

East Coast Sailing Association PHRF Committee Meeting 16 March 2009 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm. The meeting was conducted at the Melbourne Yacht Club.

Attendees:

Del Wiese, Chairman
Hasty Miller, Chief Handicapper
Pat Lambert, Melbourne Yacht Club
Jim Edwards, East Coast Sailing Association
Tom Knowlton, Eau Gallie Yacht Club
Hamilton Sirls, Titusville Sailing Club
Mike Young, Indian River Yacht Club

Absent were:

Homer Baggett, Port Canaveral Yacht Club
TBD, Kennedy Point Yacht Club

Guests:

Jim Miller	Jim Lacy
Dave Noble	Tony Godden
Gary Smith	John Martin
Mike McClain	

The minutes from the 18 August 2008 meeting were read.

Old Business:

1. Gary Smith brought up the issue of oversized spinnakers resulting from longer than J spinnaker poles. After considerable discussion it was decided that Hasty should assess the issue and make a recommendation at the next committee meeting.
2. Dave Noble noted that the Dacron Sail Adjustment of 3 sec/mile for boats under 30 feet and 6 sec/mile over 30 enacted on 16 July 2008 has never been incorporated into the PHRF Policies and Procedures. The committee appreciates Dave noting this and will make the change in the next revision.
3. Dave also noted that there are discrepancies between the ECSA and Sail-Race web sites. The information presented is not consistent and up to date.

The committee accepts the action to work with the appropriate web masters and make the information consistent and up to date.

4. Hasty noted that Jim Miller had passed on several boxes of historical information and records. This invoked a lively discussion regarding records retention, do we have a policy, how many years should we retain, etc, etc. It was noted that race results should be retained forever, or at least longer than other records. The committee accepts the action to define a high level policy to be presented at the next committee meeting and then incorporated into the PHRF Policies and Procedures.
5. Gary Smith asked about taping the meetings and noted that in previous years a secretary facilitated minutes generation. The current practice is to not record the meetings but Gary's comments provided food for thought. This topic will be included in the next committee meeting agenda.

New Business:

6. Jim Miller discussed the potential of a state wide PHRF policy. There currently are PHRF committees in North Florida, Halifax River, ECSA, West Florida and South East Florida. Jim has had discussions with representatives of most of these organizations and will continue toward making this happen. The committee concurs with Jim's activities and will provide support if possible. The ensuing discussion included some items to consider for any future agreement. Would ECSA be at a disadvantage due to our relative small size? Could we lose control to larger organizations? Would the process for change, and appeals, get more complicated and difficult?
7. Regarding the PHRF renewal period, the committed voted to change the validity period to January through December to coincide with our racing season. The current PHRF certificates will be valid through December 2009 and renewals for 2010 will occur in the October/November 2009 time frame. It was requested that the expiration date for certificates be added to the ratings spreadsheet and Tom concurred with this. It was also decided that the certificates will be available for downloading and printing versus being mailed. Whether they are signed or not signed is to be determined. This change will be incorporated into the PHRF Policies and Procedures.
8. It was agreed that we should be providing certificates and as discussed above, they will be available on the web site. Tom provided Del an Excel Worksheet that will enable automatic generation of certificates from the data in the ratings spreadsheet. Del has not tried this yet, and Tom offered technical assistance if needed. The committed appreciates Tom's efforts to automate certificate generation.
9. The "meeting attendance" topic evoked a wide range of discussions. Hasty noted that if a member misses three consecutive meetings, they may no

longer be a member. However the current policy says if a member misses two meetings, the commodore shall be notified. There appeared to be good agreement that it is in an organization's best interest to be represented. Del indicated he has a list of designated representatives for all organizations except Kennedy Point and will keep this list updated as any changes occur. Every effort will be made by the committee to encourage participation by all organizations. It was agreed that Del will provide draft wording regarding a change to the policy for the committee members to review in preparation for this topic on the next agenda.

One of the topics that came out of this agenda item was to consider telecon participation. The MYC facility does not currently have a speaker phone that could be used for this and the committee will discuss what might be done with the MYC IT support person. Another topic was to rotate the meeting location and this will be considered for future meetings. Titusville has since indicated they would be pleased to host the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.