

Dear PHRF Member:

New for 2005:

- We have modified our cost structure for this year as follows – we held the line on costs! There are no increases over last year.
- We have added a new field on the application. There is a field for an e-mail address. It is our hope that we can save on postage if we are able to use the internet more frequently to communicate.

Not new for 2005, but some other comments:

- PHRF-NB is not a policing body. If there are questions whether or not a boat is racing in its rated configuration, the appropriate method of calling this to the attention of the race committee is to file a valid protest against that boat. If requested by the protest committee, PHRF-NB will provide information as to our expectations and assumptions when the rating was determined.
- Sport boats – We provide ratings for sport boats; however, with a single rating system such as we employ, sport boats will do extremely well in certain conditions (e.g. reaching) and not well in others. Therefore we urge race committees to separate sport boats into their own class whenever feasible. We also urge races to discuss this with their race committees. PHRF-NB will be happy to provide guidance to race committees as to what we consider sport boats.
- **Cruising headsail credit issues. Please read the guidelines carefully. Note: if you elect for this credit and apply for another rating in another PHRF area, IMS, IRC, and/or Americap, you are expected to use the same sail inventory configuration that you received the credit for on your PHRF-NB certificate.** You should not take this credit if you intend to obtain a non-PHRF-NB rating with the intention of using a different sail inventory that does not meet the Cruising Headsail Credit criteria. If in doubt call the office first.
- PHRF-NB does not make any judgments, nor do we exclude any type of boat due to safety or its design. It is up to your race committee to limit your regattas to certain types of boats, for example requiring boats to be 20 feet or longer, imposing lifeline requirements, etc.
- PHRF-NB does not impose a specific rule on crew weight limits – it is up to your race committee to impose a weight limit rule if it is desired for a particular regatta. If it is desired we will recommend or provide to your race committee a suggested crew weight rule.

Renewals: As in previous years, your 2005 certificate is pre-filled in. Please review for corrections or any changes. Remember, it is your responsibility to ensure that the application is correct.

New Certificates: Please read the application instructions carefully when filling out your application. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call the office.

Application Fees: \$30 for renewal, \$35 for new certificates. To ease/reduce the cost for sailors who also race in NE or Long Island Sound, a new application that is accompanied by a valid NE or LI PHRF certificate will be charged at the renewal rate.

PHRF-NB as related to other organizations: We often encounter confusion with the relations of PHRF-NB to other organizations. PHRF-NB, with approximately 700 boats rated per year, is one of the larger PHRF fleets in the United States. We are independent of NBYA, and of the NE and Long Island PHRF organizations. This independence is typical throughout the country, and we believe has led to a rating organization and approach that, while far from perfect, has lasted and allowed all types of sailing innovation and creativity.

Other Documentation: Minutes of the meetings, updated Principles of PHRF of Narragansett Bay, bylaws, rating procedures, notes to appellants, standard adjustment guidelines, and ratings and associated adjustments for rated yachts are available on the web site. If you do not have access to the Internet, please contact the office for copies of these documents.

Web Site: PHRF-NB's web presence is at www.phrf-nb.org.

If you have any questions, please contact Pat Beausoleil, our administrator, at 401 253 0207, fax at 401 254 1495 or by email at phrfadmin@phrf-nb.org.

Have a fun and safe season! See you on the Bay!

Sincerely,

Your PHRF-NB Rating Committee