

The Mainsheet

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Prince Frederick, MD
PERMIT NO. 432

The Newsletter of PHRF of the Chesapeake
P.O. Box 3169
Prince Frederick, MD 20678
www.phrfchesbay.com

Winter 2003

Page 1

What's new for 2004.

All should be aware of some policies that will be in effect for the coming year. For 2004, there are important changes affecting Roller Furling (RF) sails, One Design Ratings (ODR), and use of whisker poles for non-spinnaker racing.

The material restrictions for **RF sails** in the past are eliminated beginning in 2004. The remaining restrictions must be complied with to receive rating credits for RF sails. Any RF sails made from laminated materials will require a continuous woven taffeta skin on BOTH sides to be eligible for a RF credit. All RF sails are required to have a 4.0 ounce woven UV cover on both the leech and foot, as in past years. Please check this carefully on your 2004 renewal or new application if applying for a RF credit.

In the past few years, we have issued **ODR certificates** to boats meeting national one-design class specifications. There has been some confusion on the application of the ODR certificate to PHRF races. To clarify this for ALL racers, in 2004 any boats issued a ODR valid certificate will agree to race **ONLY** following all one-design rules, including crew limitations. Please check out the minutes (below) to the annual delegates meeting that has more information on this important matter.

For 2004, as in past years, any boat planning to race only in non-spinnaker races, must include the maximum **whisker pole** (or spinnaker pole) dimension on the renewal or application form. This is not a new requirement, but some are overlooking the "fine" print on the forms. Whisker poles are rated same as a spinnaker pole, and all boats new to include this, if using only a whisker pole.

When you receive your 2004 valid certificate, you should notice that the expiration date is 31 March 2005. Extending the expiration date from 31 December to 31 March will now allow Frostbite racers, and others taking their boats to warmer waters for the Winter, to have a valid certificate that is in effect throughout the season. ALL prior year certificates will be ineligible for current years racing on 1 April, so please continue to get your renewals in early. Renewals are planned to be in the mail the last week of December, so there is plenty of time for renewal before the Spring racing season.

A copy of the minutes from the Annual Board of Delegates meeting is found below, including the 2004 PHRF class splits (NO changes for this year), and other topics discussed at the meeting.

2003 Annual Board of Delegates Meeting Minutes Deep Creek Restaurant, 15 November 2003

Attendees:

Jerry Smernoff, President, CBYRA Del
Rob Jabin, VP, Reg I-III, Del AYC
Randy Pugh, VP, Reg IV, Hdcpr, Del BBSA & Proxy CCV, NYCC, SYC, OPCYC & PBC
Betty Robinson, Sec'ty/Treas, Del ESSA
Bob Thomas, Jr., Treas Ass't, Del UCYC, Proxy RRYC, YPYC
Stew Buckler, Exec. Sec'ty, Del SMSA
Rob Mairs, Ch Hdcpr, Reg I-III
Dan Trammell, Hdcpr
Mayo Tabb, Hdcpr, Del FBYC
Randy Richter, Hdcpr, Del YCCSC
Bruce Bingman, Hdcpr, Rep USSailing
Eric Crawford, Hdcpr & Del TAYC
Bob Dunn, Del EYC
Greg Cutter, Del HYC
Gary Hensley, Del GSA
John Wickens, Proxy GRF
Tod Engelskirchen, Del MRYC
Bonnie Schloss, Del SRYC
Bruce Bogdanoff, Del CSA
Taran Teague, Del RRBC
Bob Greenfield, Del BCYA
Clarke Slaymaker, Del SRSA

President Jerry Smernoff called the 2003 Annual Meeting to order at 1100. He made an opening statement covering the topics and by-laws proposals that were to be voted on by the delegates. Jerry thanked the executive board, the board of handicappers, and executive secretary for the hard work that is done throughout the year to run PHRF of the Chesapeake and develop good working handicaps for the members. He announced that the Past President Joe Krolak has a gift from PHRF in thanks for his efforts while serving as President in 2001. Jerry also announced the President's award for Betty Robinson, who has provided PHRF of the Chesapeake with dedicated service as Treasurer/Secretary, as a delegate, and part-time executive secretary when needed. There is NO person more deserving of this award than Betty, who has served PHRF for 27 years. Jerry presented Betty with a beautiful wood framed admiralty chart of the Chesapeake Bay. Executive secretary, Stew Buckler, called the roll. Delegates, including proxies, present at this meeting

represented 842 of 1177 total members for 2003. This provided a quorum for voting on the motions that would be presented at this meeting.

