

## **Hudson River Yacht Racing Association**

Minutes from April 2, 2025 Board Meeting

Attending:

Darrell Dwyer, HRYRA President  
David Wightman, HRYRA Vice President, KSA -Participated by Zoom  
Cc Dwyer, HRYRA Treasurer  
Liz Sugg, HRYRA Secretary, NBC  
Peter Oden, Rules /Appeals Chair, SYC-Participated by Zoom  
Mike Colucci, PHRF Handicapper, CYC -Participated by Zoom  
Mike Pike, CYC-Participated by Zoom  
Kurt Worrell, CYC-Participated by Zoom  
John Nonenmacher, HBRA  
Bob Tamagny, MYC  
Jerry Cohen, HCYC  
Laszlo Csatay, HCYC  
Vicki Arbitrio, SYC -Participated by Zoom  
Greg Van Nest, NBC

### **Opening Remarks**

Much progress has been made in interclub cooperation. G. Van Nest reported that for example; Nyack Boat Club has not scheduled any PHRF racing at their club that would occur on their neighboring clubs HRYRA regatta weekend. In addition, NBC has plans to use the Pedlow Series at SYC to be scored for some of their racing series. It was mentioned that these two clubs had a long history of interclub racing with the Tappan Zee Cruising Fleet which was highly competitive.

J. Cohen reported that HCYC and MYC have discussed cooperative racing events in their sailing area as well.

The Double-Handed Fleet was discussed, and while there was interest in this fleet last year only a few boats registered. It was decided to continue to promote this idea. If there is only one double-handed racer registered for a regatta, that boat will be included in the fleet they would start in if they weren't racing double handed.

It was mentioned that one club had purchased trophies for the Double-Handed Fleet and this was a problem when no boats registered for the regatta. Suggestions included; buying generic trophies, finding low cost vendors, and creating trophies.

D. Dwyer suggested that clubs include in the NOR that a "One Regatta PHRF" certificate would be available for a \$10.00 fee.

It was also suggested that including courses with reaching legs could provide some variety to racing, especially for the non-spinnaker boats. Another advantage of doing this would be to have a less hectic traffic pattern on the race course, which again might be helpful for the non-spinnaker boats.

It was suggested that member clubs include pre or post racing programs that would be available to visiting boats.

L. Sugg reported that she has been investigating ways to fix some of the glitches on the HRYRA website. Contacting YRA of Long Island was deemed prohibitively expensive. M. Colucci suggested that NJ/Mid Atlantic PHRF committee might be less expensive for us to use. It was suggested that at some point in the future AI might be capable of doing so but for now the system is workable.

## **Treasurers Report**

Cc Dwyer distributed and discussed HRYRA's financial standing. HRYRA has a balance of \$10,335.58, (\$8,191.43 in the Website Fund and \$2,144.15 in the HRYRA General Fund). Due to changes in PayPal, John Nonenmacher helped HRYRA get an Employer Identification Number (EIN), which is a step toward enabling HRYRA to get a nonprofit status for their banking.

J. Nonenmacher suggested that with this generous balance, it might help attendance at the Awards if HRYRA could increase the subsidy.

## **Committee Updates**

### **PROS**

The desirability of using people from within the HRYRA clubs as PRO's was discussed. Also the difficulty in finding knowledgeable people to sit on Protest Committee Hearings was a point of discussion. It was suggested that member clubs include on their registration an inquiry about being qualified and willing to serve on a Protest Committee.

KSA will have Tony Weiner as their PRO.

CYC There was some discussion that Chelsea may have contacted a PRO on their own.. D. Dwyer will clarify this with the CYC Fleet Captain. Tony Weiner is available to serve as PRO if needed.

MYC will use Tony Weiner as their PRO

HCYC will use the SYC team as their PRO

SYC will provide their own PRO

NBC Tony Weiner will serve as PRO for the NBC HRYRA regatta. NBC will provide their own PRO for the Distance Race

## **Handicapping**

M Colucci reported on the latest PHRF Regulations as promulgated by the YRA of Long Island. A major change was the allowance of a three second credit for boats that were designed for symmetrical spinnakers. Much discussion centered on the idea that this change was designed

to encourage older boats to continue racing on the sound. M. Colucci pointed out that this is not an issue for HRYRA especially as the winning boats in both HRYRA spinnaker fleets were symmetrical spinnaker boats. It is possible that this rule will be altered such that the three second allowance for symmetrical spinnaker boats will only apply for the "All Purpose (formerly" "Distance") rating. M. Colucci will report back to the HRYRA Board after the next PHRF meeting takes place on this proposed revision to the PHRF regulations.

## **Rules**

P. Oden discussed some changes to the HRYRA Common Sailing Instructions:

- P. Oden suggested definitions for a Double-Handed Class including class flag and streamers to be carried by each boat in this class. This was added to the CSI's.
- Discussion at the previous meeting concerned changing the "window" of finishing as there could be an instance where a boat does not get to continue racing until the prescribed time limit. No change was decided.
- Previous discussion of eliminating "arbitration". It was decided to keep this in the CSI's.
- The scores for DNC had also been a discussion item previously and no change to this score was decided upon.
- P. Oden also pointed out that the NOR for each regatta requires that the definition of W/L (to include courses with more than two marks where the marks are essentially parallel) needs to be stated. The courses for each race need to be labeled as either W/L or All Purpose in order to comply with class rules. This also lets the scorer know if the W/L PHRF Handicap or the All-Purpose PHRF Handicap should be used to score the race.
- P. Oden also pointed out that all clubs need to ensure that their NOR complies with the Racing Rules of Sailing (specifically rule 89.2; Appendix J1).

## **Club Updates**

### Kingston Sailing Association

The Maritime museum is expanding their programs and this will impact on KSA's use of their resources. This should not impact the HRYRA regatta for this year however.

### Chelsea Yacht Club

M. Colucci reported that "Racing is dying at Chelsea." This seems to be due to a lack of enthusiasm rather than a lack of boats. The Sunfish regatta was a big success again and there are plans to continue this event. The plans for this year's Chelsea Open Regatta are underway and a steel band has been booked for the party. All boats are encouraged to arrive early and participate in CYC's Wednesday night racing program and to keep their boat on a mooring both before and after the regatta.

### Minisceongo Yacht Club

There are plans to begin the in house racing program for PHRF boats. MYC is hoping to include neighboring HCYC in this racing as well. The dates for this racing have yet to be determined. The Junior Sailing Program is going strong due to J. Fitzgerald fine efforts with these young sailors.

### Hudson Cove Yacht Club

A new educational program has been started with the hope of reaching out to non-members at Safe Harbor Marina. Programs in Fire Safety and a Man Overboard on water drill are in the works. The hope is that these programs could recruit new members.

### Shattemuc Yacht Club

V. Arbitrio reported that plans are in the works for the Women's Regatta as well as the Pedlow Cup. All of the HRYRA regattas are being put on SYC's social calendar to help promote these events. The Sailing Academy is going strong and has plans to schedule junior regattas with NBC which will be open to all junior sailors.

### Nyack Boat Club

G. Van Ness reported that there are plans to coordinate racing between SYC and NBC. Specifically six races are going to be used for an inter club racing series. Three races will be held at NBC and SYC's three Pedlow Cup races will constitute the other races for this new series. NBC plans to open up their Cruising Fleet racing to any boat that has a PHRF certificate.

### Haverstraw Bay Racing Association

J. Nonenmacher was inadvertently left out of the discussion of the club updates. He was subsequently contacted after the board meeting to provide his assessment of the HBRA racing program which he epitomized as continuing to thrive.