

## **2015 Spring HRYRA Board Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 14, 2015**

### **In attendance:**

President: Mike Colucci

Vice President: Eric Baumes

Treasurer: Cc Dwyer

Secretary: Sally Wellens

PHRF Handicapper: George Samalot

CYC Representative: Mark Maxam

CYC Representative: Will Gordon

HCYC Representative: Gerald Cohen

HCYC Representative: John Edwards

HCYC Representative: Tom Dilauro - (*could not attend*)

KSC Representative: David Wightman

KSC Representative: Ian Westergren

MYC Representative: Andy Hudson

MYC Representative: Bob Tamagny

MYC Representative: Bob Weismantel - (*could not attend*)

NBC Representative: Ruth Yannelli

NBC Representative (One Design): Rick Feldman

SYC Representative (Rules/Appeals): Peter Oden - (*could not attend*)

SYC Representative (Jr. Sailing): Peter Feroe - (*could not attend*)

HBRA (Haverstraw Bay Racing Association) Representative: John Nonenmacher

Score Keeper: Sherri Hill - (*could not attend*)

### **Topics:**

#### **1. Updates since last meeting**

- New HRYRA Website has been released
- PayPal is available on the HRYRA Website for those who would like to pay online instead of mailing in a check.
  - We are ordering Crew Trophies for the season. Trophies are being delivered to Mike on Friday, May 1st.
    - 72 glasses per club = 6 per boat X 12 boats (4 fleets – 1st, 2nd, and 3rd)

#### **2. Sailing Instructions**

- Common Sailing Instructions – To keep the same, there are no issues.
- Do we want to change the VHF channel which we currently use for our Regattas, as there is a lot of noise on current channel?

- Board agreed that we should change the channel.
- Board agreed to change channel to 69.
- Each boat club is to update their respective sailing instructions to include channel.

**3. HRYRA Race Committees** - a RC gathering so we get on same page for Regattas

- Agreed to get together with the HRYRA Board Members/ Race Chairman and/or Race Committees from each boat club and discuss common ways to run each of the Regattas.
- Tentative date of Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>: 8PM at CYC was discussed.
- We can think about using SKYPE for those who cannot attend in person.

**4. HRYRA Overall Champion** - Use Cox-Sprague but open to a way to crown an overall champ at the end of the season

- It is an honor to acknowledge someone who excelled during a given racing season.
- At one time there was an overall trophy for the Tappan Zee Cruising fleet.
- How do we make this fair? Different fleets with different number of boats
  - Cox- Sprague rates you overall to your fleet and against other fleets. Forget about PHRFs, look at the number you came in based on percent of number of boats available to race with and compare with other boats from other fleets.
  - There is chart that is available to use as a baseline. Need a number of races to qualify. In order to be in the running overall you will have to have raced a certain number of races.
  - We can try this approach and evaluate at the end of the year to see if we like this system, if not we can change.
  - Should we communicate on website of this approach? This may encourage people to join in racing. We should note how many races a boat needs to sail, in order to be eligible for the overall Trophy.
  - No issues, all were in favor and agreed.

**5. HRYRA Governance update**

- What is a member, what is the value proposition to a member, what fees are appropriate given the value?
- We may want to create a document defining the overall governance of the HRYRA Organization.
- What kind of membership are we and how does this work?
- We now are including one-design and juniors which are not run by PHRFs.
- We want to broaden the membership and get people involved, what would the group get in return?
- How do we include crew members?
- Does a member have to be on the board? No.
- Membership is free; PHRF has a cost associated and is \$25.
- Membership allows one to participate for a trophy, have a voting right.
  - We don't use the yearly awards brunch currently for voting, but we should in the future,

- How do you expand membership to include a broad range of people?
  - Provide discount to events, have a roster, with boat names and member names.
- Go to the website to purchase your membership.
- Can we get a list of people from member clubs, such as one design and laser sailors.
  - Find out from the club, if people would be offended. Or put link to the HRYRA Website in each of the boat club websites and ask people if they would like to be in our mailing list.
- It was noted that there is a current problem with the HRYRA email list, this needs to be cleaned up to get working again. Today the email list only sends communications to people with PHRF certificates.
- It was noted that at KYC, crew members pay \$ 15 for associate membership and they can vote and serve on the board.
- Can define a member as someone who pays a fee (X amount) to join the HRYRA organization.
- It was noted that for one- design racers, they would not purchase a PHRF certificate.
- We need to communicate, we can use the Website:
  - We can provide Crew listings on the HRYRA Website. If someone is interested in sailing, they should be able to search for sailing and find our Website and get on someone's boat.
  - Also include information on Wednesday night racing on the Hudson that takes place in all the clubs. Include Wednesday night results. Show information about racing overall on the river.
  - We need a marketing plan.
- We need to promote inter club racing and events.
- How do you get the younger demographic to join?
  - It was noted that there was a discussion with a consultant at Hudson Cove who discussed that based on research; organizations get better response when the younger generation is personally invited to join.
  - We can reach out to colleges.
  - We can craft emails per audience, one design - juniors, etc.
- All agreed that HRYRA membership is fee based. A Member is a paying member
  - We will figure out a fee. We can do this over email.
- Will Gordon noted that the issue is not to focus on fees but how to get members.
- Over time will continue to mature and build upon the definition of a member.

## **6. One Design Update**

- We are currently posting one- design events on the HRYRA website. Need to obtain the NORs and sailing instructions for the various events.
  - Cc has contacted the people noted on the one-design schedule and asked each to send the NOR / SI's for their Regattas. Nothing is received from anyone yet.

- Would like to give something from HRYRA for winners at the events that would add some value.
  - Discussed possibility of providing some trophies for 6 events. Maybe 3-5 deep or 18 -30 trophies overall for the whole season.
  - Thinking about a hat. Maybe \$15 dollars a hat, with a budget of about \$400.
    - HRYRA noted that they will have to look into expense for this year and come up with a price that makes sense.

**7. *Junior Update* - Jr. Big Boat Regatta**

- Peter was not present at the meeting but had some feedback from him.
- Need to have more lead time of when regattas are. To put on the HRYRA Website.
- Should decide boats to participate early on and group by similar PHRF.
- Should schedule for the opposite day of the women's regatta.

**8. *Women's Regatta***

- To be in Haverstraw Bay this year. Need to determine date and not wait as long as last year, as people make plans.

**9. *Growing our Association***

- In addition to items outlined in above sections. It was also discussed about having Sponsors at HRYRA Events. Invite someone to have an exclusive, maybe a booth, such as Brooklyn Brewery.