Treasurer's Report. Betty Robinson presented the Treasurer's report, which provided a summary of PHRF income and disbursements for this year (to date), and a proposed balanced budget for 2004 of \$37,000. This is shown on the attached budget report. The 2003 actual income and expenditures were presented on the report as well. The treasurer's report was accepted as submitted by affirmation of the delegates. The 2004 budget of \$37,000, was voted on, and approved by the delegates.

US Sailing Delegate Report. Our delegate to USSailing, Bruce Bingman provided a report from the 2003 USSailing Annual General meeting held during mid-October this year. Bruce has been re-elected as chair of the USSailing PHRF committee. He will also sit on the executive board of the National Offshore Council, and act as a member of the Offshore committee, the IMS Owners committee, and the Americap Working group. (Ed... We are VERY lucky to have a person as dedicated to sailboat racing as Bruce representing PHRF Chesapeake. When you see him around the Bay, please take time to thank him for all his work for PHRF). Some key issues from the meeting are:

1) The St. Francis YC (San Francisco) has drop PHRF (and AmeriCap) in favor of the IRC (the British handicapping system) due to a perception of unfairness of PHRF ratings. The IRC is based on a "secret" VPP, with additional "adjustments" by a secret committee. This is quite a change from the usual PHRF system which had been in place there for some time. The US PHRF committee does not see this as an improvement over the PHRF system, as IRC has many of the same concerns about different wind and course configurations.

2) There is continuing concern at USSailing about ISAF attempts to control all aspects of sailboat racing, even for Wednesday night racing and junior instruction. While most of Europe is under ISAF rules, Italy and England are resisting, and all racing in Canada and some South American countries are under ISAF rules.

3) There are increasing legal and insurance challenges in sailing ranging from collision liability in racing for the competitors to individual race committee volunteers and handicappers being sued in performance of their jobs (as RC or handicapper board members).

4) Sponsorship for major regattas is still on the decline, making the future of some of these events in doubt. This will result in the cancellation of some regattas, and a significant increase in registration fees for other events.

5) USSailing PHRF committee will continue to produce list of all PHRF ratings from each fleet. There will be more attention to how each region applies base ratings (so that ratings in the listing are better used in comparisons across regions). Generally, USSailing sees PHRF numbers increasing slightly, with over 59 regions reporting over 16,000 boats rated nationally.

6) Safety at Sea committee reports that USSailing SAS committee and the ISAF have agreed on a new ORC category 5 to cover "near-shore" and protected waters.

7) Funding issues have resulted in Sailing World magazine ending the affiliation with USSailing, so USSailing members will have to subscribe separately. It may also be that members may have to pay for the Racing Rules in the future, as per other USSailing publications.

Chief Handicapper's Reports.

Rob Mairs, Chief Handicapper, regions I-III, provided the region I-III report. He thanked the current handicapper board members for their dedicated efforts this year. The board seemed to have fewer complaints concerning ratings, in general, this year. The board has worked with clubs hosting races that require Special Event certificate for some races outside the Bay. It is also working with some clubs to help provide better ratings, and rating splits for Wednesday night racing fleets. The system of providing credits for RF sails and propellers seems to be working well in most cases. The impact of using SailRater (from USSailing) to determine ratings has been less than hoped for, but SailRater does have limited benefits for some rating adjustments on individual boats.

The following report was forwarded by Rusty Burshell, Chief Handicapper, region IV. The Handicappers and Secretary for region IV will stay the same for the upcoming year with no change in club assignments. The big issues for the year were the creation of separate ratings for Region IV and the rest of the bay for the J30, ratings of the boats at the top of A (in Region IV Taylor 40 and Farr395) and bottom of C. These boats have huge deltas between them and the rest of their fleets, which makes handicapping difficult and the Solomon's protest of the Farr 395's for not sailing according to their rating certificates. Region IV handicappers believe this is an enforcement issue not an ODR issue. I believe this protest and others like it are good for the sport and the only way we are going to have enforcement on the water. This issue could be diminished by the use of better communications. I'd like to see a FAQ section on the web, where the two chief handicappers would answer any question posted and be available for all to read. Examples of questions we should answer are: What does an ODR rating mean? What is the definition of a one design according to the rule passed by the delegates? Can I replace my wire with rod rigging and will I get a penalty? My Melges 24 came with spectra lifelines. Are they legal? Can I replace my wire back stay with vectran? Overall I think that we've had a good year, but we need to communicate better between the two boards and the membership.

