
- » to comply with the constitution and regulations of the EBA, as well as the decisions of the Board or any other duly sanctioned sub-committee of the EBA
- » not to harm the interests of the EBA



In general acts or omissions that is contrary to the law or with the constitution, regulations and / or decisions of the Board, or by which the interests might be prejudiced the association are punishable.

- » In case of violation referred to in the previous paragraph, the following penalties may be imposed:
  - a) a reprimand
  - b) suspension
    - suspension may be imposed for a maximum period of one year;  
During the period that a member is suspended rights that may be associated with membership not be exercised except for the right to appeal
  - c) expulsion (expulsion from membership of the EBA)
    - expulsion can only be ordered if a member acts in violation of the Articles, regulations or decisions by the Association, or harms the association unreasonably.  
After the Board has decided to expulsion the member shall be informed as soon as possible of the decision through a letter with confirmation of receipt stating the reason (s)
  - d) exclusion from participation in European Championships, either for a fixed period or for a number of races to be determined;
  - e) denial of the right to exercise one or more functions for a period to be determined
- » Imposing a penalty is communicated in writing to the member. In urgent cases, a penalty can be communicated verbally with a follow-up notification in writing.
- » Penalties imposed will be communicated on the website.
- » A penalty imposed by the Association-may be appealed within one month after receipt of the notice. During the appeal period and pending the appeal the member is suspended

### 8.0 Liability

No member of the EBA, including those involved in the Board, is personally liable for the commitments entered into by the Association; only the assets of the association are liable.



## PART THREE: RESOURCES

### 9.0 Dues, fees and other resources

The EBA is a non-profit organisation. Funds and resources are only allowed to be spent on purposes defined by the constitution.

The resources of the EBA consist of:

- » membership fee paid by Senior members; the amount of this membership fee is fixed by the annual Directors Committee and communicated to all National Associations and Clubs
- » Contributions of any kind or sum, paid by sponsors, individuals or businesses
- » Grants from States, the European Union, regional and local government, or from any public or private establishment
- » Any other legally authorised resources

The activities of the EBA will be financed primarily by members' subscriptions according to the following rules:

- all Senior entrants to a National or International Championship have to be an EBA member and are required to pay the EBA membership fee. This membership fee is only applicable for those adult members who race nationally and/or internationally
- registration of membership of the EBA has to be performed and listed by the National Association or Club
- » this fee will be charged to all adult pilots participating in a National or International Championship and must be carried out by the event organising National Association or Club which is affiliated with the EBA
- » the total membership fee is determined based on the event participation list that is automatically generated when the event registration program is used on the EBA website. If not an event participation list of the organising National Association or Club will be sent to the EBA's Secretary within a week after the event.
- » EBA Treasurer should invoice the organising Association or Club for the fees.

Except for any excess fees refunded as provided for hereafter, all the funds collected by the EBA shall be used by it to provide for the various activities permitted by these Articles of Association.

### 10.0 Fiscal year

The financial, as well as the reporting year, shall be equal to the calendar year.

### 11.0 Funds Management and Authorities

No person is entitled to payments that are not connected to activities in the blokart sport or to the objectives of the EBA. Expenses should be requested in advance and approved by the President and the Treasurer. Funds received can only be used to cover running costs and activities of the EBA. The EBA Treasurer will keep full records of all financial movements.

No individual member has the authority to obligate the EBA in any way. In doing so that member becomes personally responsible for that obligation and not the EBA.

- » Non-recurring expenditure must be approved by an absolute majority of the Board
- » New recurring expenses must be approved by absolute majority of the Board



The EBA shall provide a financial contribution to the organising association or club of the European Championships. Payment will be made:

- » Based on a balanced budget of the event an initial contribution can be made
- » if the event has been run as a worthy European Championship in accordance with EBA rules and recommendations
- » within three months of the completion of the event at the discretion of the EBA

## PART FOUR: ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION

### 12.0 Formation of the Board

The Board of the EBA is composed of representatives duly elected by the National Associations or Clubs at their membership meeting. Each European country has the ability for the deployment of one representative. A representative of each country shall be an adult member of the National Association or Club with the largest number of EBA members

Only members can be appointed members of the Board. An exception can be made for the Secretary and the Treasurer.

Any member of the Board can resign, on condition that he notifies the President of his decision, giving three months' notice, in writing.

The Board of the EBA comprises the following elements:

- » Directors Committee (DC)
  - President
  - Vice/President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
- » General Assembly (GA)
  - All Country representatives duly elected

### 13.0 Tasks and responsibilities

The following describes the duties and responsibilities of each of the representatives:

- » President
  - Must be an EBA representative
  - Ensuring that the decisions taken are executed
  - Representing the EBA in every act of civil life
  - Calling general meetings or meetings of the board
  - Chairing these bodies
  - In the event of absence, illness, or death, he is replaced in the exercise of all his powers by the Vice-President
- » Vice-President
  - Must be an EBA representative
  - Supports the President
  - Replaces the President in his absence



