

GYA Youth Committee Jr. Board Handbook

Overview/Introduction

Mission Statement

1. To provide a central committee to support the actions and progress of the junior sailors in the GYA that, by working with the other sanctioned committees of the GYA, will continue to promote and propagate the growth and quality of junior sailing in the GYA.
2. To provide council and guidance to the Junior Bridge of the GYA Youth Committee.
3. To provide educational programs that support the junior sailors and their clubs in the GYA in all aspects of water safety and training; sail, power boating, nautical rules and weather, race management and leadership.

Selection Process

Positions will be filled at the discretion of the Youth Chairman.

Positions & Roles

Commodore

The Commodore will preside at all Junior Bridge meetings and Junior Committee meetings, and conduct monthly Bridge meetings, by e-mail, e-conference, or at regattas, to maintain contact with and provide encouragement to the Bridge officers and junior sailors in the conduct of their individual responsibilities.

The Commodore will be directly assisted by the Junior Advisor and can call on any of the adult committee members for advise, assistance, or support.

The Commodore will assist with e-Sail articles and general e-notices for junior members.

Vice Commodore

The Vice Commodore will assist the Commodore as needed, preside at meetings in the absence of the Commodore and become acting Commodore in the event of vacancy in that office.

Rear Commodore

The Rear Commodore will, with the assistance of advisers, promote events specific to junior sailors and be responsible for encouraging wider participation in major GYA regattas. This is including, but not limited to, facebook event production and recaps for the e-Sail.

Secretary/Treasurer

The Secretary/Treasurer will be responsible for a record of any Junior Bridge meeting decisions provide an annual report of junior activities at the Winter meeting.

GYA Youth Committee Jr. Board Code of Ethics

The Code

- Treat other persons and their property as you know they should be treated, and as you wish them to treat you and your property.
- Regard the racing rules as agreements, the spirit or letter of which you should not evade or break.
- Be gracious in victory and defeat.
- Be cooperative and respectful. Your actions on and off the water reflect on you and your sailing organization.

Guidelines

- Know and abide by the racing rules, using the protest process when necessary.
- Obey event regulations, on and off the water.
- Be organized, be prepared, and be responsible for your own equipment.
- Help and encourage others; cooperate with and assist others.
- Be polite on and off the water to race officials and other sailors. Thank the Race Committees and other members of the host club.

Enforcement

- Junior sailors who “swear at, intimidate, or harass anyone, including teammates, on or off the water” may be protested under Fundamental Rule 2 of The Racing Rules of Sailing, or disciplined by the regatta committee.
- Junior sailors who “steal or borrow”, without permission, anything that does not belong to them, may be disciplined by the regatta committee, expelled from the regatta by the regatta committee, or brought to the attention of the local police.
- Junior sailors who “use controlled substances” may be disciplined by the regatta committee, expelled from the regatta by the regatta committee, or brought to the attention of the local police.

Advisors Tips:

How to approach the Jr. Board & Bridge:

It has to fun for the kids to want to invest their free time into something they do not see immediate satisfaction. So, it helps to set short term goals that will ultimately work towards their long term goals. Be sure to find a job for every kid involved. If they do not have a part in the and just sit and watch they will lose interest, create jobs if necessary. Explain the goals and events set for the year. Social Events are just as important as sailing, Christmas, Valentines, Halloween, etc... are great. Kids like to make money, T-Shirts are a good way raise funds. It is important to have a document that explains all of your Yacht Clubs Junior Boards Mission Statement, Goals, and Job descriptions.

How to make/change something at your club:

If you have an idea that will improve your club and it's members you must form a plan. Complaining about something is not going to fix the issues. First gather other members that feel the same about the idea and figure what steps will need to be taken. Clubs are member driven and it usually takes a little longer to get things done. Be patient & persistent whiling being respectful.

At the meeting;

1. Who is the change going to effect? List and evaluate the good and bad.
2. Know what "Rules and/or By-Laws" will need to be changed if any. Produce Recommend changes.
3. How are Rules and By-Laws changed? Some clubs the Board can change the Rules yet, the By-Laws can only be changed by Member Vote.
4. Produce Business Plan: Explain each step in the process and how it is going to benefit your club.