Executive Secretary Report. 2003 membership increased slightly to a total of 1177 over the 2002 total of 1161. Region I and IV both showed very slight decreased in membership, while region II increased by one and region III again showed a strong increase. Renewals were up again this year, while new rating applications were down over last year. Our web-site (www.phrfchesbay.com) seems to be generating more applications than in the past, but we have no numbers to confirm that view. The application and renewal forms, as well as the valid certificate will have only minor changes for 2004. A couple key areas are clarification of our One Design rules, and requirements to report whisker pole length (see below) in addition to spinnaker pole size (whichever is longer). The 2004 rating renewal forms and information will be mailed (USPS) around the end of December 2003. Delegates are asked to encourage their club members to renew and apply for PHRF ratings well in advance of the racing season so as to reduce the number of "last minute" rating requests we receive. This is most prevalent beginning around June and continues through the early Fall racing season. It is imperative to accurate mailing of the renewal forms that we have correct addresses for all members. The delegates were asked to remind their members to inform the PHRF office of any changes.

High Point Scorer Report. There were no high point results available to report to the delegates at this time.

New Business: The following issues/proposals were brought up for discussion and voting by the delegates at this meeting.

1. Elimination of rating credits for Roller Furling sails. Our RF credits have constantly come under scrutiny since the credits were first approved. Constant “tweaking” of the rules haven’t seemed to change the concerns. Jerry Smernoff proposed a motion to delete RF credits for all boats. The motion was seconded. The general discussion was that it would be hasty to eliminate the credits without giving the rule changes enacted last year some time to take effect. We have over 400 members who race with RF credits so any changes will affect a large percentage of our members. After more discussion, generally against the motion, the question was called. A unanimous vote defeated the motion. Members are reminded that RF credits will be allowed only for sails that fully conform to section 17C of our Standard Sail and Equipment Specifications.

2. Elimination of whisker pole penalties. PHRF N class racers are allowed to use whisker poles to “pole-out” headsails. In some cases, the whisker poles are adjusted to beyond the allowable “J” dimension. This should be noted on the valid certificate. The motion was proposed and seconded to eliminate any rating penalties for using longer than “J” whisker poles. After some discussion concerning the benefit of using longer whisker poles, and how enforcement of using whisker poles longer than specified on the valid certificate would that place, the question was called. The delegates voted to defeat the motion. Members planning to use longer than “J” length whisker poles are reminded to list that on the application and/or renewal form. The 2004 renewal and application forms will have place to record whisker pole sizes.

3. 2004 PHRF Class Splits. The 2004 class splits for all regions were proposed to be as in 2003 without change. The regional delegates from regions I-III and region IV affirmed the use of each regions 2003 class splits for 2004 by separate votes from each group.

4. By-Law Changes. The proposed by-laws changes were forwarded with the announcement to this meeting. Jerry Smernoff made a motion to accept the by-laws as published. The motion was seconded. Jerry had made changes to the published proposal and recommended an amendment to the motion to replace the published proposal with the changed version available at the meeting. The amendment to replace the original proposal was approved by the delegates. After discussion concerning blanket acceptance of all the changes, the question was called and the delegates voted not to approve the proposed by-laws in total. It was proposed that the amended by-law changes be reviewed and discussed separately for approval. The parliamentarian (Dan Trammell) noted that Article XI, section 11.1 governs approval of by-law changes by the board of delegates. Each change will be voted and approved (or disapproved) separately. The following sub-paragraphs cover the actions with respect to each proposed change.

4a. Proposal to change “yacht” to “sailboat” throughout all articles/sections. A motion was made and seconded to accept this change. The delegates unanimously approved this proposal.

4b. Proposal to change Article III, Section 3.1 to allow members who are not boat owners. A motion was made and seconded that the following change to this section be approved.

“Section 3.1 Any person who is the owner or past owner of a sailboat that presently has or has had a handicap issued by the PHRF of the Chesapeake or charterer of a yacht principally berthed in the vicinity of the Chesapeake Bay and who is a member of CBYRA or a club belonging to CBYRA is eligible for membership in this Association upon written application in form approved by a Chief Handicapper and the Executive Secretary.”

