

Formula Wave Class (FWC) Bylaws & Rules

(revised 1/1/2024)

BYLAWS

1. Name:

- a. The name of the organization shall be the Formula Wave Class (FWC).

2. Objective:

- a. To provide a medium of exchange of information among Wave sailors and to enhance the enjoyment of these sailboats.
- b. To promote and develop Wave class racing under uniform measurements and rules.
- c. To maintain the one design characteristics of the Wave sailboat.

3. Membership:

- a. Any person whose FWC dues are paid for the current year is a member.
- b. Entitled to one vote either in person, by absentee vote, or by proxy.
 - i. Must inform the secretary in advance, via e-mail or in writing, of any vote if they intend to cast by absentee or proxy.
- c. Only FWC members shall be entitled to compete and accumulate season points in class-sanctioned events.
- d. Only FWC members shall be entitled to vote on FWC issues or hold office.
- e. Membership is for one (1) calendar year (Jan 1 – Dec 31), and dues shall be set for the next year at the previous annual meeting by a simple vote. If there is no quorum to vote, dues shall remain the same as the prior year's level. All Officers and committee members must have a current FWC membership.

4. Meetings:

- a. At least one class meeting shall be held annually. The class meeting can be at any regional or championship regatta or electronically via video conferencing service at the discretion of the class President.
 - i. Special meetings may be held from time to time and can be done electronically with 15 days notice. Members will be notified via email.
 - ii. Officer meetings may take place from time to time for the purpose of discussing class business and establishing class policy.
- b. Quorum: Shall consist of at least 30 percent of paid membership including any absentee ballots or proxy votes.
 - i. If no quorum is present, a meeting for the purpose of informing the present membership may take place, with no "Official" business being conducted.
 - ii. Absentee ballots must be in the possession of the secretary by the beginning of the meeting.
- c. The officers and other officials shall be elected by majority vote at the annual meeting or via electronic ballot at a designated date announced at the meeting and no greater than 30 days following the meeting. The new positions shall take effect with the introduction of "New Business" during the annual meeting or immediately following the electronic ballot results.
 - i. If no quorum, the existing president may make appointments.

5. Officers:

- a. The officers of this club shall consist of:
 - i. President
 1. Preside at all general meetings.
 2. Oversee the activities of the other officers and committees.

3. In the case a position becomes vacant, may appoint a substitute until the next scheduled election for that position.
4. Create and make appointments to committees. All newly created committees must:
 - a. Have a specific purpose.
 - b. Report its findings to the officers by the annual meeting.
5. Hold club elections and votes (except Rules Committee activities).
6. Decide on FWC event locations and dates (Event Committee vote).

ii. Vice President

1. Shall promote the class.
2. Shall substitute for the President if unavailable.
3. Interface with the factory and report back to the class any relevant information.
4. Decide on FWC event locations and dates (Event Committee vote).

iii. Secretary

1. Be responsible for the class minutes.
2. Maintain class membership information.
3. Maintain class records.
4. Receive class membership receipts and transfer them to the Treasurer.
5. Determine the class mailing address.
6. Assigns fleet numbers to any group of Wave owners who request it.
7. Be informed of all absentee ballots or proxy votes prior to the vote by the issuing member.

iv. Treasurer

1. Have custody of all class funds and make payments as necessary, on behalf of the class.
2. Provide a complete annual financial statement to the class at the annual meeting.
3. Provide periodic financial updates to the officers.
4. File all required financial paperwork on a timely basis.
5. Be responsible for the legal issues.
6. Prepare an annual budget.

v. Rules Chairman

1. Be responsible for keeping the class rules current and organize any proposed rule changes.
2. Act as a single voice of the rules committee to the officers and membership, except where noted.
3. To call and preside over the rules committee meeting. (Must have two of the three members in attendance with the third having been notified).
4. Monitor class rules and recommend changes to the committee.
5. Authorize the Notice of Regattas (NORs) and approve the Sailing Instructions (SIs) for the FWC events.
6. Assist the measurer in certifying class equipment.
7. Vote on whether to submit a rule change to the class (Rules Committee vote).
8. Decide on FWC event locations and dates (Event Committee vote).

- b. Term - The term of office for Officers and Rules Chairman shall be a two (2) year term and shall be eligible for reelection. Elections shall be held on even numbered years.

- c. Removal - Any officer may be removed from office by a majority vote of the balance of officers and rules committee membership for willful and unjustified gross act detrimental to the FWC or its membership.
- d. Vacancy - Vacancy of any officer or committee member shall be filled, by appointment, by the president, for the balance of that position's term.

