

To: WFPHRF Board of Directors

From: Jeff Russo

Date: September 18, 2008

Re: Recommendations for Class Rule changes and creation of Guidelines to Regatta Organizers

Recommendations for Class Rule changes

- 1) Remove section 3.0 currently titled **GUIDELINES FOR REGATTA ORGANIZERS** from Appendix E **CRUISING CLASS RACING**
- 2) Remove section 4. Currently titled **GUIDELINES FOR REGATTA ORGANIZERS** from Appendix **F RACER/CRUISER CLASS**
- 3) Remove section 4.0 **SIGNIFICANT INCLUSIONS** from Appendix H **BOAT OF THE YEAR SERIES**

The recommendation is to create a new distinct document which will supplement the Regatta Organizers Agreement and will support Appendix H Boat of the Year Series of the class rules. We will require Regatta Organizers to sign this supplement as part of the registration process for hosting a Boat of the Year event and WFPHRF will periodically distribute this document by email to race organizers as a reminder prior to BOTY events.

Below is a copy of the document.

Guidelines to Regatta Organizers

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide general guidelines to Regatta Organizers who host races that are part of the WFPHRF "Boat of the Year" BOTY series. WFPHRF is committed to provide regatta organizers assistance in running a high level event and continue to promote sailboat racing in West Florida. Event organizers are encouraged to follow the guidelines for all events.

Notice of Race

To maintain a level of consistency among the WFPHRF Boat of the Year Series events, WFPHRF requests Regatta Organizers include the WFPHRF Class Rules as part of the every "Notice of Race".

To encourage maximum participation, WFPHRF requests the regatta "Notice of Race" (NOR) be posted by the Organizing Authority (OA) on their website well in advance of the date of the event. In concert, WFPHRF, will publish a link to the

NOR and entry on the <http://www.westfloridaphrf.org> web site to provide our fleets with easily accessible regatta information.

To best define the classes being offered, the Regatta Organizer should ensure the published Notice of Race clearly indicates the classes being offered and the steps that will be taken in the event there are insufficient entries to form a class. Suggested text in the NOR may be “In the event that there are insufficient entries for the Cruising Class, accepted entries will compete in the Non-spinnaker Class.”

WFPHRF Certification

A boat may not participate in, or be scored in any WFPHRF race unless a current valid WFPHRF Rating Certificate has been issued for that boat. It is the responsibility of the WFPHRF registered certificate owner to renew annually on or before the expiration date. Only the WFPHRF member(s) shown on the WFPHRF Rating Certificate (or designated representative) may enter the boat in WFPHRF races.

Regatta Organizers can accept registration for a regatta without a valid WFPHRF Rating Certificate provided that the boat's Certificate is renewed prior to the start of the skippers meeting if:

- 1) A WFPHRF Board Member is present at the skippers meeting and able to process renewals. Renewals cannot be processed by anyone other than a current WHPHRF Board Member.
- 2) Only an expired Certificate previously issued for a boat and existing in the WFPHRF database can be renewed.
- 3) It can be renewed only at the rating in the database. No rating changes can be processed.
- 4) The rating to be used in the WFPHRF race is the rating shown on the WFPHRF Rating Certificate in effect on the day of the WFPHRF race. If renewed per 1 above, the WFPHRF Board member must confirm the renewal.
- 5) Only the existing owner of the WFPHRF Certificate can request renewal at the skipper meeting and must pay by check.
- 6) Race organizers have the final decision whether to refund a registration fee if a valid WFPHRF Certificate is not presented or WHPHRF Board Member does not process a renewal.
- 7) If the regatta includes Reverse starts, late renewals may not be practical due to difficulty in revising start times.
- 8) The PRO should advise the cut off date to accept late renewals and whether a WFPHRF Board member will be present before the skippers meeting.

Class Considerations

Outlined below are a series of guidelines unique to each class for the Regatta Organizer to consider in the NOR, Sailing Instruction and course set-up.

Spinnaker Class

- The Windward/Leeward Rating is assigned to windward/leeward courses with no reaching legs.
- The windward leg is no longer than five (5) nautical miles.
- The windward & leeward marks are capable of being moved to maintain a true windward/leeward course.

Cruising Class

- Host yacht clubs and race organizers are strongly encouraged to create divisions within the Cruising Class by boat displacement, and sailing characteristics, and not by WFPHRF Rating.
- Cruising Courses can be distinct from the other classes and should be of a distance to allow racing to be completed at approximately the same time as other classes.
- For “closed course” races, usually consisting of a marked, triangular, timed course, equal emphasis should be placed on all points of sail. Windward-Leeward races are not appropriate for the Cruising Class.
- The published Notice of Race shall indicate that a Cruising classes are being offered. They shall also indicate that “In the event that there are insufficient entries for a Pocket Cruiser and True Cruiser Class they will sail together in one Class. Should there be insufficient number of Pocket and True Cruisers, the entries will compete in the Non-spinnaker Class.
- In such circumstances the Cruising Boat will be scored using its Cruising rating including all adjustments.
- If cruising spinnakers are permitted in the NOR, a specific deadline for declaration must be included in the NOR. It should be allowed up to the start of the skippers meeting.
- Where possible information as to where the race will be sailed, the type of start and the kind of course added to this section should be included in the NOR.

Racer/Cruiser Class

- The Regatta Organizers should contact the Racer Cruiser Class Organizer for assistance in course selection
- Minimum length of a leg is 3nm unless there is a compelling safety or navigation reason.
- There shall be scheduled at least one race per day of not less than 10 N.M.
- Except for Point-to-Point races:
 - No race shall be started with a wind speed of less than 5 knots

- Courses should attempt be designed to contain an equal mix of beating, reaching and running.

Special Considerations

Significant issues include, but are not limited to:

- Regatta Organizers should provide starts for all classes listed in the BOTY Notice of Series.
 - If pre-registration does not support a class, it is suggested that trophies for that class not be purchased prior to the event.
 - If the entrants for a class do not warrant a separate start, consider including those boats in the most reasonable start and scoring them separately.
 - If there are a small number of Sport boats and you are running Windward/Leeward courses it is reasonable to start and score them with the appropriate Spinnaker Division. If RLC courses are planned or it is anticipated that there will be more than 12 knots of wind then it is not appropriate to consolidate these boats for scoring purposes.
- Regatta Organizers must use the 3-tier rating system as detailed in the Class Rules.
- Regatta Organizers should be aware that WFPHRF does not waive the MIR Rule for the BOTY Series. If you choose to do so, you may be creating a situation that will create perception of unfairness in your event.
- If at all possible, Regatta Organizers should use US Sailing Certified Race Officers & Judges.
- Regatta Organizers must provide timely transmission of detailed race results of at least correct time scoring to WFPHRF.

The Organizer agrees to abide as closely as possible to these guidelines for their event to be scored in a WFPHRF Sponsored Charlotte Harbor, Sarasota Bay, Southwest Florida, Caloosahatchee or Suncoast PHRF Boat of the Year Series.

The Organizing Authority for this event is: _____

(Please print) Name & Title of the Club Officer responsible for the running event

(Signature)

_____/_____/_____
(Date)