



**Gulf Yachting Association Winter Meeting
Sunday, January 15, 2023
Southern Yacht Club**

Call to Order – 10:30 hours by Commodore Gary Rogers.

Executive Committee & Other members present: Commodore Gary Rogers (Jackson YC), Vice Commodore Robbie Schmidt (Southern YC), Rear Commodore Randy Fitzpatrick-Wainwright (FYC), Immediate-Past Commodore Jimmy Ruthven (StABYC), Secretary-Treasurer, Jennifer Schmidt (SYC) and Alan McMillan (Pensacola YC) filling in for Parliamentarian Cary Trapani (BWYC).

Roll Call – 20 Clubs were present: BWYC, BucYC, FYC, FWYC, GLYC, GMSC, GYC, JYC, LFYC, NYCP, NOYC, OSYC, PCYC, PYC, PBYC, PontYC, SRYC, SYC, StABYC AND TYC.

Past Commodore Jimmy Ruthven lead the assembly with the Pledge of Allegiance. Past Commodore John Matthews gave the prayer and recognized the following deceased Commodores and sailing friends: 1979 Past GYA Commodore Michael S. Johnson (FWYC), Patricia Breslin (BYC), Doug Buffalo (GMSC), Jim Patterson (MYC), Vince LoPresti (FYC), Paul Ring (GYC), Wes Stapleton (FYC), Chuck Power (OSYC), Skip Hartford (PYC), Ed Ray (PYC), Page Lee (PYC) Sandra Leshar (PYC), Cameron Smith (PYC), Neil McMillan (PYC), John Levert (SYC) and Lee Corona (PYC/PontYC).

Commodore Gary Rogers introduced all the Ex-Com members & other members as listed above. He recognized SYC Commodore Duff Friend and thanked him for hosting the 2023 GYA Winter Meeting. Commodore Friend thanked everyone for coming to the meeting, he is looking forward to lots of great sailing along the Gulf Coast over the next year and visiting all the GYA clubs during their events.

GYA Past Commodores Recognized- Jimmy Ruthven (StABYC), John Matthews (PYC/NYCP), David Bolyard (PontYC), Larry Taggart (SYC), Corky Potts (SYC), Basil Kennedy (BWYC), Harry Chapman (BWYC), Shan Kirk (SYC), Catherine Cromartie (FYC), Danny Killeen (PCYC, Tom Beery (SRYC).

Conduct of the Meeting – Parliamentarian Alan McMillan - We honor Robert's Rules of order. Anyone may make a motion, take part in discussion once recognized. Seated club commodores or their representatives are the only voting members of the GYA Board. Reports are limited to five minutes, comments to three minutes. No one may speak until recognized by the chair. He reminded those that once you speak on a subject, you will be allowed to speak once more after everyone has spoken on the subject, please keep all comments directly to the chair.

Minutes – Past Commodore John Matthews (PYC/NYCY) made a motion, seconded by Past Commodore Cathy Cromartie (FYC) to waive the reading of the minutes from September 3, 2022 Semi-Annual meeting hosted at Bay Waveland YC and to accept as published, unanimously approved.

Financial Report- Secretary-Treasurer- Jennifer Schmidt Reported as of December 31, 2022, GYA account balances are: Invest I (Trophy) \$30,463.54, Invest II (GYA) account \$25,910.60, checking account \$22,169.02, total of all accounts \$78,543.16. There will be \$2,500.00 contributed to the GYA Trophy self-insurance account for 2023.

Executive Committee – Commodore Rogers, no report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Racing Regulations – Richard Boo Heausler (BWYC) thanked his committee: Dave Bolyard, John Matthews and Michael G. Hage. He asked if you have any questions in regards to GYA sailing regulations to reach out to him or any committee member to be addressed. The committee met and have worked directly with Capdevielle Committee and Offshore Council to propose several rules, all were included with the notice of meeting, attached to minutes.

Commodore Bill Allen (JYC) made a motion, seconded by Commodore Tommy Heausler (BWYC) to approve to eliminate item 6 c to not require a 5 lb anchor for Vipers, this will conform to Viper Class rules, unanimously approved.

Commodore Sandy Pyle (NYC) made a motion, seconded by Mark Fuller (StABYC) to approve the increase number of races scheduled for the Sir Thomas Lipton Challenge from 4 races to 5 races, affecting regulations 14.1 and 19.5 e, unanimously approved.

Commodore David Chandler (PYC) made a motion, seconded by Linda Thompson (PBYC) to approve rotating hosting the Sir Thomas Lipton Challenge in 2024. The Host club shall be awarded to the highest placing club, in the prior event, from each state of Florida (2024), Alabama (2025), Mississippi (2026), and Louisiana (2027) on a rotational basis travelling from East to West. If the proposed host club is not eligible to host, that club may offer hosting the current year to another GYA club, however, no club shall host in consecutive years. Said offers shall be made to clubs in the order of previous year next-highest finisher(s) beyond a three (3) mile radius of the ineligible club. Any such awarding of an alternate host shall only be with EXCOM approval prior to the next Annual Meeting. Unanimously approved. (Affects rule 19.1 a).