There was substantial debate about this proposal, both pro and con. The question was called and the delegates voted to not approve this proposed change.

4c. Proposal to delete Article III, Section 3.2, which establishes associate membership.

This proposal was presented to the delegates, however no motion was made to bring this to a vote.

4d. Proposal to change “him” to “him/her” throughout all articles/sections. A motion was made and seconded to accept this change. The delegates unanimously approved this proposal.

4e. Proposal to change Article IV, Section 4.4 to allow meetings by mail, telephonically, or electronically. This proposal would add the specific words to allow delegates meetings to be by mail, telephonically or electronically. After brief discussion, no motion to bring this proposal to a vote was made.

4f. Proposal to change Article IV, Section 4.5 to allow President to call special meetings by the board of delegates in person, by mail, telephonically or electronically.

This proposal allows for special meetings of the Board of Delegates to be called by the President and at the President’s discretion, to be held in person, by mail, telephonically, or electronically. Section 4.4 provides for calling of special meetings by the President. No motion to bring this proposal to a vote was made.

4g. Proposal to change Article IV, Section 4.6, to not allow PHRF members registered only with CBYRA a vote on high point rules or class splits. This proposal is to prevent disenfranchising PHRF members who are both individual club and CBYRA members and their votes for PHRF class splits or rules for PHRF high point scoring or qualification. A motion was made and seconded that the following change to this section be accepted.

“Section 4.6 The Vice-Presidents of this Association shall represent and vote as Delegates for all yachts registered with Chesapeake Bay Yacht Racing Association as their club. ~~Their votes~~ ~~Vote~~ will be on the basis of ~~regional location~~ the region they represent, however, the votes for those sailboats that are only registered with Chesapeake Yacht Racing Association, and thereby, not meeting the High Point Rules, “SHALL NOT BE VOTED” on any provision affecting High Point (splits) or the requirements for High Point qualification. If a Vice President chair is vacant, the votes representing those regional registered sailboats listing Chesapeake Bay Yacht Racing Association as their club shall be voted by the President.”

After substantial discussion on this proposal the question was called, and the delegates voted to not approve this proposed change.

4h. Proposal to change Article V, Section 5.1 to allow executive committee to temporarily fill officer vacancies. This proposal allows for the “executive committee” to temporarily

fill vacancies in officer positions of PHRF of the Chesapeake, to reduce the need for special meetings of the Board of Delegates. A motion was made and seconded that the following change to this section be accepted.

“Section 5.1 The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall be elected from among the membership of the Association by the Board of Delegates at its annual meeting and shall serve without compensation for the ensuing Year, except that any officer may be removed by the Board of Delegates at anytime with or without cause. The immediate past President shall continue to serve as an officer of the Association until the term of the current president expires. Vacancies shall be temporarily filled by the Executive Committee and shall be permanently filled by the Board of Delegates either at the Annual Board of Delegates meeting or a Special Meeting called by the President. No person shall hold more than one office at the same time except that one person may hold the offices of Secretary and Treasurer.”

After some discussion on this proposal the question was called, and the delegates voted to approve this proposal as listed above.

4i. Proposal to change Article V, Section 5.2 to allow President to have tie-breaking vote. This proposal allows for the President of PHRF of the Chesapeake to have a single tie-breaking vote as an “at large” delegate. A motion was made and seconded that the following change to this section be accepted.

“Section 5.2 The President of the Association shall be selected from among them membership of the association and subject to the board of Delegates, shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association, shall preside at meetings of the Board of Delegates and shall have other duties as may be assigned to him by the Board of Delegates. The President shall be a Member-At-Large Delegate with one vote that shall only be used to break a tie vote of the Delegates. If the President is unable to continue in office, the Vice President from the same region shall assume the duties of the President until the Delegates elect a President.”

After discussion on this proposal the question was called, and the delegates voted to not approve this proposed change.

4j. Proposal to change Article V, Section 5.5 to make editorial change to identify the Treasurer. This proposal makes an editorial change to identify the Treasurer. A motion was made and seconded that the following change to this section be accepted.

“Section 5.5. The Treasurer of this Association may, but need not, be a member of the Board of Delegates. The Treasurer He, she shall have custody of the funds of the Association and shall be responsible for the receipt and disbursement of funds subject to the instructions of the Board of Delegates.”

