

## **Eastchester Bay Yacht Racing Association FAQ Sheet**

### **Who or what is EBYRA?**

*The present day EBYRA is a not-for-profit corporation. The organization's is rooted in a decades old cooperation among the four City Island based clubs, City Island Yacht club, Harlem Yacht Club, Morris Yacht & Beach club and Stuyvesant Yacht Club, to promote yacht racing in Eastchester Bay. The current events run by EBYRA are the EBYRA Wednesday Night Series, the EBYRA Sunday Series, the EBYRA Fall Series and the City Island Cup Series*

### **How do I join?**

*You can't. The Eastchester Bay Yacht Racing Association has as its membership the four mentioned clubs. Each year, the four member clubs each send a representative to represent the club's interest. In December or January, the four representatives elect a commodore from the group. The commodore then petitions his club to fill the representative seat, which he vacated.*

### **Why was it necessary to incorporate?**

*EBYRA incorporated for financial and legal considerations. We also then became eligible for an insurance liability policy through US Sailing Association.*

### **Why doesn't EBYRA pay a permanent committee to do race committee on Wednesdays, so we would not have to lose a night's racing?**

*There are several reasons. We never found anyone, let alone a small group, interested in making this kind of long-term commitment. Also, there is the problem of doing this for a season or two, then having to go back and do it ourselves again. Right now we have a system, which slowly grows the pool of Race Committee experience for each following year. Last, there is a body of thought that believes the perspective experienced by doing Race Committee increases one's understanding of yacht racing.*

### **Some people say doing committee hurts you in the series, some say it's advantageous. Who's right?**

*We have heard most of the arguments. The safe answer is, "It probably depends." The board feels that it's usually advantageous. Remember, you earn a race toward throwout, without actually risking a finish position by racing that night. We steadily improved the RC process, and have a long-standing policy of trying to accommodate RC crews, to encourage people to opt to do it. Well over half of the boats doing committee volunteer.*

### **Can I switch committee duty with someone?**

Usually, you can. There are a few provisos. If you are designated a "mentor", you must find someone and their crew who is also a "mentor". If you are designated an "apprentice", you must try to swap with another "apprentice crew". You must also do this through the board. We will try to assist you if time allows. Under no circumstances can you inform us the Wednesday of the race. If you are unsuccessful in finding a swap, you must fulfill your obligation on the night assigned.

### **If I've been picked, can I get out of doing committee?**

Sometimes there are people looking to do committee. Again, you must have a "mentor" stand in for you if you are a "mentor". If you are an "apprentice", a "mentor" or an "apprentice" can stand in for you since you're not swapping. Remember, if you have no takers, you obligated to do committee or face a DSQ.

### **What determines whether I'm a "mentor" or an "apprentice"?**

It's a subjective consensus of the EBYRA board, based on past experience and performance and the demonstrated willingness to take direction from the board. Sometimes, a skipper does not feel up to the responsibility of being a "mentor". We would honor that. Negotiating a change from "apprentice" to "mentor" is a little harder. The board will listen, but it is ultimately the board's decision.

### **How many boats can earn RC credit on one race?**

It is designed so that two boats will earn credit. It has happened that a large mentor crew did RC duty alone. There was even an isolated case where three boats got credit, because at the last minute, no "mentor" showed up. All we had we were seven "apprentice" crew from two boats and the reality of canceling. An experienced RC skipper offered not to sail and run the committee. Again, the two boat model is the one we will always try to put in place.

### **Do I have to join YRA of LIS and get a PHRF certificate to race?**

Not necessarily for the Wednesday night series. We must have a PHRF declaration for every boat that registers with us. If don't have a YRA of LIS certificate, you can pay \$10 to apply for an EBYRA provisional PHRF certificate.

You must have YRA certificate to race in a PHRF division in the Fall Series or the City Island Cup.

### ***Do weight limits and weight credits apply?***

*Only in events that are qualifiers for YRA of LIS trophies, such as the Fall Series and City Island Cup. We do not use weight limit/weight credit guidelines when establishing PHRF rating or for the Wednesday Night Series or the Sunday series.*

*The first reason is that the clubs' desire to have people participate in a weekday night event would be adversely impacted by weight (crew) limits. The case of weight credits is the same with the added caveat that all night series yacht racing on Long Island sound consist of "dying breeze" races with few exceptions. This already compounds the fact that the wind strength for nighttime events is several knots less than the nominal wind strength used to handicap boats in our PHRF region. Organizers would be foolish, at the very least, to give a skipper a rating credit for sailing with a lighter crew in a light wind, dying breeze series!*

### ***What is an "ODR" rating? Why is it different than my boat's regular PHRF rating?***

*ODR refers to One-Design rating. Some One-Design boats have an original configuration that does not neatly fit the increments in PHRF categories for reporting rig and sail dimensions etc. Sometimes the PHRF committee establishes a rating for this particular configuration that is different from the same boat conforming to PHRF increments. This rating is called an ODR. Interestingly, sometimes the ODR and the regular rating are the same.*

*Some examples would be ODRs that take into account variances with LP's, penalty poles and mainsail girths.*

### ***I was told that my ODR would not be honored. Why?***

*It is possible that certain ODRs would not be honored only in the Wednesday Night or Sunday Series if in establishing the ODR certain criteria were used in whole or in part, such as, but not limited to, a maximum crew weight or crew limit, sail material/construction restriction (eg. No Kevlar, no full-battens), equipment prohibitions (eg. No GPSs), non-PHRF equipment requirements (eg. must carry cushions). If this is the case your ODR will be adjusted to the nearest, appropriate PHRF increment.*

*You may choose to sail your boat in this configuration but you won't get any rating credit if you do so Wednesday night or Sunday series.*

### ***Do I get a credit for a headsail roller-furler?***

*Yes, if you declare a roller-furler, and if it is above the plane of the deck, assembled and functional while racing.*