



The International 7 Network – a short description

1. Starting point

"Seven" is an automobile that either denotes the original Lotus Seven or is modelled on the construction of the Lotus Seven.

There are thousands of Seven enthusiasts all over the world, some of whom are united in regional or national clubs. These clubs organized on a formal or more informal basis; there are associations/clubs with a clear structure, regular meetings or exchange of Know How; but there are also loose associations, which exchange their experiences only in small groups or on social media.

It is the intention of the International 7 Network to support, unite and coordinate the activities of the individual and independent regional or national Seven Clubs in the sense of a cooperative attitude, to promote the network of relationships, to offer mutual assistance, to make events internationally known, to share information for example interesting routes, and much more.

Members of the International 7 Network are exclusively Clubs, membership is free of charge. However, a minimum level of participation is required. Individuals, suppliers or vehicle manufacturers cannot become members. However, companies can support the International 7 Network with sponsorship and/or advertising.

The International 7 Network is neutral. It is explicitly not the intention of the International 7 Network to interfere in the internal affairs of a member association.

2. Organization

The International 7 Network is an association under Art. 60 and the following of the Swiss Civil Code and is subject to Swiss legislation. Each members' association delegates at its discretion a delegate who has a vote at the General Assembly/AGM and at the other meetings. According to the Articles of Association, this Annual General Meeting meets once a year and deals with the agenda prescribed by the Law and the Association Statutes. This includes the election of a board of directors to lead the International 7 Network operationally.

According to Articles of Association, the Board of Directors consists of a Chair, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a number of Assessors. Christine Abbott will be in office as chair, Patrick Vogt as secretary and Florian Schlueter as Treasurer in the extended first financial year 2019 - 2020. Re-election or election is possible at any General Assembly/AGM on the basis of a majority of the delegate votes present. Candidates are exclusively the delegates of the member associations and each association has one vote. All participation in the International 7 Network is voluntary, free of any financial compensation. The decisive basis for the International 7 Network is the Articles of Association, which can only be amended by the General Assembly/AGM.



3. Objectives

In addition to the promotion of its members, the International 7 Network has three strategic objectives:

1. "International" is all Clubs (as identified in 4 b) of the world unite in the Network. It is therefore a goal to accommodate all the relevant clubs.
2. To achieve numbers of member clubs in order to be able to represent seven owners at an international political level. for example, regulation of road traffic / emissions
3. The International 7 Network is brand neutral mainly to achieve Objectives 1 and 2.

4. Vehicles and member associations

A) Vehicles

Lotus built the "Seven" between 1957 and 1972. Already during this time there were other manufacturers, which either under license or without license reproduced the Lotus Seven. To date, there are about 24 companies, some of which have closed. When Lotus decided to abandon the Seven model, the manufacturing rights were transferred to Caterham, which in the previous years assembled and sold the Seven for Lotus. However, it is not entirely clear whether this transfer of patents concerned only the Seven Series IV model.

Today there are several manufacturers of the Seven model who sell their vehicles completely legally. In addition to Caterham, there is also the company Westfield, Donkervoort, Birkin, MK, GBS or VM, to name a few. Also types like "Locost Seven" are popular because of the purchase price.

B) Clubs

Whilst all clubs accept membership from anyone whether they own a seven or not, the member associations are completely free to decide whether they want to allow only Lotus and Caterham Seven, or other brands at private events – for example track days or shows. We believe that there are only three clubs in the world that only accept Lotus and Caterham Sevens at private events. The Lotus Seven Club Germany, the Caterham Car Club based in Germany, and the Lotus Seven Owners Switzerland. The Lotus 7 Club UK also accept Caterham 21's. Lotus Seven Owners Switzerland, founded in 1981, also had Donkervoort owners until a few years ago, because this brand was represented in Switzerland at that time.

Other clubs operate in the same exclusive way with other brands – i.e. MK, Westfield etc

There are also clubs who have a mixed brand membership, often in countries where a one brand club would not be viable or that they have decided to be inclusive of other brands therefore at private events there will be a mix of car brands.