

INTERNATIONAL SEA CADET ASSOCIATION

INTERNATIONAL SEA CADET ASSOCIATION (ISCA) ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION [AMENDED OCT 2016 and APPROVED]



1. DEFINITIONS

1.1 International Sea Cadet Association - ISCA

General.

The International Sea Cadet Association, in the following referred to as the ISCA, is a voluntary association of independent Sea Cadet Corps or corresponding organizations, committed to common concepts and goals, and wishing to share ideas and information, and, to the best of their ability, to engage in cadet exchanges and to provide mutual support in order to promote the benefits of Sea Cadet training world-wide. The ISCA was formally constituted on 29 October 1994 by the signing of these Articles by representatives of each of the founding ISCA Member Organisations.

Membership Agreement.

By joining the ISCA each Member Organization agrees to the rules and procedures laid down in these Articles.

Conference.

The ISCA normally meets annually as decided from time to time at an ISCA conference, in the following referred to as the 'Conference'.

Office.

The ISCA has no permanent headquarters, offices or secretariat, and the necessary administration is provided by the National Organization whose senior representative is Chairman of the ISCA for the year. The duties associated with the Secretariat can however be assigned to a given country for an indefinite period of time provided there is a consensus.

1.2 Sea Cadet Corps or Organization.

General.

A Sea Cadet Corps or corresponding Organization is a voluntary, non-political and non-military youth organization, with membership unrestricted by race, sex or philosophical or religious convictions, which offers practical and theoretical training in nautical and maritime subjects within a context based on naval traditions.

Objectives.

INTERNATIONAL SEA CADET ASSOCIATION

Although member organizations may define their own individual aims and objectives, they agree to adhere in spirit and in practice to the following:

- a. To encourage young people towards high personal standards, teamwork and a sense of responsibility to the community through the medium of disciplined nautical training and development of leadership qualities.
- b. To develop in young people an appreciation of the importance of the sea to international commerce, defence, and protection of the environment.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ISCA

2.1 The purposes of the ISCA are to:

- a. Promote international and intercultural understanding, goodwill, and friendship among young people who have an interest in nautical activities;
- b. promote the exchange of Sea Cadets between member organizations on an official basis;
- c. provide a forum for the exchange of information and ideas about member organizations and youth exchanges;
- d. encourage the formation of organizations based on the Sea Cadet concept world-wide, promote their joining the ISCA, and resist membership by militant or politically motivated groups;
- e. provide member organizations with non-monetary support for fundraising for youth exchange-related activities; and,
- f. provide a platform from which the image and ethos of the International Sea Cadet movement can be promoted worldwide.

3. MEMBERSHIP OF THE ISCA

3.1 Limitations:

- a. Membership of the Association is limited to one organization per nation. To be eligible for membership, the applicant organization must be linked to maritime or naval activities in one way or another, and be prepared to abide by the concepts of the ISCA as laid down in these Articles.
- b. A cadet organization in a region, though not an independent country, may be admitted to ISCA in the event the region in question remains autonomous in its governing.
- c. Where an applicant fails to meet all stated requirements for full membership in ISCA they may, with the approval of the collective membership, be granted “**Associate Membership**”. Parameters and restrictions include: 1) An expectation they will participate fully in all ongoing ISCA business; 2) They will not have voting power; and 3) The Associate Member must meet the parameters for full ISCA membership within two (2) years. Failure to do so will result in the termination of their Associate Membership.

INTERNATIONAL SEA CADET ASSOCIATION

- d. An ISCA member may be placed on Probation by a 2/3 vote of the members at an annual ISCA conference, including Proxies. This may occur in their absence. A probationary membership will be for two (2) years. Failing to address the issue(s) and satisfactorily satisfying the ISCA membership within the defined period will result in termination of membership.

3.2 Cost Sharing:

- a. Members of the ISCA share legitimate costs, if and only if, such costs arise from the operation of ISCA.
- b. The legitimate costs mean the proposed costs or a budget that have to be approved by members at the general conference.
- c. The said cost sharing is to be treated on a case-by-case basis as decided upon at the general conference.
- d. However, member organizations may be invited to contribute towards specific ISCA projects, if they are able to do so.

