

# INTERNATIONAL SEA CADET ASSOCIATION

## INTERNATIONAL SEA CADET ASSOCIATION (ISCA) ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION [AMENDED SEPT 08]



### 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.

##### **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.

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## Objectives.

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.

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### **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 Founding Members:**

Founding Members of the Association are the following Sea Cadet organizations:

- Royal Sea Cadet Corps Belgium
- Bermuda Sea Cadet Corps
- The Navy League of Canada  
(Royal Canadian Sea Cadets)
- Deutsche Marine Jugende (Sea Cadet Corps of Germany)
- Junior Sea Friends' Federation of Japan
- Zeekadetkorps Nederland (Sea Cadet Corps of the Netherlands)
- Naval Cadet Corps of South Africa (now South African Sea Cadet Corps)
- Sjomaskaremas Riksförbund (Swedish Sea Cadet Corps Association)
- Sea Cadet Corps of the United Kingdom
- United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps

### **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.

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## **3.6 Independence:**

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, which may be of general interest. While the exchange of Cadets is encouraged, Corps to Corps (private) exchanges are however not authorized.

## **3.7 Termination of Membership:**

### **a. Voluntary:**

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.

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- b. Member organizations are able to vote on resolutions electronically. Exactly who is authorized to vote on behalf of a member organization must be established by the meeting chairman prior to the vote.

### **4.5 The Chairman:**

- 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 with 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.

### **4.8 Mid Year Conference Update:**

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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.

### **4.9 ISCA Award of Excellence:**

ISCA Members may, from time to time, choose to nominate an individual for the subject award. 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.

Signed on behalf of Founding Members:

R. DE WAEGEMAKER  
Belgium

D. J. TAYLOR  
Bermuda

J. COOKE  
Canada

A. BUCHOLZ  
Germany

Y. TOMITA  
Japan

P. H. BOEGBORN  
The Netherlands

D. D. GORDON-DAVIS

**INTERNATIONAL SEA CADET ASSOCIATION**

Republic of South Africa

E. WAHREN  
Sweden

P. J. GRINDAL  
United Kingdom

A. J. KREISER  
United States of America

## 6. LIST OF MEMBERS

### Founding:

Royal Sea Cadet Corps Belgium

Bermuda Sea Cadet Corps

The Navy League of Canada

Deutsche Marine Jugend (Sea Cadet Corps of Germany)

Junior Sea Friends' Federation of Japan

Zeekadetkorps Nederland (Sea Cadet Corps of the Netherlands)

Naval Cadet Corps of South Africa (now South African Sea Cadet Corps)

Sjovarriskarernas Riksförbund (Swedish Sea Cadet Corps Association)

Sea Cadet Corps of the United Kingdom

United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps

### **Additional**

Australian Naval Reserve Cadets - 1995

Hong Kong Sea Cadet Corps - 1995

Sea Cadet Corps of India - 1995

Sea Explorers of Korea - 1995 \*

Sea Cadet Association of New Zealand - 1995

Zimbabwe Sea Cadet Corps - 1995

Young Mariners League of Russia – 1998

Ghana – 2005

Lithuania - 2005

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## 7. RECORD OF CHANGES

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CHANGE NUMBER	DATE OF INSERTION	AMENDED SECTION	AUTHORITY
1	October	List of Members	1995 CONFERENCE
2	October	List of Members	1998 CONFERENCE
3	October	Section 2.1	1998 CONFERENCE
4	October	Section 3.2	1998 CONFERENCE
5	August	List of Members	2003 CONFERENCE
6	August	Section 4.11	2003 CONFERENCE
7	August	Section 4.10	2003 CONFERENCE
8	August	Section 4.8	2003 CONFERENCE
9	August	Section 4.9	2003 CONFERENCE
10	August	Section 2.1 (b)	2003 CONFERENCE
11	Sept	Section 1.1 para 2	2006 CONFERENCE
12	Sept	Section 3.1	2006 CONFERENCE
13	Sept	Section 4.4 para b	2007 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.