How to lead without being in the lead;

Stay positive! Negativity is contagious and will tear apart a good thing. A chain is as only as string as its weakest link. Be sure to involve all that want to be involved. Do not be afraid to ask someone to help. Kids do like to learn new things. Teach and give them a task that will test their skills but not to advanced or dangerous.

How to set up a clinic & why;

Clinics are a great way to get new faces and keep the momentum going. If you would like to host a clinic at your club there are some few thing you will need to do: Gather names and contact info of potential participants. See what dates & times will work the best with multiple options. Find a coach through your club, US Sailing, or other GYA Clubs. Once date is set make sure to important info needed. Date, Time, Location, Coaches, Cost, Equipment Needed, etc...

How to get experienced sailors to teach skills;

Kids look up to the older sailors and will replicate their actions. Explain to the older sailors that they were once on the receiving end and need to be good role models & teachers of our sport. Set up activities that will let the older ones show off their skills while teaching the younger ones

GYA Youth Committee Webpage

The GYA is has a lot to offer to its sailors. It's the committee's goal to promote all types sailing. We encourage sailors to travel and participate in US Sailing, Regional and Class regattas across the globe.

GYA Racing Schedule - GYA Fixed Schedule

Cool Stuff:

[Kattack Tracking for Capdevielle](#)

[GYA Facebook Page](#)

[GYC Learn to Sail Page](#)

[GYA Yacht Clubs](#)

Scholastic sailing

[College Sailing](#)

[Local High School Sailing](#)

[National High School Sailing](#)

Local Sailmakers

Ullman Sails Gulf Coast – (985) 626-5638

North Sails New Orleans – (504) 831-1775

Schurr Sail Pensacola – (850) 438-9354

Important Documents

[GYA Directory](#) – GYA regulations, Rules, & Contacts

[GYA Youth Committee Jr. Board Handbook](#)

[Racing Rules of Sailing](#)

[Judges Case Book](#)

[Team Racing Call Book](#)

US Sailing Championships

[Chubb U.S. Junior Championships](#)

[U.S. Singlehanded Championships](#)

[U.S. Match Racing Championship](#)

[U.S. Multihull Championship](#)

[U.S. Men's & Women's Championships](#)

[U.S. Women's Match Racing Championship](#)

[U.S. Offshore Championship](#)

[U.S. Team Racing Championship](#)

[U.S. Youth Championship](#)

[U.S. Youth Multihull Championship](#)

[Championship of Champions](#)

[U.S. Junior Women's Singlehanded Championship](#)

[U.S. Disabled Championship](#)

[Rolex International Women's Keelboat Championship](#)

[U.S. Junior Women's Doublehanded Championship](#)

Area-D Information

The GYA is one of four Yachting Associations that make up Area D

US Sailing Area D - www.ussailing.net/aread/

GYA - Gulf Yachting Association - www.gya.org

FSA - Florida Sailing Association - www.floridasailingassociation.org/

DIYRA - Dixie Inland Yacht Racing Association - www.diyra.org

SARYA - South Atlantic Yacht Racing Association - www.sayra-sailing.com/

Read the [Area-D Memorandum of Agreement](#). It explains how we all get along and shows the regattas rotations.

US Sailing Instructor information

All sailing instructors age 16 and older are encouraged to be [US Sailing Level 1 Certified](#).

Register for the classes using the [Training Course Calendar](#). Get all of the instructor information from the [US Sailing Small Boat Training Page](#). If you club would like to host a class please contact smallboat@ussailing.net

2012 GYA YOUTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN

Samson Vasquez (GYC/PontYC)

(228) 323-1336 – sam@gulfportyachtclub.org

MEMBERS

Cal Herman (SYC) LA

Leslie Higgins (SYC) LA

Holly Murray (LBYC) MS

Clinton Edwards (BWYC) MS

Nancy Fitzpatrick (FYC) AL

Alicia Lucas (FYC) AL

Morgan Hurst (StABYC) FL

George Goodall (FWYC)

US SAILING Regional Training Coordinator

Karen Reisch (SYC/PontYC)

US SAILING Championships Committee Chair

J. C. "Chris" Luppens (MYC)

US SAILING Race Management Committee Rep

All Contact info is in the [GYA Directory](#)