

**2018 HRYRA Fall Board Meeting  
Wednesday, November 7**

***In attendance:***

*President:* Mike Colucci

*Vice President:* Eric Baumes

*Treasurer:* Cc Dwyer

*Secretary:* Sally Wellens

*PHRF Handicapper:* George Samalot

*CYC Representative:* Mark Maxam - (could not attend)

*CYC Representative:* Jeremy Moore

*HCYC Representative:* Gerald Cohen

*HCYC Representative:* John Edwards

*KSC Representative:* David Wightman

*KSC Representative:* Kevin McHugh

*KSC Representative:* Jody Sterling

*KSC Representative:* Bill Sterling

*MYC Representative:* Bob Tamagny

*MYC Representative:* Jessie Fitzgerald

*NBC Representative:* Alan Fligor

*NBC Representative:* John Sheehan

*NBC Representative (One Design):* Jon Marsh

*SYC Representative (Rules/Appeals):* Peter Oden

*SYC Representative:* Bob Millstein

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

*HBRA (Haverstraw Bay Racing Association) Representative:* John Nonenmacher - (could not attend)

*Scorekeeper:* Sherri Hill - (could not attend)

*Women's Challenge Representative:* Liz Sugg - (could not attend)

***Topics:***

**1. Nyack Boat Club (NBC) Ideal Program**

Bill Mann from the Nyack Boat Club (NBC) provided a recap of their first year of the Ideal Boat Membership Program. Shared lessons learned, membership impact and startup costs.

- NBC was trying to figure out how to solve problem they were observing. Membership was down, aging of the Club (average age of members is 62 years), 30% of members don't have boats and trending on not staying with the Club that long, interest in racing was decreasing.
- Did analysis on what other Clubs were doing. Have notes from what was found out from other Clubs and would be glad to share with the other Hudson River Clubs. As a result, decided to create an Ideal Boat Membership Program which commenced in 2018, as other Boat Clubs are running and have been successful.
- Finding today, people are busy with their jobs, families, don't have or want to commit money to buy a boat and deal with the upkeep. Members of the Ideal Program contributes a set amount to the program and are able to use the boats throughout the season. The Boats are moored and therefore don't have to launch the boat in and out of the water.

- Fleet composition limited to boat Club members and special activity members (SAMs), with a limited membership for 2 years. SAMs are non-voting members, and only have access to the Club during the boating season.
- Over the course of the year, as a result of the program added new Voting Boat Club Members and Sam Members who are new to sailing. Finding SAM Members average age is 47. NBC has marketing campaign include open house to interest new SAMs in joining
- Finding also that regular voting members are interested in the program to improve their sailing skills, and also to get involved in one design racing, such as those in the cruising class.
- Have a sailing director who manages the program and boats
- Wednesday nights, the director has chalk talks after Wednesday night races
- Thursday nights are for Women's sailing
- Friday nights are causal sailing, pair people up based on their skill level
- Weekend morning is the biggest program focusing on how to learn to sail
- Weekend afternoons focuses on advanced sailing
- Boats are easy to use, as they are self- tacking and with winds 14-15 knots or higher the main is reefed and the boat is very stable

## **2. Opening remarks from HRYRA President**

- 2018 was a good season. Goal was to make racing fun and competitive so all to enjoy. Thank you for all your time and support.

## **3. Treasurer's Report**

- 98 PHRF certificates registered over the year, most paid through PayPal
- For every \$30 dollars paid to PayPal, HRYRA receives \$28.83
- Overall the budget is trending similar year over year and we just about cover costs. We are not making any profits. We don't have much extra spending cash for other activities then what we normally do.

## **4. HRYRA Awards Brunch**

Annual winter lunch has been scheduled; all are encouraged to attend. The dinner is not just for those who win awards, but a chance for all to get together and have a good time.

