

North Wales Area Group

Constitution and Rules

NAME

The Area Group shall be known as the North Wales Group (NWG)

OBJECTIVES

The objectives are those of the Westerly Owners' Association (WOA) as appropriate to an Area Group and in particular to plan, organise and hold rallies, cruises, social events, seminars and other activities:-

1. within the Irish Sea area from the Solway Firth to South Wales including the Isle of Man
2. for the benefit of all WOA Members who wish to participate including those from other area groups

MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership of the NWG is free and shall be open to all WOA Members who apply to become Listed Members of the North Wales Area Group.
2. Membership is primarily for those who intend to support the programme and participate in Area Group events.
3. Listed Members will be notified of all NWG events and activities by means of the NWG page of the WOA website and by formal notices of events sent approximately a month before the date of each activity. In addition, members can join the 'WOA NW Cruising Group' WhatsApp group for information on imminent cruising activities.
4. Listed Members shall be entitled to attend and vote at the NWG Annual General Meetings subject to having been a Listed Member for not less than 30 days, and having full voting rights as a member of the WOA.
5. A husband and wife membership is only entitled to one vote at an AGM. If a couple wants to have two votes and vote separately, they would have to belong as individual members and pay two subscriptions.
6. Any person who ceases, for any reason, to be a member of WOA shall immediately cease to be a member of the NWG.

COMMITTEE

1. Listed NWG Members who have full voting rights as members of the

- WOA shall be eligible to become Area Group Committee Members.
2. The Area Group Committee shall comprise of at least 4 but not more than 10 elected Listed Members.
 3. Husband and wife memberships serving on the NWG committee are entitled to one vote per committee member.
 4. All Committee Members shall retire at every AGM but shall be eligible for re-election if they so wish.
 5. Within 28 days following the AGM, the NWG committee shall appoint from their number a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Area Representative to the Association Committee and other such officers as they shall deem necessary for the proper running of the NWG.
 6. The NWG committee may set up such sub-committees as it deems necessary for the conduct of its business.
 7. The NWG committee may co-opt Listed Members to assist on the main committee, or on subcommittees, for the organisation of specific events and activities and such co-opted members shall be entitled to vote subject to having full voting rights as members of the WOA.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1. The NWG shall hold an AGM every year in October or November, the date of which shall be fixed by the Committee at least three months in advance. Historically, the NWG AGM is usually held on the third Saturday in November.
2. The Committee shall send to all Listed Members who are entitled to attend and vote, not less than 28 days before the meeting, a Notice of the date, place and agenda for the meeting
3. Resolutions for inclusion in the agenda must be in the hands of the Secretary of the Area Group 14 days before the AGM.
4. Nominations for the NWG Committee must be in the hands of the Secretary 14 days before the AGM and must have the signed approval of the Listed Member nominated.

VOTING AND QUORUMS

1. At all meetings, resolutions shall be decided by a simple majority of those attending and voting.
2. Members entitled to vote can be either personally present or present online (if that is an option) and collectively shall form a quorum at any NWG AGM.
3. The Chair shall have a second and casting vote in the event of a tied vote.

4. The Quorum for meetings shall be:-

- Annual General Meetings 12
- Committee Meetings 4
- Sub Committee Meetings 3

ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS

The NWG Treasurer shall keep proper records of all transactions.

1. Accounts will be prepared to 30th September annually and audited by a competent individual, not necessarily qualified.
2. Copies of the accounts will be submitted to the Association Treasurer as soon as possible after the Year End.
3. All funds are held and managed on behalf of the WOA.
4. Accounts will be presented at the NWG AGM.
5. The preferred method of payment into the NWG bank account is by using the online BACS method. The NWG Treasurer will provide specific 'Reference' details for each occasion either through the NWG Secretary or the Event Organiser.
6. Internet Banking will require the NWG Treasurer to be the 'Primary User'. The Committee will nominate at least one other member of the Committee to be a 'Secondary User' but no more than two 'Secondary Users.' The Treasurer shall be responsible for managing the appropriate approval process with the Bank for each 'User.'
7. The Committee shall be responsible for setting and approving the Treasurer's Spend Limit. Any outgoing payments above this limit will require the prior approval of the Secondary Users and the NWG Chairman. Such approvals can be made by emails providing the text is clearly authorising the stated amount.
8. Cheques can be issued signed by 2 people selected from Treasurer, Chairperson, Secretary and Regional Representative.
9. The Secretary shall keep proper minutes of all meetings which should be available to any Listed Member of the Area Group, or Flag Officer of the Association, on request.
10. A Minutes Secretary can be appointed by the committee to take the minutes on behalf of the Secretary. It is the Secretary's responsibility however to own the minutes as per point 9 above.

INTERPRETATIONS AND DISPUTES

1. Regard shall be had to the WOA National Constitution and Rules in so

far as may be appropriate and reasonable.

2. Any failure by the NWG Committee to reach agreement on a major matter shall be referred to the Flag Officers of the WOA for adjudication and if thought necessary by them to the National Committee.
3. Any complaint about the NWG Committee which is supported by not less than 10% of Listed Members shall be referred immediately by the NWG Committee to the WOA National Committee

Definition of Events

Arranged Meet Afloat

1. This is an informal gathering where the host declares their intention to be at a location on a certain date and makes some basic arrangements for mooring. There is no commitment to organise anything else.
2. There is no formal meal or other activity organised in advance but may be arranged at the time if attendees wish to do so.

Rally or Muster

1. This is an event that members pre book to attend, the host organises mooring facilities and any other activities.
2. There is usually a pre-arranged meal which members book and pay for in advance.

Social Walks

1. This is an event that members pre book to attend.
2. The host organises the route, which usually has a nautical theme and any other associated activities, such as visits to interesting venues or meal arrangements en route.

Note:

For all events, advanced charges for things like a dinner, admission fees etc. may be non-returnable in the instance of non-attendance for whatever reason.

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