

The Mainsheet

The Newsletter of PHRF of the

Chesapeake

P.O. Box 3169, Prince Frederick, MD 20678

Winter 1997/1998

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Annual Meeting of Delegates

The 1997 Annual Meeting of the Delegates of PHRF of the Chesapeake was held on 22 November, at the Eastport Yacht Club. Our President, Bill Sutton, called the meeting to order at 1108. Bill introduced the Officers, and asked the executive secretary for a roll call of the delegates. There were 28 clubs and 708 members represented, including unaffiliated members belonging to CBYRA, which was a quorum as only 650 votes were required.

Officers Reports Bill Sutton began the President's address by thanking Betty Robinson, and Stew Buckler for helping PHRF get through the difficult times of the past year due to the loss of our friend, Dick Norris. Bill mentioned that PHRF tried to be fiscally responsible this past year, while starting up the new PHRF office, and that we will try to begin a PHRF web site in 1998. He solicited the assistance from the delegates in helping to ensure clubs conduct their PHRF races using valid ratings. The Yearbook was successfully published, again with much of the thanks going to Marty Kiely. Bill attended the annual US Sailing meeting, where there was much discussion of other new handicap systems such as Americap, and IR2000. The new systems have the potential of taking away some boats which might race under PHRF, but there does not seem to be any grass roots support for Americap on the Chesapeake Bay at this time.

Bill ended his remarks with thanks to Eastport Yacht Club for hosting our meeting (again). He then gave a brief summary of how the meeting's agenda was developed, starting with request for topics in the Summer Mainsheet, and publishing the topics in the Fall Mainsheet after review by the executive committee in early October.

Betty Robinson presented the Treasurer's report for 1997, and the proposed budget for 1998, which was accepted after a brief discussion.

A report was given by Jack Quinn, PHRF delegate to US Sailing. He stated that the ORC regs that are scheduled to be published in March will contain a US prescription that will require PFD's be worn on all boats while racing. There will be no effect on PHRF of the Chesapeake racers since PHRF of the Chesapeake has modified category 4 ORC regs for use on the bay. Jack also reported that VPP studies conducted using wind tunnels has shown that a 10 to 15% gain or loss in boat speed can be achieved by sail trim.

Chief Handicappers Rich Harrison (No. Bay) and Rusty Burshell (So. Bay) provided brief reports of handicapping progress this year.

In the executive secretary's report, Stew Buckler stated that current membership of 975 is down about 7% from last year. He will continue to improve the data base in new Win95 environment, which gives lots of options for any reports PHRF may need. New data to be requested on 1998 application and renewals are draft (UP and down), and P2 and E2 for yawls and ketches.

In the high point scorer's report, Chuck Wright presented his calculations of race participation by class. Chuck still needs cooperation of the clubs to provide him more timely race results in the appropriate format for him to calculate high point scores.

New Associate Membership A motion was passed creating a PHRF Associate Member as a new category of PHRF membership. The resolution adds a new section to Article III of the by-laws as follows:

"Section 3.2. Any person may apply for Associate Membership to PHRF of the Chesapeake. This category is for people who wish to belong to PHRF of the Chesapeake and receive its publications, excluding valid lists, but do not own a sailboat that qualifies for membership under the rules of PHRF of the Chesapeake. Associate Members may not hold office in PHRF of the Chesapeake, do not count toward total membership for voting, and may not represent clubs as Delegates."

A related motion was passed to make other required changes to the remainder of the by-laws to reflect the new associate membership category as in new section 3.2.

Handicapper Term Limits Voted Down Handicapper term limits were discussed but the proposed resolution to limit terms failed. The delegates believe that some turnover in the Board of Handicappers is appropriate but that wholesale changes induced by term limits would weaken the rating system by substantially reducing the corporate knowledge base. They also believe that PHRF needs to communicate to sailors just how the handicap system works and point out the checks and balances in the system. The view was expressed that the chief handicappers are in the best position to appoint handicappers that can provide fair and reasonable handicaps.

