

## **GYA PHRF RATING COMMITTEE REPORT SEPTEMBER 2, 2023**

Current PHRF and ORA-1 certificates number 434. All PHRF members have a valid ORA-1 certificate that can be viewed at: [https://www.regattaman.com/certificate\\_page.php](https://www.regattaman.com/certificate_page.php).

GYA Clubs have access to scoring systems that have PHRF, ORA-1 and ORRez ratings. The NextSailor scoring system is provided at no cost (through 2024) to GYA clubs during the transition to VPP (Velocity Prediction Program) scoring. Race Committee Scorers should contact Kevin Blank (FWYC) at [crew@nextsailor.com](mailto:crew@nextsailor.com)

The Offshore Racing Association (ORA) has notified the GYA that they will not support the GYA ORA-1 PHRF Rating system after 2024. ORA claims that they have “lost their shirt” and want all ORA-1 certificate holders to renew their ORA-1 certificates as ORRez in 2025. This makes sense on one level as approximately 25% of all ORA-1 members currently have ORRez certificates and this is an opportunity to unite the entire GYA under one rating system (as we were for years under PHRF). ORRez certificates are more expensive and must be renewed each year. Orrez pricing structure and certificates can be viewed at: <https://www.regattaman.com/>

Please note that the legacy PHRF certificates will not be renewed after 2024. Until then, PHRF reports and updates, as well as the Directory of Handicappers, By-Laws, and listing of all current PHRF and ORA-1 certificates, boat types, and ratings, can be found on the PHRF web site “GYA.org” (click on PHRF) or “GYA-PHRF.com”. The web site has an excel spreadsheet of all the certificate data (excluding address, phone numbers and email address) for each yacht.

Please email [gya.phrf@gmail.com](mailto:gya.phrf@gmail.com) to request PHRF Mailing list on Gum Labels or send a copy of your regatta flyer, NOR, SIs, etc. to be emailed (bcc) to the fleet. This is a great way to provide information on your regattas to GYA sailors.

My tenure as PHRF Chairman has been quite rewarding based on the tremendous support I have had from the GYA Commodores, executive committees, Offshore Councils, PHRF Area Handicappers and Assistant Handicappers, the GYA Board of Directors and the support of our GYA sailors over the years.

I have given my notice of retirement as Chairman of the GYA PHRF Rating Committee to Scott Sonnier, Chairman of the GYA Offshore Council. I will remain as Chairman until the Offshore Council recommends my replacement to the GYA Commodore. The GYA Commodore will then make the appointment for my replacement. After my replacement is announced, I will continue to support the new Chairman through the transition period to the VPP based ratings.

Kevin Blank (FWYC) was appointed as the new Chairman, GYA PHRF Rating Committee, by GYA Commodore Robbie Schmidt, as recommended by Scott Sonnier, GYA Chairman Offshore Council. Contact Kevin at: [kblank@gmail.com](mailto:kblank@gmail.com). I will continue to assist Kevin through 2025.

Tom Beery