



Guidance for Establishing National Hansa Class Associations

The purpose of this document is to provide some helpful information for volunteers establishing National Hansa Class Associations in their own country.

What are the Hansa Class Associations?

Class Associations are the means by which individual classes link to the International Sailing Federation (ISAF) and its Member National Authorities (MNAs) which are the peak sailing bodies in each country. Through this mechanism, sailors of particular types of sailing craft can organize activities of common interest and gain a voice within the sport.

The Hansa Class Associations represent the interests of owners and sailors of the Hansa family of sailboat classes manufactured by Hansa Sailing Systems Pty Ltd (previously Access Sailing):

- Hansa 2.3 including the 2.3 Wide, 2.3 Single (previously known as the Access 2.3) and 2.3 Breeze models
- Hansa 303 including the 303 Wide (previously known as the Access 303) and 303 Breeze models
- Liberty
- SKUD 18

The Hansa Classes are all “inclusive” classes, ideally suited to sailors of all ages and abilities. The Hansa 2.3 and 303 are well suited to introducing non-sailors to the sport. The inclusive nature of these boats has seen them used extensively in accessible and disabled sailing programs around the world. Incorporating all of these classes under the umbrella of a single class association provides a clearly defined development pathway from participation to high-performance level.

Hansa Class Associations are involved in the organisation of events (such as World, Regional, National or Provincial or State Championships) and may undertake development activities (such as coaching and training) or conduct a social program.

What are the benefits of having affiliated Hansa Class Associations?

Since the establishment of the International Access Class Association (IACA) in 2005, the 2.3, 303 and Liberty have been ISAF Classes recognised by the International Sailing Federation, the world peak body for sailing. In addition, the International Association for Disabled Sailing (IFDS) has selected the SKUD 18 as the two-person equipment for the 2008, 2012, 2016 & 2020 Paralympic Sailing Competitions.

Through being affiliated with ISAF and the MNAs in the countries where the classes are sailed, Hansa Class Associations can conduct recognised Championship events including Class National and Regional Championships and ISAF recognised World Championships. In many countries, competitors in ISAF Classes may be eligible for funding or sponsorship to attend international events or obtain coaching.

Through the Association structure, sailors and owners are able to have input into class rules and the conduct of events, have a forum through which to promote sailing of the individual classes, enjoy class-based racing, and communicate and share ideas on a local, national and international basis.

National Hansa Class Associations (NHCAs) have a webpage provided for their use on IHCA Website www.hansaclass.org. The website also carries information about the different classes, class rules, regattas and championships, news and so on.

How do we start a National Hansa Class Association?

The process for establishing a NHCA may vary depending upon the requirements of Member National Authority and the laws of the particular country. Start by contacting your MNA to ask about what is involved.

Most MNAs will expect the NHCA to provide a list of office bearers and a statement of objectives at a minimum. Affiliation may also involve the payment of an application fee and/or annual affiliation fee, the requirement for the National Association to be registered or incorporated, or the need to carry public liability insurance.

The NHCA must also be affiliated with the International Hansa Class Association (IHCA) through completing the application form (attached). Note that the annual affiliation fee will be waived for the first year.

The name of the NHCA should include the words Hansa Class Association (or relevant local organisation type) and the name of the country, ie Country Name Hansa Class Association, or Hansa Class Association of Country Name. Note that National Associations who affiliated with the International Access Class Association prior to 2013 when it changed to the International Hansa Class Association have the option to maintain their "Access" names.

What resources are available to assist?

Accompanying this are a number of documents:

- 1) IHCA Rules – The constitution of the International Hansa Class Association – PDF (note that an application for membership by a NHCA is Appendix 1a on page 17)
- 2) Draft NHCA Rules – A basis for developing a Constitution (please note – this document is based on Australian legal requirements and may need to be significantly changed) - DOC
- 3) NHCA Structure - Recommended officer positions responsibilities - DOC
- 4) IHCA B&W Logo – JPG
- 5) IHCA Colour Logo – JPG
- 6) IHCA Hansa Insignia – EPS

Available from the IHCA website are:

- IHCA Race Management & Championships Guide
- Hansa 2.3 Class Rules
- Hansa 303 Class Rules
- Liberty Class Rules
- SKUD 18 Class Rules
- IHCA Committee Contacts & Information
- Minutes of the Annual General Meetings

Who do I contact if I need help?

For questions about affiliating with the Member National Authority, contact your MNA directly. For other questions, contact the IHCA Secretary – info@hansaclass.org