6. Other Officials:

- a. Other officials of the class shall consist of
 - i. Chief Measurer
 - 1. Shall serve as the class measurer.
 - 2. Certify class equipment.
 - 3. Keep all class measurement information.
 - 4. Handle equipment violations i.a.w. RRS.
 - 5. Enforce the class rules.
 - 6. Answer questions and challenges relating to the measurement rules.
 - 7. Issue interpretations, which shall be binding until approved or rejected by rule committee.
 - 8. Keep rules committee appraised of any "gray areas" or other rules issues as they arise.
 - 9. Is a member of Rules Committee and shall vote on whether to submit a rule change to the class (rules committee vote).
 - ii. Event Coordinator
 - 1. Shall receive or solicit petitions for class national and international events.
 - 2. Is a member of the Rules Committee and shall vote on whether to submit a rule change to the class.
 - 3. Is a member of the Event committee and shall vote on where and when FWC National and International events shall take place.
- b. Term - The term of office for Chief Measurer and Event Coordinator shall be a two (2) year term and shall be eligible for reelection. Elections shall be held on even numbered years.
- c. Additional Rules Committee Members - Two "At-Large" members shall be elected to serve on the Rules Committee. At-Large Members shall not be considered FWC Board officials, but should have annual paid memberships and be active members in the class. The At-Large Members will participate in Rules Committee meetings and will have voting rights within the committee. The term for At-Large Members will be two (2) years and will coincide with bi-annual FWC board elections. Should any or all spot(s) for an At-Large Member of the Rules Committee become open, the President shall nominate individual(s) to fill the vacant spot(s), to be approved by the FWC board through majority vote on each individual nomination. (12/2020)

7. Committees:

- a. Rules Committee - Shall consist of a Rules chairman, Chief measurer, Event Coordinator, and At-Large members (2)
 - i. The purpose of this committee:
 - 1. Is to monitor the class rules.
 - 2. Propose rule changes to the membership, as they feel necessary.
 - 3. Make temporary rule changes as the situation arises.
 - a. Any rules committee member may be removed from office by a majority vote of the officers and balance of rules committee membership for willful and unjustified gross act detrimental to the FWC or its membership.

- b. Event Committee - Shall consist of all Officer and Other Officials, excluding At-Large Rules Committee members
 - i. The purpose of this committee is to consider and vote upon submitted petitions for time and place for FWC Championship regattas or other regattas as needed
- c. Nominating Committee
 - i. The Purpose of this committee shall be to receive or solicit nominations for officer and committee member positions.
 - ii. Is appointed by the vice-president at the previous election.
 - 1. May consist of up to three (3) people.
 - iii. Shall create the ballot for vote.
- d. Any other committee that may be necessary. (see 5.a.i.4)

8. Class Communications:

- a. Class communications include, but are not limited to, email communication, social media communication, and any new/emerging technology adopted by the class as a means of mass communication.
- b. Class Communication responsibilities will be designated to 1-2 capable and willing class members. At least one of them should be an Officer or Other Official. This designation will be made or renewed by the President at each annual meeting.
- c. Communication responsibilities include:
 - i. Monthly Newsletter E-Mail
 - ii. Frequent social media posts
 - 1. Social Media Posts should include both information and brand awareness type posts
 - 2. Goal is for a minimum of one post per week
 - iii. Ad-Hoc communications requested by Officers, Other Officials, or Regional Regatta Chairs

9. Amendments:

- a. Changes to the bylaws:
 - i. May be made at any regular or special meeting, providing there is a quorum, by a two-thirds vote of the membership present including absentee ballots or proxy votes.
 - ii. Proposed changes must have been presented to the organization (via email) at least 30 days prior to the vote and must be seconded by at least ten (10) current members.
 - iii. Become effective during the "New Business" section of the current meeting, unless specified in the motion.
- b. Changes to the class rules:
 - i. Proposed permanent rule changes shall be submitted, by any member to the Rules Chairperson, for consideration at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting. Upon consideration of the change, the rules committee may either:
 - 1. Recommend the change.
 - 2. Reject the proposed change.
 - 3. Modify the proposed change.
 - ii. Upon b.i.1 or b.i.3 above,
 - 1. An email will be sent stating the proposed change, at least 15 days prior to the meeting.
 - 2. A "YES" vote by a two-thirds votes of the membership present, providing there is a quorum, including absentee ballots and proxy votes at the annual meeting shall be sufficient to change the class rule.
 - 3. To take effect at a period determined by the rules committee.

