

PHRF-NB
P.O. Box 73
Bristol, RI 02809-0073

March 3, 2006

Dear PHRF-NB member:

Enclosed is your 2006 PHRF Narragansett Bay renewal package. The next page explains the changes made to this year's form. We strive to keep the form as simple as possible. Having as much information about your boat as reasonably possible helps us to obtain a fair rating for your boat. Each year, the committee reviews the form to determine what information is useful and what should be eliminated. Feel free to contact the office either by phone, fax, or e-mail, for any questions you have. If Pat is unable to answer your question, she will pass it on to a committee member or technical committee.

We are very pleased to announce that this year the New York Yacht Club will be using PHRF-NB ratings for PHRF classes for their Annual Regatta and Race Week at Newport. Here is their regatta info for PHRF racing this summer:

Annual Regatta (PHRF-NB rating of 91-135)

There are two separate events available:

June 9 - Around the Island Race (no entry fee for this race)

June 10-11 - Two-day series

NYYC Race Week at Newport (PHRF-NB rating up to 135)

There are three separate events available:

July 15-18 - Handicap Series (top PHRF boat to be awarded a Rolex)

July 19 - Around the Island Race (no entry fee for this race)

July 20-23 - One-Design Series (if some of the PHRF boats are also in one-design classes that are competing)

Their goal is to run three to four races a day, conditions permitting. Regatta Information is (or will) be available at www.nyyc.org under Yacht Racing.

The 2006 racing season is shaping up to be really exciting, with a variety of events that is sure to offer something for everyone. There are plenty of club, NBYA, shorthanded, weeklong and weekend events to choose from. We hope to see you all on the water!

Sincerely,

Michael H. Koster

Commodore, PHRF-NB

New for 2006:

- We have added three new check boxes to the Boat Measurements section to help clarify the boat's configuration to us. Check all that apply.
 - Composite Rigging – check if using composite rigging.
 - Symmetric Spinnaker(s) – check if using symmetric spinnakers
 - Asymmetric Spinnaker(s) – check if using asymmetric spinnakers
- We have added a new section labeled "Asymmetric Spinnaker Tacked To:". This section was added to help clarify implementation of asymmetric spinnakers to us to better evaluate potential rating impacts. Again, check all that apply. The following check boxes/fields were added.
 - Tacked to "Articulating Pole at Mast"
 - Tacked to "Fixed Pole To Mast and Bow"
 - Tacked to "Bow"
 - "Distance Fwd of Headstay"
 - Tacked to "Retractable Bow Sprit"

- Tacked to "Fixed Bow Sprit"
- Tacked to "Articulating Bow Sprit"
- We have changed how Asymmetric spinnakers are reported. In previous years, asymmetric spinnakers were reported with sail area. We have found that Spinnaker Mid Girth (SMG) gives us much better input.
- We have tightened the definition of Cruising Headsail Credit which (6 second credit) to further align it with the intent of this credit which is to get the cruiser out on the race course. This credit still has all the previous requirements but added to those is sail material. We now require the headsail to be a woven polyester material (no exotic sail materials such as pentax, mylar, kevlar, spectra, technora, etc.) to get the 6 second credit, otherwise the 3 second credit will apply. We also made it clear that the UV cover has to be a material attached to the sail and not a cover that is hoisted up over the furled sail after sailing.
- All the above is covered in the instructions

Not new for 2006, 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 2006 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