The question was called, and the delegates voted to approve this proposal as listed above.

4k. Proposal to change Article V, Section 5.6 to have Past President as member of Executive Committee. This proposal would make the Past President chair of the nominating committee and a member of the “executive committee”. A motion was made and seconded that the following change to this section be accepted.

“Section 5.6. The immediate Past President shall continue to be a an advisory member to the Executive Committee and shall chair the Nominating Committee ~~of the while serving in this position in the Association.~~ If the immediate Past President does not continue as a member of the Association, this position shall be vacant until election of a new President of the Association. The

Past President shall assist new Officers in the transition into their new position, and may have other duties as assigned by the Board of Delegates or the President.”

There was some discussion concerning whether the Past President should chair the nominating committee, and an amendment was made, seconded, and approved to eliminate that from the proposal that will read “The immediate Past President shall continue to be a member of the Executive Committee”. The question was called on the amended proposal, and the delegates voted to approve the amended proposal.

4l. Proposal to add a new section, Article V, Section 5.7 to establish an Executive Committee.

This proposal would establish an “executive committee” that is responsible for day-to-day decisions affecting PHRF of the Chesapeake. This would reduce the need for special meetings of the Board of Delegates. A motion was made and seconded that the following section be added to the by-laws.

“Section 5.7 The day-to-day decisions affecting the PHRF of the Chesapeake shall lie with the Executive Committee, compose of the President, the two Vice Presidents, the Secretary/Treasurer and the Immediate Past President. Any and all such decisions must conform to the existing by-laws and be subject to approval or modification at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Delegates.”

After some discussion on this proposal the question was called, and the delegates voted to approve this addition as listed above.

4m. Proposal to change Article VI, Section 6.1 to allow chief handicappers to serve more than three year consecutively.

A motion was made and seconded that the following change to this section be accepted.

“Section 6.1 The President shall appoint two Chief Handicappers, to be approved by the Board of Delegates at the Annual Meeting: one from Region IV and one from the remaining regions as defined by CBYRA. If a Chief Handicapper chooses not to continue, he shall notify the President at least sixty days before the Annual Meeting. The Chief Handicappers may be Area Handicappers, but need not be. The duties of each Chief Handicapper shall be to preside at meetings of the Board of Handicappers and to make final decisions with respect to handicaps in case of irreconcilable conflict among the Board of Handicappers. A Chief Handicapper may not serve more than three consecutive yearly terms successively, unless specifically approved by the board of delegates.”

After brief discussion on this proposal the question was called, and the delegates voted to approve this proposal as listed above.

4n. Proposal to change Article VI, Section 6.2 to allow chief handicappers to assign replacement handicappers.

Presently the board of delegates must approve changes to the board of handicappers. This change would allow the chief handicappers to replace an individual who is no longer able to serve. A motion was made and seconded that the following change to this section be accepted.

“Section 6.2 The Chief Handicappers shall appoint such numbers of Area Handicappers as may in their judgment be appropriate to handicap members yachts, to be approved by the Board of Delegates at the Annual Meeting. Each, Area Handicapper so appointed shall be responsible for handicapping the yachts in a specific area assigned to him/her. The chief handicapper of either region will have the authority to assign replacement handicappers if an individual handicapper is no longer able to serve.”

After brief discussion on this proposal the question was called, and the delegates voted to approve this proposal as listed above.

4o. Proposal to change Article VI, Section 6.3 to allow handicapper board meetings in person, by mail, telephonically, or electronically. This proposal requires handicapper boards to meet periodically in person, by mail, telephonically, or electronically. A motion was made and seconded that the following change to this section be accepted. "Section 6.3 The Handicappers appointed pursuant to Sections 6.1 and 6.2 shall constitute a Board of Handicappers for Region IV and a Board of Handicappers for the remaining Regions and each shall meet periodically in person, by mail, telephonically, or electronically to establish or confirm handicaps for new yachts located within their Regions, to consider old handicaps previously granted. Establishment or change of handicaps shall be by majority vote. If the Board of Handicappers shall establish two different ratings for the same kind of boat, the two Chief Handicappers shall resolve the difference, and insure the final base rating falls in the normally prescribed rating differential."

After some discussion it was questions whether the delegates should tell the handicapper board how to meet, but agreed that the board must communicate to establish ratings.. An amendment was proposed to change "shall meet periodically in person, by mail, telephonically, or electronically to establish" to "periodically communicate to establish". This amendment to the proposal was approved and after further discussion, the question was called, and the delegates voted to approve the change as amended.