- Payment via Credit Cards/PAYPAL or check
- \$40 is asked per person, as we subsidize. Cost to HRYRA is \$43
  - Note, If one pays \$40 through PayPal, HRYRA receives \$38.62

## **5. Year End Review**

- Principal Race Officer (PRO)
  - The PRO who attended the races at NBC and CYC was very successful. Looking to make a PRO a standard for all races. Please reference Topic #7 below.
- Board discussed costs of Regattas
  - Trend is that Regatta costs are slowly increasing over time, such as registration cost, dinners, mooring fees
  - Skippers pay a lot of money to attend races, some of the skippers pay the dinners for their entire crew, after racing

- Are Regatta costs keeping people from attending? Was noted that some Clubs such as CYC Subsidizes food costs, and some Clubs provide incentives to attend races such as provide breakfast and lunch on Sunday's.
- Some ideas to keep costs down included:
  - Provide food earlier before drinks, find that people will drink less and therefore less money is needed to budget for drinks
  - Keep food simple such as pizza, hamburgers and hotdogs
  - Overall Clubs should provide food which makes for them
  - Include dinner as part of the registration fee
- Review of Spinnaker Feet Split 3 & 4
  - The attempt of splitting the Spinnaker fleet was not successful. To eliminate Spinnaker Fleet 4
- Increase Regatta Participation
  - 80 boats attended this year's Regatta season. Boats tend to participate in their own Club Regatta and not travel. How do we promote more boats to travel to other Club Regattas? This is an issue not only on the Hudson River but other areas as well, such as the Long Island Sound.
  - People need to commit to 2 days of racing which includes travel. Would more people race, if we have an option of one day of races?
  - To continue discussions in Spring Board meeting

## **6. Common Sailing Instructions Review**

- To revisit the Common Sailing Instruction in the 2019 spring meeting before the racing season commences.
- Weight Limits
  - No one raised any issue this year regarding weight limits. It was noted that there was no consistency on this information in the individual Club's NORs.
  - Motion was agreed upon to remove rule in Section 1.4 regarding the instruction on weight limit "A boat shall observe crew weight limits listed on her PHRF certificate; see YRALIS PHRF Regulations, Handicap Adjustments, Section E. If not listed on a boat's certificate, the limits shall be as listed in the table in that section.
  - To keep information on the PHRF certificates
- Discussed if the time to wait for a race to begin / time out should change, including
  - Race committee, should shorten the courses if issues
  - US sailing suggests the more races you have the better
  - The longer time to wait for a race, will result in less races
- Remove Class 4
  - As noted in Topic #5 above, Spinnaker Fleet 4 has been eliminated.
  - To remove Class 4 as stated in Section 6, "Class Flags".
- End of year trophies
  - To qualify for a trophy for the season including Cox Sprague, need to sail in a least 2 Regattas.
  - Section 17 "Scoring" to be updated

## **7. Discussion: Principal Race Officer (PRO) to run all the race committees at 2019 HRYRA Regattas**

- The HRYRA board has agreed that all Clubs should use a PRO for HRYRA events

- Board has agreed to budget \$1200 in 2019 for these activities
- The addition of having a PRO, will add consistency to all Regattas, all will know what to expect and races will run in a similar manner for each of the Clubs. A Pro has experience in managing races, knows what to do, can provide direction and delegation and help streamline sailing instructions.
- It was noted that the PRO at who participated in CYC Regatta has an interest to manage additional HRYRA Regattas in 2019

## 8. Schedule the 2019 Race Season

- Spring Regatta Schedule:
  - KSC: June 1 & 2
  - CYC: June 8 & 9
  - HCYC: June 22 & 23
- Fall Regatta Schedule:
  - SYC: September 7 & 8
  - MYC: September 14 & 15
  - Long Distance Race: September 28 (proposed)
  - NBC: October 5 & 6 (proposed)
- Women's Challenge:
  - First weekend in August

## 9. Other

- **HRYRA President**
  - This will be the last year Mike Colucci will serve as HRYRA President. We thank Mike for all his hard work and partnership. Starting in 2019, Eric Baumes will take on duties as HRYRA President.
- **Green / Clean Regattas**
  - Encourage Clubs to take on "Green" activities, such as reduce plastic footprint, sponsor clean up days, and compost.
- **Crew awards, what can we do that is cheaper**