- » Secretary
  - Can be either a voting EBA representative or a non-voting appointment
  - Maintaining the non-financial records and correspondence of the EBA's operations
  - Prepares the convocation of General Meeting towards the National Associations
  - Provides agenda and meeting notes of all Board meetings and General Meeting
  - Maintain a detailed list of recognized Member Associations
  - Maintain a detailed list of the National Associations' memberships on a regular base
  - Maintain the detailed list of membership records for the EBA
  - Publication of registered national associations and clubs, and maintaining their membership lists on the website of the EBA
- » Treasurer
  - Can be either a voting EBA representative or a non-voting appointment
  - Responsible for everything concerning the management of the EBA's assets
  - Makes any payments decided and authorised by the GM or the Board
  - Shall maintain the Secretary's list of the National Associations' memberships for dues records.
  - Receives all sums owing to the EBA. He can only dispose of assets forming the legal reserves on authorisation from the Board
  - Keeps regular accounts of all the operations that he performs
  - Gives an account of these at the GM, which, if necessary, approves his management
- » General Assembly
  - Consists of representatives of those associations or clubs that are recognized by the EBA
  - Representative must be duly elected by members of the National Association or Club
  - Each European country has one representative
  - The representative of each country is a member of the Association or Club with the most number of EBA members
  - Performing tasks that are assigned by the President or accepted as agreed

## 14.0 Meetings

The General Meeting (GM) is the Association's supreme organ; decisions taken by the GM are binding, even for those who have rejected the proposal, or were absent and did not vote. It consists of all members of Directors Committee and General Assembly of the EBA.

- » Preferably to be held during the Europeans or no later than 30 days after the Europeans.
  - A minimum of 50% of the associated member of the General Assembly must be present to have a valid GM
  - Agenda must be sent in concept 30 days prior to the date of the GM
  - No later than 30 days in advance the members are invited to attend the GM
  - It prefers to attend the meeting in person, but when there is no other way, participation via skype is allowed





- » The agenda of the GM includes:
  - a) approval of the minutes of the previous General Meeting
  - b) annual report of the Board
  - c) financial annual report of the past financial year and establishing the balance sheet
  - d) determining the contribution for National Associations for the next year
  - e) establishing the budget
  - f) election or appointment of Board Members
  - g) allocation of venue of next European Championship
  - h) any other business

A regular Board meeting is called on the President's initiative. No later than 14 days in advance the members are invited to attend the meeting. In this case skype conference call, Facebook chat or email are allowed.

For all Board meetings the following applies:

- » Proposals to the agenda can be made and accepted within 10 days after notification of the meeting
- » Decisions are adopted by absolute majority.
  - In the event of votes being equal, the President has the casting vote
- » Any rule changes can only be taken during the General Meeting

However, the General Assembly can, on absolute majority, decide to call a General Meeting. Written notice of the meeting date and location, accompanied by the agenda, shall be sent to every member at least 30 days before the meeting. All useful information needed for this meeting will be available for each member of the Board

## 15.0 Election of Representatives

A country representative shall serve for a term of two years which is normally the period between two General Meetings. In principle the respective representative should resign then, but can be again eligible for election.

In the event of a post being vacant, the Board can temporarily provide for the replacement of its members. A permanent replacement will be elected at the next General Meeting. Powers of temporarily elected members shall expire when the mandate of the replaced member would normally have expired.

At least 30 days prior to the General Meeting the Secretary will inform the appropriate National Association and / or Clubs about the expiring term of their Representative or about the open position.

The National Association and/or Clubs concerned proposes a candidate as its representative for an available position on the board of the EBA.

This candidate should be:

- » registered member of the respective National Association or Club as well as EBA member
- » duly elected by registered members of their National Association or Club

At least 14 days before the date of the General Meeting detailed information about the elected candidate should be sent by mail by from the Board of the National Association or Club to the Secretary of the EBA. When no country results or detailed information is received or received too late, the incumbent representative remains elected.

By 2/3 of all Country Representatives, the DC can deny a representative of the National Association participating on the Board of the EBA if a valid reason is discovered. (e.g. a violation of the Constitution)



## 16.0 Proportional Representation and Voting

Each country representative only has one vote. A member may be represented at a GM by a proxy, who must be another member of the Board.

- » A written authorization that is drawn up by the member concerned, provides the name of the representative, the date the authorization is issued and is signed by both.
- » This written authorization may be filed at the meeting in which the subject is raised and is carried out at the time of voting
- » This written authorization may be filed at the meeting in which the subject is raised and is carried out at the time of voting
- » A vote given in accordance with the terms of a proxy is valid unless the member concerned the revocation of the proxy has submitted prematurely with the secretary, or when there is no longer a member as described in Article 5.0

## 17.0 Activities

- » The EBA will notify criteria and recommendations for organising the bi-annual Open European bobsleigh Championship event, such as:
  - National Association or Club must be a recognised Member Association
  - the applicant will need to have previously organised an Open National Event
  - the applicant is willing to respect and follow the EBA Racing Rules
- » The EBA will invite all National Associations and Clubs to register for a possible organisation of the upcoming European bobsleigh Open Championship
- » Basic rules and recommendations for the bid of the organisation of the upcoming event are to be found in [Appendix 1.0](#)
- » The closing date for registration to organise the upcoming European bobsleigh Open Championships will be notified in the basic rules but will be set at a minimum of 14 days prior to the General Meeting.
  - At the General Meeting the Board of the EBA will discuss and vote on the submitted applications for the organisation of the event
  - After the GM, the National Association or Club with majority of votes will be informed as soon as possible but within a maximum of 3 weeks