10. **Dissolution** - Should, for whatever reason, the organization need to be dissolved:

- a. A special meeting shall be held expressly for that reason.
- b. Consent of at least two-thirds including absent ballots and proxy voting to dissolve.
- c. After payments of all club debts shall donate all its assets to (in order):
 - i. Newly formed club that most closely represents this body.
 - ii. Charitable organization for the benefit of promoting sailing as selected by the outgoing officers.

Formula Wave Class Rules:

The Wave will be sailed stock, as designed and as sold by the factory, per the following explanations and exceptions:

1. One-Design Class Racing

The design and development of the Wave is directed toward a strict one-design class where the true test is between sailors and sailing skill, and not boats. Any alterations to the hull form, construction, equipment, spars, sails or running rigging as supplied by the builder except as is specifically authorized by these rules, are a breach of these rules, both in spirit and in substance, and are prohibited.

2. Intent and Objective

The Wave is designed to be easy to sail with the least amount of trouble to owners. Only changes which have no direct bearing upon boat speed are allowed. The intents and objective of the Formula Wave Class are:

- A. To keep each boat as equal, simple and cost free as possible by rigidly maintaining, without deviation, the one-design features of the Wave for class racing.
- B. To encourage the use of racing tactics and sailing skills only to increase boat speed.
- C. To have the boat appeal to as many people as possible.
- D. The FWC supports sailors who may require adaptive modifications in order to compete equally and safely. Additions or modifications to boat and/or equipment for the purpose of safely enabling adaptive sailing are allowed provided those modifications do not give an unfair advantage over non-adaptive sailors. (12/2022)

3. Definitions

- A. The Formula Wave Class shall hereafter be referred to as FWC
- B. Hobie Cat USA, Hobie Cat Europe and any of their licensees that are in good standing with respected licensors shall hereafter be referred to as Hobie Cat Co.
- C. The Racing Rules of Sailing shall be referred to as the RRS.

4. Eligibility

The FWC has the right to declare ineligible any Wave which does not conform to the spirit, objective and intent, as well as the letter of these rules and official drawing and specifications held by the FWC. In the event the drawings are not held by the FWC, they shall be held by the respective Hobie Cat Co.

5. Loopholes

If you think you have found a loophole, read the preceding statements again. These are the basis of the rules and cover all areas not covered in the rules. Generally, if you cannot find it listed in the Rules, it is not class legal. If you are in doubt, check with the FWC first. Approval must be in writing by the Rules Chairman or his designee.

6. Design Features and Changes

Only Waves manufactured by the Hobie Cat Co. are legal for class racing. Nothing may be changed or removed from any Wave that will in any way alter the structural integrity, design function, or built-in safety features of the boat. Changes that fall under the category of safety and strength shall have prior written approval. Approved changes are as follows: Stronger gudgeons, larger diameter wires, slight shimming of crossbars, and reinforced flanges not affecting water flow. Except as allowed in these rules, any changes or additions that in any way can be construed as speed devices are not class legal.

7. Safety Equipment

- A. Each person on board shall carry a lifesaving device or PFD (Personal Flotation Device) approved by the recognized authority having jurisdiction. FWC recommends that life jackets or PFDs be worn at all times.
- B. A minimum 5/16" diameter righting line or webbing consisting of at least one 13 foot length of line or webbing, or two 7 foot lengths of line or webbing shall be securely attached to the boat and readily available on either side of the boat. (Righting water bags, shroud lengthening devices, righting- pole type devices, and righting systems other than the minimum system specified may be carried and shall be used for righting purposes only)

8. Hulls and Decks

- A. Hulls may be rubbed, waxed, sanded, built back up to original spec, or buffed in the normal process of maintenance.
- B. No friction-reducing agents may be employed on the hulls, rudders, spars or sails.
- C. Shims may be placed in the hull/crossbar joints. For Classic model Waves that do not have center lace tramps to sufficiently tighten, a single fastener may be installed in each of the four hull/crossbar joints to lessen spreading between the hulls and crossbars. (12/2021)

9. Rudders, Rudder Assemblies, Tiller Arms and Tiller Crossbar

- A. Hobie Cat Co. supplied rudder castings shall not be modified except for minimum filing to improve fit and function.
- B. Only Hobie Cat Co. stock and aftermarket rudder blades may be used as long as they conform to the original stock template. The minimum rudder weight is 3 pounds.
- C. Shims may be installed between the rudder blade and rudder housing.
- D. Shims may be installed between rudder pins, gudgeons and castings.
- E. Shock cord and/or line may be tied around the rudder to help control rudder kick-up.
- F. The tiller crossbar is adjustable.
 - i. The tiller crossbar may be placed on the top or bottom of the tiller connectors.
- G. Any style tiller connection is allowed.
- H. Rudder arms may be shortened, rotated or replaced with an arm from another Hobie catamaran model. (12/2021)
- I. Tiller extensions are allowed. (12/2011)
- J. Rudders shall remain in a down and locked position while racing. Rudders may be raised momentarily to clear weeds, but must be returned to the down and locked position. (12/2018)