3.3 [RESERVED – Intentionally left blank]

3.4 New Members:

Following application to the Chairman, additional members may be granted membership by the Conference, but a two-thirds majority vote of Conference attendees is required for acceptance.

3.5 Language:

The official language of the ISCA is English, which shall be used in all correspondence and at the Conference.

3.6 Independence of Members and Conduct of Exchanges:

- a. Within the framework of the ISCA, member organizations may conduct bi-lateral or multi-lateral business, without reference to the ISCA, but should make all members aware of such activity.
- b. The exchange of Cadets between ISCA Member Organisations is encouraged, provided that all such exchanges must generally be undertaken under the auspices of the ISCA only and must be undertaken in accordance with the principles as set out in the ISCA Guide to Exchanges (as may be amended from time to time). Any such ISCA exchange may be represented as such in all internal and external communications.
- c. Exchanges between ISCA Member Organisations, or any unit or subset thereof, that are not approved ISCA exchanges, and whether or not involving one or more organisations that are not ISCA Member Organisations, are discouraged, and any such exchanges may in no circumstances be represented as approved ISCA exchanges, whether expressly or impliedly.
- d. Where an exchange is arranged that is not an approved ISCA exchange, the governing body of each ISCA Member Organisation involved must in any event be informed in advance of the exchange, and each ISCA Member Organisation will ensure that all units or subsets of that organisation are aware of and adhere to the principles of this Article.

3.7 Termination of Membership:

- a. **Voluntary:**

INTERNATIONAL SEA CADET ASSOCIATION

Members of the ISCA may terminate their membership at any time at three months notice to the Chairman.

b. Exclusion:

The ISCA may exclude a member organization for reasons related to actions committed by or, opinions expressed by the concerned organization, that do not conform with the concepts of the ISCA as laid down in these Articles. Decisions to exclude shall be made by a two-thirds majority of Conference attendees and only after the concerned organization has been given a reasonable opportunity to explain and/or correct such nonconformity.

4. ISCA CONFERENCE

4.1 General:

Normally, the ISCA will hold a Conference of member organizations annually or, as decided by majority vote from year to year by the Conference.

4.2 Host Organization:

The host Organization for two Conferences hence is elected by majority vote of attending members at each Conference. The date for the next Conference is also agreed at each Conference, by majority vote if necessary (the Chairman has an additional casting vote if required).

4.3 Attendance:

- a. Member organizations have the right to be represented at the Conference, but failure to attend does not preclude membership.
- b. At the formal parts of the Conference, the number of representatives in each delegation is limited to three.
- b. Small organizations closely affiliated to a major Sea Cadet Corps in another country may be represented by the parent Corps.

4.4 Votes:

- a. Each member organization has one vote only.
- b. A member in good standing may nominate another member in good standing to represent them on specific issues.
A member country cannot represent more than one other country. The agreement must be mutual and in writing.
The proposed proxy assignment must be received by the ISCA Chair in writing or by email seven (7) days prior to the Annual Conference. The proxy assignment is only valid for specific resolutions distributed in advance of the Annual Conference and accepted by the Chair for inclusion in the conference agenda.

4.5 The Chairman:

INTERNATIONAL SEA CADET ASSOCIATION

- a. The Chairman of the ISCA for the period following the Conference will be elected at the Conference, and is preferably representing the host Organization for the following year.
- b. The main responsibility of the Chairman is to prepare and chair the formal part of the Conference taking place at the end of his/her term of office.
- c. In addition, the Chairman may be assigned certain tasks and responsibilities by the Conference. Such assignments shall be carefully described in the Minutes of the Conference. The Chairman shall carry out the assignments during his period of office and will be accountable to the other members of the ISCA.
- d. All costs related to the activities of the Chairman must be carried by the Chairman's own organization unless otherwise unanimously agreed by the Conference participants. Organizations not attending the Conference are not bound by such agreement unless they indicate concurrence in writing or permit another member to vote on their behalf.
- e. The Chairman may represent the ISCA only in matters and with opinions that conform to the contents of these Articles.

4.6 Communication:

Each ISCA member is to keep the Chairman informed of the senior representative of its organization who in turn, will be the main point of contact for ISCA related business.

