

# **CHRF FLEET RULES**

Approved on November 15, 2017

## **ARTICLE 1 - Name of the Fleet**

The name of this fleet will be the Club Handicap Racing Fleet (CHRF). It is a fleet sanctioned by the Santa Barbara Yacht Club.

## **ARTICLE 2 – Objective**

- 2.1 To promote meaningful competition among a wide variety of sailboats while promoting sailing skills, good sportsmanship, and fair sailing between skippers and crews.
- 2.2 To use a handicapping system based upon the performance of both boat and crew. The emphasis is on how the boat is sailed rather than on its theoretical potential.
- 2.3 To introduce Members to sailboat racing that highlights the sport rather than the investment in boating equipment.
- 2.4 And, above all, to enjoy sailing in company with other Members and families.

## **ARTICLE 3 – CHRF Fleet Membership**

- 3.1 Santa Barbara Yacht Club members are eligible to join. For the purposes of these Fleet Rules, 'Member' is the Santa Barbara Yacht Club member who enters a boat in the CHRF fleet and is a Member in good standing, or the spouse of a member in good standing. That Member may enter and qualify any boat regardless of its ownership, and must assume financial responsibility by certifying that the vessel is, and will remain, adequately insured when racing.
- 3.2 The boat itself is not the Member, so only Santa Barbara Yacht Club members may join the CHRF fleet. Participating boats must have a Santa Barbara Yacht Club member on board at all times in order to be scored.
- 3.3 Eligible members shall be considered registered when a completed Santa Barbara Yacht Club Race Entry form has been submitted prior to the first race of the Member's boat. Each member must register each calendar year as described in the preceding sentence.
- 3.4 An "active" fleet member is one who is racing this year. A "qualified" fleet member is one eligible to be scored for place and receive points. In order to trophy, a boat must be "currently active and qualified."

## **ARTICLE 4 - Fleet Committee**

- 4.1 The Fleet Committee shall be comprised of up to eight active members of the CHRF fleet including a Fleet Representative, who shall preside at all meetings. The responsibilities of the Fleet Committee members shall include: Implementation of its racing program and activities, coordination of trophies, preparation of Sailing Instructions, Race Committee coordination, and computer applications and official scoring.
- 4.2 The incumbent Fleet Representative shall propose a successor to be approved and nominated for the ensuing year. The committee's nominee shall be presented to the incoming Commodore for approval no later than October 31st. The Fleet Representative shall represent the Fleet on the Sail Policy Committee.

- 4.3 The Fleet Representative shall ask for volunteers and appoint members to the Fleet Committee as needed to fill vacant positions.

#### **ARTICLE 5 - Meetings**

- 5.1 The Fleet Committee will hold regular meetings, open to all Santa Barbara Yacht Club members, once each month except for December.
- 5.2 There will be an Annual Meeting of the Fleet, usually in January, for the purpose of awarding trophies and conducting such other business that should be brought to the attention of the Members.

#### **ARTICLE 6 - Rules**

- 6.1 The Fleet will be governed by the Bylaws of the Santa Barbara Yacht Club, its Rules & Regulations, and these Fleet Rules. The Fleet racing activities will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), including the prescriptions of US Sailing, and the Fleet Sailing Instructions.

#### **ARTICLE 7 - Racing & Activities**

- 7.1 A Fleet Race & Activities Schedule for the year will be posted on the SBYC Web Site.
- 7.2 Sailing Instructions will be issued for each seasonal series or individual race.
- 7.3 The Sailing Instructions and any notice to competitors will be made available to the Members no later than one (1) hour prior to the warning signal for any race.
- 7.4 The current Santa Barbara Yacht Club Race Course Chart will be used for the location, distance, and headings to the various marks, except for races in conjunction with Santa Barbara Yacht Club cruises, or other special races where the course will be designated in the Sailing Instructions. Should a conflict between the Club Race Course Chart and the CHRF Start Times Sheet for a staggered start race exist, the course to be sailed shall be that described on the CHRF Start Time Sheet.
- 7.5 If there are fewer than three (3) qualified boats starting a race, the race shall be abandoned. (Cf. RRS 32.1)
- 7.6 In order to obtain an accurate finish time for each racing boat, sail numbers of at least 15 inches in height are required on both sides of each racing boat's main, and sail numbers or a graphic are encouraged for the spinnaker. Boats not in compliance shall be considered to have NOT raced. Exemptions from this rule shall be made on a case-by-case basis by the Fleet Committee. Protests regarding numbers may be done only by the race committee.