10. Sails/Trampolines

- A. Sails may be manufactured by any sailmaker and must measure in accordance with the specifications at the end of this section. (See Measurement information) Hobie Cat Co. manufactured sails built before January 01, 2001 will be class legal without measurement. Hobie Cat Co. sails built after January 01, 2001 will be measured via a measurement template using the class measurements.
- B. The Wave was designed as a uni-rig, meaning mainsail only. Although the boat has an optional jib and optional spinnaker, neither will be allowed for the Wave one-design racing. Boats with the optional crossbar between the bows to which the jib attaches may remain on the boat for racing. No spinnaker poles are allowed.
- C. Sail Measurement Information --Wave Sail Plan and Measurements:

Sail Measurement in Feet/Inches

Luff: 18' 0" / 216"
Leech: 18' 6" / 222"
Foot: 7' 0" / 84"

Girth Measurements in Inches

1/8: 37"
1/4: 54"
1/2: 71"
3/4: 80"

SEE Appendix A for sail measurement diagram

- D. A sailor may not change sails during a race or regatta unless the sail has been damaged and is no longer usable. Permission to make a sail change must be received, in writing from the race committee PRIOR to the change being made.
- E. Mainsail downhaul purchase shall not exceed 3:1 and may be rigged in any manner.(12/2020)
- F. The sail shall not be hoisted above the top of the mast.
- G. A clew plate may be added replacing the clew grommet. It may be placed vertically up the leech from the clew point, horizontally along the foot from the clew point, or angled. Only one clew plate is allowed. (Two plates attached together through the sail material is recognized as a "clew plate".
- H. Sail reinforcement is open.
- I. Sails will be made of any material. They will be made from a minimum of 1.0 mm and 3oz material.
- J. A leech and foot line is permitted.
- K. The sail will not be reefed in class racing.
- L. Any sail batten material is allowed. The bottom batten will not be made of a material that can be construed as a boom.
- M. Trampolines may be manufactured by any manufacturer and maybe "one piece". The trampoline may be reversed.
- N. The trampoline grommets may be doubled.
- O. Trampolines must attach to the hulls and crossbars in the same manner and configuration as supplied by the manufacturer. Trampoline tensioning tubes and wires may be replaced with materials and lines with equal or greater strength. (12/2020)
- P. Backrests are allowed. (12/2022)

11. Wires

- A. The minimum wire size is 3/32 inch. The wire may be increased in size. Bridle wire lengths may not be altered. The forestay and shrouds may be of any length. Forestay bridle connection must be either a shackle or chain plate. Bridle wires may attach to the bow eye strap by a shackle or clip.

12. Equipment

- A. Outhaul -- No mechanical outhaul adjustment device will be allowed.
- B. Boom -- No booms will be allowed.
- C. Trapeze -- No trapeze systems are permitted.
- D. Mainsheet system -- Mainsheet blocks of different design or make may be used, provided the purchase advantage does not exceed 4:1. (12/2020)
- E. The mainsheet system will attach to the clew grommet or clew plate.
- F. The mainsheet system will attach to the eyestraps on the rear beam. A line may be attached to the bottom block shackle and around the rear beam in the event the eyestraps break.
- G. The Masthead Float will not be removed. The float will not be turned around backwards.
- H. No mast rotation devices are permitted. The halyard will be used only for raising / lowering the sail.
- I. Hiking straps may be padded. Hiking straps will not be adjustable while racing.
- J. Compasses with brackets or electronic devices that provide timing and heading, but which do not transmit, transfer or receive data are permitted. The use of electronic navigation, speed metering, and wind shift detection equipment is illegal. (12/2020)
- K. No boom vang or barberhaulers are allowed.
- L. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats.
- M. Wave deckpad surfaces may be increased, provided the padding surface is at least equal in size and location to the originally designed area. (12/2020)
- N. A maximum of 2 inspection hatches per hull is class legal.