4.7 Agendas and Minutes of the Conference:

The agenda for a Conference must be in the possession of member organizations at least three weeks prior to the Conference and must include at least the following items:

- a. Nomination of member representatives to approve the Minutes of the Conference.
- b. Matters arising from the previous Conference.
- c. Review of the previous exchange programme.
- d. Planning of the following year's exchange programme.
- e. Topics to be presented and discussed as decided at the previous Conference.
- f. Election of the host for the next but one ISCA Conference.
- g. Election of the next Chairman.
- h. Maritime safety and accident review.

4.8 Mid Year Conference Update:

The international secretary will issue, as a minimum, one six-month update for the purpose of advising members about the status of any "action" items arising from previous conferences. The update should also be used to advise members about progress on the planning of the upcoming conference.

INTERNATIONAL SEA CADET ASSOCIATION

4.9 ISCA Award of Excellence and Members' Award for Inspirational Leadership:

ISCA Members may, from time to time, choose to nominate a company, organization or individual for the subject awards. Complete details regarding the award are attached.

Note: The terms as provided by the USA will be added as a separate annex.

4.10 International Cadet Forums

Where practical, host nations are requested to consider the concept of including a Cadet Forum as part of the ISCA Conference.

4.11 Exchange of Gifts

The exchange of gifts between Delegations at the conference is not encouraged. However, if it is felt appropriate any such mementos should be small in size and monetary value”.

5. CHANGES

Changes to these Articles of Association may be made only by two-thirds majority vote by attendee members at a Conference. Full proposals for such changes are to be presented to members at least eight weeks before the Conference.

6. LIST OF MEMBERS

Royal Sea Cadet Corps Belgium

Bermuda Sea Cadet Corps

The Navy League of Canada – Royal Canadian Sea Cadets

Deutsche Marine Jugend (Sea Cadet Corps of Germany)

Japan Sea Cadet Federation

Zeekadetkorps Nederland (Sea Cadet Corps of the Netherlands)

South African Sea Cadet Corps

Sjovarnskarernas Riksförbund (Swedish Sea Cadet Corps Association)

Sea Cadet Corps of the United Kingdom

United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps

Australian Navy Cadets

Hong Kong Sea Cadet Corps

INTERNATIONAL SEA CADET ASSOCIATION

Sea Cadet Corps of India

Sea Explorers of Korea

Sea Cadet Association of New Zealand

Zimbabwe Sea Cadet Corps

Young Mariners League of Russia

Lithuania Sea Cadets

National Cadet Corps Singapore (Sea)

Corpo de Cadetes do Mar de Portugal

7. RECORD OF CHANGES

CHANGE NUMBER	DATE OF INSERTION	AMENDED SECTION	AUTHORITY
1	October 1995	List of Members	1995 CONFERENCE
2	October 1998	List of Members	1998 CONFERENCE
3	October 1998	Section 2.1	1998 CONFERENCE
4	October 1998	Section 3.2	1998 CONFERENCE
5	August 2003	List of Members	2003 CONFERENCE
6	August 2003	Section 4.11	2003 CONFERENCE
7	August 2003	Section 4.10	2003 CONFERENCE
8	August 2003	Section 4.8	2003 CONFERENCE
9	August 2003	Section 4.9	2003 CONFERENCE
10	August 2003	Section 2.1 (b)	2003 CONFERENCE
11	September 2006	Section 1.1 para 2	2006 CONFERENCE
12	September 2006	Section 3.1	2006 CONFERENCE
13	September 2007	Section 4.4 para b	2007 CONFERENCE
14	October 2010	Section 4.4 (b)	2010 CONFERENCE
15	October 2010	Section 3.1 (c)	2010 CONFERENCE
16	October 2010	Section 3.1 (d)	2010 CONFERENCE
17	October 2011	List of Members	2011 CONFERENCE
18	October 2013	As Approved	2013 CONFERENCE
[19	October 2016	Section 1.1	2016 CONFERENCE]
[20	October 2016	Section 3.6	2016 CONFERENCE]
[21	October 2016	List of Members	2016 CONFERENCE]

Note:

The ISCA Articles of Association underwent a major review in 2004 and were subsequently reviewed and accepted at the 2004 ISCA conference in Canada.

Three additional Articles were approved at the 2010 ISCA conference in the United States.

There were several minor modifications made at the 2013 ISCA conference in Bermuda