4p. Proposal to change Article VII, Section 7.1 to clarify submission of measurements. This proposal is to add the word "member" to clarify confusing wording in present section. A motion was made and seconded that the following change to this section be accepted. "Section 7.1 Handicaps shall be based primarily on the performance potential of yachts. A handicap assigned to a yacht of a type not previously rated may be based on any data or formula the Area Handicapper deems appropriate, including the measurements of the yacht as submitted by the member yacht or of comparable yachts. Base handicaps shall be in three-second increments."

Some clarification of the change was required, and after consideration of the reasoning for the change, a proposed amendment was approved as follows "... as submitted by the applicant, or of comparable yachts." After further discussion, the question was called, and the delegates voted to approve the change as amended.

4q. Proposed to change Article VII, Section 7.2 to specify telephonic or electronic agreements be used by the board of handicappers. This proposal specifies that the handicappers could assign new class ratings through agreement via the telephone or electronically (email). The methods of how handicappers would make decisions was discussed and resolved during the proposal for section 6.3 earlier in this meeting. No motion to bring this proposal to a vote was made.

4r. Proposal to delete Article VII, Section 7.6. At the 2002 Annual Board of Delegates meeting, it was approved that "Guest" rating be removed from our fleet policies; however, no proposal was made to eliminate "Guest" ratings from our by-laws. This

proposal is to delete article VII, section 7.6 from our by-laws and re-number section 7.7 to be 7.6. A motion was made and seconded that section 7.6 (Guest Ratings) be deleted. The motion was approved by the delegates.

4s. Proposed to change Article VII, Section 7.7 to replace "Officers" with "Executive Committee". This proposal addresses the "executive committee" as proposed and approved for section 5.7 earlier in the meeting. A motion was made and seconded that "Executive Committee" replace "Officers" in the sixth sentence of section 7.7 of the by-laws. The motion was approved by the delegates.

4t. Proposal to add new Article VII, Section 7.8 to allow membership without an application for a valid certificate. This proposal would allow for membership without a requirement of an application for a valid certificate. This is same issue as was discussed earlier in the meeting with respect to change for section 3.1 of the by-laws. That proposal was defeated, therefore no motion to bring this proposal to a vote was made.

4u. Proposal to add new Article VII, Section 7.9 to specify how special event ratings would be approved by the board of handicappers. This proposal would establish procedures for final approval of special event ratings either in person, telephonically, or electronically. The methods of how handicappers would make decisions was discussed and resolved during the proposal for section 6.3 earlier in this meeting. No motion to bring this proposal to a vote was made.

4v. Proposal to change Article VIII, Section 8.3 to clarify wording. This proposal addresses editorial changes to paragraph "c" of this section. A motion was made and seconded that the following change to this section be accepted. "Section 8.3 A yacht shall be considered to have a Valid PHRF rating when:

- She has been issued a current Valid Rating Certificate from PHRF of the Chesapeake, and
- She is listed on the most recent Valid List (excluding yachts in their first 31 days), and
- Her measurements and construction features are the same as those listed on ~~here the~~ application for certificate of rating and she carries onboard all items on the Safety Requirement-Minimum Standards and Accommodations Standards lists.

A yacht's rating shall be declared invalid during any period of time when any of the above conditions are not met."

After brief discussion on this proposal the question was called, and the delegates voted to approve this proposal as listed above.

4w. Proposal to change Article IX, Section 9.2 to have Past President chair the nominating committee. This proposal addresses the Past President proposal to chair the nominating committee. This issue was discussed during proposal for section 5.6, where chairing the committee was deleted from the duties of the past president by the delegates. No motion to bring this proposal to a vote was made.

4x. Proposal to change Article X, Section 10.1 to clarify delinquency date for dues. This proposal addresses editorial changes to this section. A motion was made and seconded that the following change to this section be accepted. "Section 10.1 Annual dues by members shall be fixed by Rule adopted by the Board of Delegates and shall be due January

1, and shall be delinquent April 1. Renewals received April 1, or after must pay the same dues as a new application.”

After brief discussion on this proposal the question was called, and the delegates voted to approve this proposal as listed above.