- O. A rig tensioner designed to pull the rig forward while going downwind or while parked between races shall be allowed to prevent excess shock loading of the rig. A line may be attached to the front bridle and led back to anywhere on the boat. (11/2017)
- P. Tools and personal convenience accessories may be used and carried on board and may include: safety lines; hiking aids; telltales; toolkits; additional padding; wind indicators; stow bags; beverage coolers; food and beverages; etc. If in doubt, refer to FWC rules 2, 5, and 6. (12/2020)

13. Advertising - Advertising on the boat and sails is allowed per World Sailing Advertising Code, Regulation 20.

14. Bow Numbers

- A. Upon receipt of the membership application form and fee, FWC will record the sailor's bow number. Bow numbers may be requested on first come, first served basis. Ideally, unique bow numbers will be established for each sailor, but in the instance of duplicates at an event, RC will dictate a solution.
- B. Bow numbers must be numbers, not letters or symbols. Some scoring programs used by race committees do not accept any other characters.
- C. Bow numbers shall be a dark or easily readable color that contrasts with the hull color. Bow numbers shall be placed on each outer hull, forward of the front crossbar. Bow number height shall be 10 inches minimum. (12/2020)

15. Number of Crew / Crew Weight

- A. Any number of crew may race provided that no change is made during the race event. If a crew change is required, it must be made only with the written permission of the PRO.
- B. The minimum weight of the crew must be at least 120 lbs. (11/2017)

16. Official Measurements and Courses

Appendix A: How to Measure a Sail

To Measure the Sail

- a. Pull Luff, Leech and Foot to get wrinkles out
- b. Measure Luff, Leech and Foot

To Determine and Measure Girths

1/2 Girth

- a. Fold Head to Tack and mark Center (1/2) of Luff
- b. Fold Head to Clew and mark Center (1/2) of Leech
- c. Measure Girth from Luff to sail edge along center (1/2) marks

3/4 Girth

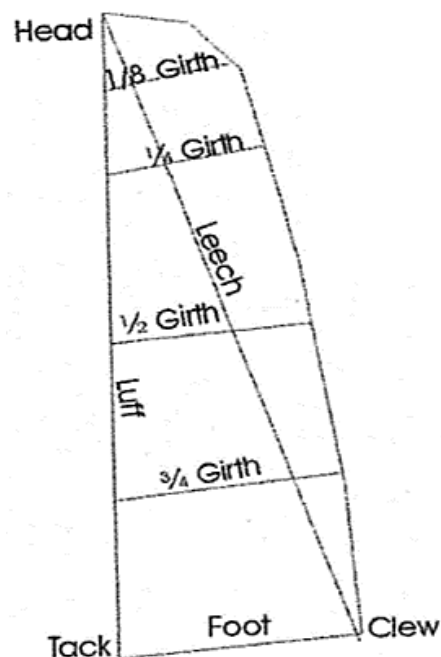
- a. Fold Center of Luff to Tack to mark 3/4 of Luff
- b. Fold Center of Leech to Clew to mark 3/4 of Leech
- c. Measure Girth from Luff to sail edge along 3/4 marks

1/4 Girth

- a. Fold Center of Luff to Head to mark 1/4 of Luff
- b. Fold Center of Leech to Head to mark 1/4 of Leech
- c. Measure Girth from Luff to sail edge along 1/4 marks

1/8 Girth

- a. Fold Head to 1/4 Mark on Luff to mark 1/8 of Luff
- b. Fold Head to 1/4 Mark on Leech to mark 1/8 of Leech
- c. Measure Girth from Luff to sail edge along 1/8 marks



*Make all measurements with smooth sails – make sure there are no wrinkles.

*All measurements include the boltrope.

*Sail must have 5 battens.


*The Luff shall be the highest point of the sail. No material shall exceed square to the leading edge of the sail.

*The Foot is defined as a straight line from the bottom of the Luff to the bottom of the Leech and no material shall be allowed below that straight line except for a 3" allowance of material.

Appendix B: Suggested Race Courses

Formula Wave Race Courses

1	A	C	A	DOWNWIND FINISH			
2	A	C	A	C	UPWIND FINISH		
3	A	B	C	UPWIND FINISH			
4	A	B	C	A	DOWNWIND FINISH		
5	A	B	C	A	C	UPWIND FINISH	
6	A	C	A	C	A	DOWNWIND FINISH	
7	A	C	A	C	A	C	UPWIND FINISH
Round all marks to port, except gates							



Setting a course, example

Determine distance from C to A (Distance = X)

Place B Mark perpendicular to the wind (Beam Reach) at a distance of 125% of the C to A distance.

(Example: if C to A distance is 1 mile, then B Mark is set at:
1 mile x 1.25 = 1.25 mile)

(Example: if C to A distance is .75 mile, then B Mark is set at:
.75 x 1.25 = .94 mile)