## 18.0 Alterations to the Constitution

Any proposed alterations to the Constitution may only be considered at a meeting of the EBA Committee convened with the required written notice of the proposal. Any alteration or amendment must be proposed by the Country Representative of the EBA and seconded by another Country Member. Such alterations shall be passed if supported by not less than 2/3 of all Representatives.



## 19.0 Dissolution

- » When a resolution is adopted at an EBA meeting, calling for the dissolution of the association, the secretary shall immediately adopt a new date for the convening of an extraordinary General Meeting. This meeting, in which the content of the resolution will be discussed and voted must be within one month after the last meeting.
- » If at that special general meeting, the resolution is carried by at least 2/3 of the Board present at the meeting the Board shall thereupon or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realize the assets of the EBA and discharge all debts and liabilities of the EBA.
- » After discharging all debts and liabilities of the EBA, the remaining assets shall not be paid or distributed amongst the members of the EBA but shall be given or transferred to some other voluntary organization having objects similar to those the EBA or if this isn't possible then to any charity chosen by majority.

## 20.0 Final clause

In all cases not provided for by the Articles of Association, one or more rules or the law, a minimum of 2/3 of the Board Members decide.



## Appendices

### 1.0 *Organising the Open European blokart Championships*

The bi annual Open European blokart Championships is looking for a host for the 2017 event. The intention is to mention the name of the host for 2017 event at the World Championships 2016 in Ivanpah.

If your organization is interested in hosting the event please contact EBA's President. In the case of multiple bids being presented, EBA's president will hold a meeting with all representatives to select the 2018 host.

It should be clear that some of the important rules are necessary and compulsory. These are specified as follows

- » the applicable National Association or Club must be a recognised Member Association of EBA
- » the applicant must have already organised an Open National Championship
- » the applicant is willing to respect and follow the IBRA Racing Rules
- » The EBA representative of the organizing country should be informed at all times about the progress of the organization
  - He/she will report to the Board on a regular base or can be represented by one of the organisers

### Suggestions to support a proposal

For reference you will find a list of considerations for inclusion in your proposal. These are the details that will help the EBA Board when reviewing the bids.

### Venue

- » Is it close to major transport hubs with reasonable connecting flights and drive time
- » Is there a range of accommodation nearby at various levels? i.e. within 30 minutes' drive and not limited to camping or hotels.
- » Is the sailing area firm and reasonably consistent and allow for courses that range in length from 2 to 5 minutes plus per lap?
- » Is there significant upwind and downwind legs requiring tacking and gybing to complete?
- » Do wind conditions during the proposed time allow for the reasonable certainty of racing?
- » Has the venue hosted a major blokart event? Is there suitable shelter on site?
- » Is the race venue close to facilities suitable for the welcome and presentation dinners?
- » Are there tourist activities for family members who are travelling with competitors nearby?
- » Close to activities for competitors before and after the event?
- » Is there anything else you can think of?

### Event Schedule

- » Include lay days (days off racing?)
- » The European Championship should ideally be no longer than 3-4 Days for those who can only do the one event
- » Allowance of travel on the weekend before the event and the weekend after the event. I.e.: event start Tuesday, finish Saturday allows the weekends for travel.



A suggested schedule may look something like,

- Day 1. Registration, weighing, scrutineering and practice
- Day 2 Europeans Race Day 1, late registration, weighing and scrutineering, pilots dinner
- Day 3 Europeans Race Day 2
- Day 4 Europeans Race Day 3
- Day 5 Europeans Race Day 4 and prize giving

NB. The event schedule could be filled in a different way as it is open for the host and should be discussed with the EBA representative.

We need to appreciate the amount of time some competitors may or may not have.

## Event Structure

There are some overlapping groups, key to the successful running of the event.

The following is an overview of the potential structure and roles for running the Europeans.

### Competitors

Volunteer Support for

- » Registration
- » Race officials (marks / start grid etc.)
- » First Aid
- » General tasks

### Hosts

- » Securing Suitable venue and permits
- » Race Management
- » Transponder system mandatory (grade A)
- » Notice of Race
- » Organising social events including dinners and “meet and greets”
- » Planning of the event venue
- » Administration of the budget in conjunction with the EBA Representative

### EBA

- » Host selection
- » Scrutinizing
- » Protest committee
- » Sailing instructions

### Pre-Event

- » Website
- » Entry system
- » Competitor communications
- » Newsletters
- » Host support and liaison
- » Sponsorship

Your associations’ feedback is important. This event is to showcase your community and association to promote the sport of blokart sailing in your region.

The Blokart team is here to help facilitate a great event for all stakeholders and to help promote the Blokart World Championships for 2018.