5. Bow pulpits, stern pulpits and lifelines standards. There has been some safety questions and concerns with respect to some boats meeting the requirements of paragraph 6.62.1 of our Minimum Equipment and Accommodations Standards. A number of boats are built with bow pulpits that make not exactly meet this requirement. It was proposed that the following paragraph be added to the Minimum Equipment and Accommodations Standards beginning in 2004.

“6.62.4 Sailboats raced “as built” without any modifications to bow pulpits, stern pulpits, or lifelines shall be exempted from section 6.62.1”

After discussion on this proposal, the delegates approved this addition to the Minimum Equipment and Accommodations Standards.

6. One-Design Ratings for PHRF boats. In 1996, the board of delegates affirmed that the board of handicappers may assign One Design Ratings (ODR) for some one design boats as acceptable to the board of handicappers. The “Classes” section of our fleet policies addressed this without listing specific guidance. The lack of publication of ODR guidance as approved in 1996 has lead to some confusion with respect to cases where PHRF and ODR may be in conflict (e.g., crew limits, sheeting of sails, and sail limitations). To address this oversight and to clarify our rules with for boats that race under a PHRF ODR certificate, the information below will be added to our PHRF Fleet Policies, in the “Equipment” section. This information was discussed and approved to replace the information and guidance approved in 1996. The intent of this information is that when PHRF of the Chesapeake issues a PHRF ODR certificate, the boat will agree to race under the OD rules established by the class organization, including sail and crew limitations. The wording added to the “Equipment” section will be as follows:

“All sailboats receiving a PHRF certificate shall meet the Minimum Equipment and Accommodations Standards of PHRF of the Chesapeake. All sailboats designated as ODR shall meet the Minimum Equipment and Accommodations Standards of PHRF of the Chesapeake, and shall meet all National One Design Class rules specific to their class. If the One Design class rules conflict with the Minimum Equipment and Accommodations Standards of PHRF of the Chesapeake, the National One Design class rule shall only govern in regard to sails and their attachment to the boat and crew limits.”

7. Changing boats ratings more than once per year. Our Fleet Policies, section “Handicap Ratings” provide for a change of rating only once per year for choosing a difference headsail. This presents some issues for Frostbite racers, who may change to a rating without spinnaker penalties (for non-spinnaker frostbite races) in the Fall. As the current valid certificates expire on 31 December each year, when the rating is renewed at the beginning of the following year, it would be as raced in the “frostbite” configuration. This would require a change back to the regular spinnaker configuration after the frostbite season. That uses up the boat’s one change for the year, strictly speaking. A proposal was made to allow not more than two changes per year to address this concern. For other boats that may not do frostbite races, the proposal would not restrict a boat from making a change during July and another during September. This proposal was not brought to a motion. A different approach to displaying the

expiration date on the valid certificate was proposed that would address the same concern. It was proposed that the current expiration date of 31 December on the valid certificates be changed to 31 March. This would allow boats doing frostbite races to make a change in the late Fall that would be effective throughout the frostbite season. A motion was proposed and seconded, and then approved by the delegates to change the expiration date on valid certificates to 31 March of the year following the rating assignment in the “How Ratings are Used” section of the PHRF Fleet Policies. Renewals for all current year ratings will continue to be mailed out in early January, and will be due not later 1 April, as specified in section 10.1 of our by-laws.

8. 2004 Officer Elections. The following slate of officers was proposed as nominations for 2004. The delegates approved the following PHRF slate of officers for 2004.

President	Jerry Smernoff
VP – Regions I, II, III	Rob Mairs
VP – Region IV	Randy Pugh
Sec’y/Treas.	Bob Thomas

9. 2004 Appointments. Jerry Smernoff appointed Bruce Bingman as Chief Handicapper for Northern Bay, and Rusty Burshell, as Chief Handicapper for Southern Bay. Jerry Smernoff will continue as the PHRF delegate to CBYRA, and appointed Bruce Bingman to continue as representative to the National PHRF committee of US Sailing. He appointed Stew Buckler to continue as Executive Secretary. Betty Robinson will be the Assistant Treasurer. The 2003 board of handicappers for regions IV was proposed for 2004 and approved by the delegates. Rod Jabin will be an addition to the region I-III board of handicappers and the other handicappers will continue with some realignment of clubs for 2004. The delegates voted to approve these changes also.

10. Adjournment. A motion was brought, seconded, and passed that the meeting be adjourned, and we concluded business at approximately 1540 hours.