#### **ARTICLE 8 - Boat Ownership**

- 8.1 An existing CHRF Member acquiring a new boat may retain his/her previous boat's High Point standing and continue to earn points for each race, if the newly acquired boat's PHRF rating is within thirty (30) seconds per mile of the previous boat's PHRF rating. If a new CHRF Member enters a boat that is currently active, but previously entered by another CHRF member, the new CHRF Member must requalify pursuant to Article 9.4 below.

- 8.2 If an existing Member's new boat does not qualify under 8.1, the Member must establish a new handicap pursuant to Article 9.4 below. When qualified, the Member is eligible for trophies and the resumption of High Point accumulation. A previously qualified boat, newly acquired by an existing Member, may replace that Member's previous boat and will be eligible for trophies and the resumption of High Point accumulation (applicable to the previous boat) after written notification to the CHRF Fleet Committee of the substitution and after re-qualification pursuant to 9.4 below. For clarification, race results follow the member and not the boat.

#### **ARTICLE 9 - Handicapping System**

- 9.1 The computer program "CHRF Handicap Program," utilizing a formula originally developed at Southwestern Yacht Club, will be used to establish boat handicaps.
- 9.2 For each boat, the average of the adjusted seconds per mile from the best four of the last five races will be used for the handicap calculations to produce the handicap for the next race. That handicap will not change until the boat completes another race.
- 9.3 When a new boat joins the Fleet, the Fleet Representative will assign a provisional start time for the first race. New boats will have their handicap calculated the same as other boats in the Fleet for the purpose of determining the start time for the next race.
- 9.4 After three races a boat is considered qualified and eligible for winning trophies and earning points for the High Point standings. A boat can retain such qualification and eligibility by completing at least one race a year. If a boat does not race in at least one race the prior year, three new qualifying races will be required.
- 9.5 For staggered starts, the boat with the largest handicap is scheduled to start first. The next largest handicap boat is scheduled next, and so on. Place is determined by actual finish order.
- 9.6 For mass starts, spot times are calculated for boats by multiplying the race distance times the difference in handicap between individual boats and the fastest boat in the Fleet. Boat handicap calculations for staggered start races will be based on when the boat actually started, not when it was scheduled to start. In mass start races, place is determined by corrected time (elapsed time minus spot time).
- 9.7 For both mass and staggered starts, a boat that crosses the start line conspicuously after its scheduled start time will have its actual start time recorded, so that the delay can be accounted for in calculation of the boat's handicap.
- 9.8 The Fleet Committee may establish a maximum handicap for both mass and staggered starts even though a boat's calculated rating may be higher.
- 9.9 Only completed races affect handicap calculations and High Point accumulation.

#### **ARTICLE 10 - Scoring**

- 10.1 Individual races will be scored as follows: Staggered starts - The order of qualified finishers will be the order of place. Mass starts - The order of place will be determined by the corrected time of qualified finishers. (using elapsed time minus spot time).
- 10.2 Spring, Summer, and Fall Series Scoring
- 10.2.a) Four races shall be scheduled for each series; announced and specified by respective NOR/SI's.