Annual Dues Increase Annual renewal dues for regular memberships were increased to \$25, if paid before April 1st. Renewals received after April 1st, and new applications

must pay \$30. Dues for the new Associate Membership category were set at \$15, and fees for lost or changed certificates, after renewal, is set at \$15.

Additions to Headsail Definition A motion was passed to include asymmetrical spinnakers in the distinction between jibs and spinnakers. Item 1 of the standard sail and equipment specs is changed to read (changes in italics): "A. A headsail is defined as a sail in the foretriangle. It can be either a spinnaker, *asymmetrical spinnaker* or jib. B. No changes. C. *Asymmetrical spinnakers shall conform to the requirements of these specifications.*"

Allowable mainsail battens increased A motion was passed to comply with new IMS requirements for mainsail girth and battens "20. *Batten Lengths. A. The number of battens in any mainsail or mizzen shall be limited to seven (7) for all yachts. Batten spacing shall be approximately equal between headboard and clew.*" In #22 the maximum girth formulae are changed to "*MGUL = 0.38*E, MGML = 0.65*E*".

Requirements for Roller Furler Credit Amended After considerable discussion, roller furler requirements were further limited. An additional section is added to item 34 of the standard sail and equipment specs to read (changes in italics): "*D. The roller furling headsail shall be the only headsail used on upwind legs, unless conditions warrant use of heavy weather sail, as defined by section 10.22 of equipment and accommodations standards. If second headsail is flown, it must conform to paragraph 34B.*"

Proposed New PHRF Corinthian Class Not Approved The proposal to create a new Corinthian Class was defeated. It was considered to be a good idea but needs more thought and a plan for implementation before being created. A committee was appointed to propose a complete plan at the next annual meeting.

PHRF Sport Boat Class Approved for Region 3AW A new Sport Boat Class was approved (Region 3AW only) to be defined as follows: "*Sport Boat Class (Region 3AW): Boats conforming to the following criteria shall sail in the Sportboat Class, when offered by the Race Instructions: 1) All boats < 45 ft LOA, and with S/D > 25 and designed to use an asymmetrical spinnaker, or 2) All boats < 45 ft LOA, and with S/D > 33, regardless of type of spinnaker used.*"

1998 Class Splits Agreed To The 1998 class splits for all regions were decided at the meeting. For 1998, the:

Splits for Regions 1, 2 and 3SE are:

- A up to 112
- B 113 to 148

- C 149 to 196
- D 197 and above

Splits for the A class in Region 3AW are:

- A0 up to 46
- A1 47 to 79
- A2 80 to 112

Splits for Region 4 South are:

- A up to 106
- B 107 to 163
- C 164 and above

Splits for Regions 3PR and 4 North are:

- Spinnaker - all ratings
- Non-Spinnaker - all ratings

Removal of Bonus Points for High Point Scoring A change in scoring for PHRF high point awards was also passed. Bonus points will no longer be awarded for PHRF handicap high point scoring. Reasoning for this change is that extra incentives for distance races are no longer needed since they are so well attended and the change removes the disadvantage from those competitors that do only round the buoys races.

1998 Officer Elections The 1997 slate of officers was nominated and voted in for 1998. The 1998 Officers are:

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| President | Bill Sutton |
| VP - N. Bay | Tim Bowen |
| VP - S. Bay | Bob Thomas |
| Sec'y/Treas. | Betty Robinson |

1998 Appointments Bill Sutton, 1998 President appointed Stew Buckler as executive secretary, Dan Trammell as PHRF representative to the CBYRA Handicap Committee, and co-chairmen Bruce Bingman and Jerry Smernoff to head a committee to develop more details for a proposed PHRF Corinthian Class. Rich Harrison and Rusty Burshell were again appointed as Chief Handicappers, No. Bay and So. Bay respectively. Both Chief Handicappers appointed last year's handicappers to continue. Rich Harrison said he plans to appoint at least one new handicapper for 1998. He asked the delegates to recommend any persons from their area of representation who would be qualified and interested in becoming a handicapper. He needs someone for the Eastern Shore and/or Annapolis areas.

These appointments concluded our business for the 1997 delegates meeting. A motion was brought, seconded and passed that the meeting be adjourned, and we concluded business at approx. 1630 hours.

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