- 10.2.b) When all four races in a series have been completed, qualified boats that finish at least three of those races are eligible to be scored for that series. Only a boat's best three of four races will be counted for series scoring.
  - 10.2.c) If fewer than four series races can be completed, qualified boats must finish all of the races that were completed in order to be scored in the series. There will be no throw outs.
  - 10.2.d) One race is required to constitute a series. Abandoned series races will not be re-sailed.
  - 10.2.e) Series ties will be broken using RRS Appendix A8.
  - 10.2.f) Series scoring will be calculated according to RRS Appendix A2 based only on qualified boats that have completed the requisite number of races. A boat's score will be calculated based on the sum of the finishing places for counting races divided by the number of races. IE: A boat in a four race series finishing first in three of the races will have a final series score of 1.
  - 10.2.g) Boats performing Race Committee duty on a series race will receive 1 1/2 points toward the series results and 19 points toward high point unless the race is abandoned. The race committee boat/Member can only receive RC credit once each year. Points normally awarded for serving as Race Committee will not be awarded if the Race Committee boat is a competitor in the race, or when a race is abandoned.
- 10.3 There will be an annual High Point Competition. A qualified boat's total score will be the sum of the scores for the boat's ten best races. The 1st place boat will receive 20 points, the 2nd place boat will receive 17 points, 3rd place will receive 15 points, 4th place will receive 14 points, and so on. Boats finishing 13th and later will receive 5 points. Boats not completing a race shall not receive any points for that race. 10.4 The race committee boat/Member will receive 19 points towards the High Point Competition (same as 1st place boat, minus 1 point) unless the race is abandoned.

#### **ARTICLE 11 - Trophies**

- 11.1 Trophies for each race shall be awarded after the race. Unless provided otherwise in the Sailing Instructions, the number of trophies awarded to qualified finishers shall not be less than 50% of the number of qualified boats starting a race.
- 11.2 Season "take home" trophies shall be awarded at the CHRF Annual Meeting.
- 11.3 Trophy recipients wishing to be honored at the Annual Santa Barbara Yacht Club Trophy dinner may elect to do so.

#### **ARTICLE 12 - Protests**

- 12.1 Protests involving a breach of a Part 2 Rule will be subject to the Santa Barbara Yacht Club Arbitration Guidelines.
- 12.2 Protests and Requests for Redress shall be delivered to the Race Committee no later than one hour after the protesting boat's finish time.

#### **ARTICLE 13 - Race Committee Duty**

- 13.1 It is expected that all active Members will be available to serve as Race Committee each year.
- 13.2 CHRf Race Committee Procedures are available on the SBYC web site and shall be followed by the Race Committee.
- 13.3 To ensure that all races will have a Race Committee, race committee assignments will be assigned by the Fleet Representative and/or the Fleet Committee. Race committee assignments will be based on race participation in the prior year, with choice of race committee assignments allocated in descending order based on level of participation. If two members have the same level of participation in the preceding year then the member with the higher place in the High Points Series for the prior year will get precedence over any other member with the same level of participation in the prior year. The Fleet Committee shall prepare a list of guidelines for determining the participation level for the prior year and shall post the guidelines and the participation list for the prior year on the SBYC web site. New Members are encouraged to volunteer to help with race committee duty at least once prior to their assigned date so that they are familiar with the procedure.
- 13.4 It will be the responsibility of each Race Committee designee to ensure that the race date is covered. Members may exchange race committee assignments with each other as long as the Fleet Representative is notified at least 3 days prior to the scheduled race committee date.
- 13.5 If there is a conflict and the assigned Member cannot perform his/her race committee assignment, that Member is responsible for obtaining a Qualified Member as a substitute, with priority given to the next most active Qualified Member from the prior year who has not received a race committee assignment for this year. The Fleet Representative shall be notified of any conflict that requires a substitution and must approve any proposed substitution of race committee assignments. Should no suitable replacement be found amongst the Qualified Members, then the Fleet Committee may assign the Race Committee duty to any Active Member or the Race Director of the Club. If a Member substitutes another Qualified Member for his/her Race Committee assignment and then sails in that race, neither member shall be scored or receive points in said race. This scoring penalty shall not apply to exchanges of Race Committee assignments made pursuant to Article 13.4 above.

#### **ARTICLE 14 - Amendments**

- 14.1 Amendments to these Fleet Rules require a majority approval of the Fleet Committee.
- 14.2 Notice of proposed Amendments must be given to all Fleet Members via an email blast at least two weeks prior to the Fleet Committee meeting when the vote will be taken. Members wishing to comment on the proposed change(s) should plan to attend that meeting.

14.3 Upon approval, the Amendment will be posted on the SBYC web site and will take effect on the next scheduled race after approval by the Fleet Committee.