Commodore Tommy Heausler (BWYC) made a motion, seconded by Marc Buller (FWYC) to approve change to rule 19.2 to only require the top 5 clubs from the prior event or a boat in its first year of Capdevielle sailing be measured in for prior to sailing the first race, motion approved.

Commodore Dave Bolyard (PontYC/TYC) motioned, seconded by PC Cathy Cromartie (FYC) to approve changing regulation 39 a and b to reflect using the PCS scoring system and that the class breaks will be established by the offshore council, ahead of all events, unanimously approved.

Capdevielle Committee – Paul Kleinschrodt (BucYC) reported 11 of the 12 Capdevielle regattas were sailed for 2022, out of 36 clubs, 13 clubs participated in at least one regatta (1 less clubs than previous year). Mobile YC is the 2022 Challenger Division Champion. Buccaneer YC is the 2022 Capdevielle Champion. He reported the average clubs participation per event is around 10, which is one higher than the prior year. He noted competition is strong amongst the clubs, there were 9 clubs winning individual races during Capdevielle regatta series, and 4 different clubs winning races during the Sir Thomas Lipton Challenge. The following clubs will have representation on the committee for 2023: Buccaneer YC, Southern YC, Bay Waveland YC, Mobile YC, Pensacola YC, Gulfport YC, New Orleans YC, Fairhope YC, Pass Christian YC, Pontchartrain C, Ft. Walton YC, Jackson YC and St. Andrews Bay YC. No probations for this year. The following clubs are not eligible for the challenge division in 2023: Southern YC, Bay Waveland YC, Mobile YC, Pontchartrain YC, and Pensacola YC.

By-Laws – PC Cathy Cromartie (FYC), no report.

Race Management – Steve Nolte (GYC), reported the race management meeting was well attended, with many individuals wanting to get involved with organizing regattas, and now have the tools to be able to become certified race officers. NoR and SI's templates will be out by March.

They will re-work how the excellence in race management will be awarded and have ready by annual meeting in May.

Schedule- Randy Fitzpatrick-Wainwright (FYC) noted only changes to the standard schedule is the Spring and Opening Regatta will be flipped and the Knost has been moved forward. GYA Website schedule links were sent out to all Commodores, please ensure the correct person at your club receive this link so information may be uploaded to the GYA website. **PC John Matthews motioned, seconded by PC Danny Killeen to approve the 2023 GYA schedule as published, unanimously approved.**

Appeals Committee – Charles Harp (PYC), no report.

Chief Administrative Judge – James “Doc” Hunter(BucYC) reported once the judge assignments have been completed he will send out the assignments for the regattas. He encourages all Commodore to promote race official certification within their clubs, we desperately need certified judges.

Membership Committee – PC Danny Killleen (PCYC) stated that Birmingham Sailing Club is a general member club of the GYA. No new applications at this time.

GYA Foundation – PC Danny Killleen (PCYC) thanked Karen Reisch and her group for hosting the silent auction during the awards banquet last night, they raised \$3,440.00. Donations for the 2022 year was \$11,126.00, expenses were \$1,611.00 for mail outs and audits, grants paid out \$27,695.00. As of December, the checking account balance was \$31,517.00 and the investment account balance was \$176,964.00.

Trophy Committee – PC Shan Kirk (SYC) reported on behalf of committee chairman Chris Dabney. The committee is working to rework the Challenge Cup Mobile YC trophy for the Challenge Cup and the Uncle Roy Trophy. The Mobile YC trophy needed a new base to add space for additional winners. The Uncle Roy trophy needed additional space and being consolidated in the same design as originally presented. New trophy cases have been acquired for Capdevielle Trophy and Mobile YC trophy.

Sail Measurement – William Zehner (StABYC), No Report

US Sailing Area D – Sam Vasquez, No Report

Youth Committee–Scott Hartwell (Fairhope YC) reported the Sears, Bemis & Smyth is being reformatted to eliminate the Bemis portion of the Youth Championships. Scott is working with Area D Coordinator Dan to determine for the 2023 qualifier will be held. The GYA Youth Circuit is nearly finalized for 2023 as follows:

| 2023 GYA Youth One Design Circuit Events | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|------------------|----------------|-------|-----|
| Events | 2023 Dates | Club | Circuit Events | | |
| | | | Optimist | Laser | 420 |
| Dogwood | March 25-26 | Fairhope YC | 1 | 1 | |
| Alfonso-Sutter | April 15-16 | Gulfport YC | 2 | 2 | |
| July Wynne | May 27 - 28 | Southern YC | 3 | | 3 |
| Schoof's Out | June 3 - 4 | Portchartrain YC | | | 2 |
| GYA 420 Championship | June 16 - 18 | Bay-Waveland YC | | | 3 |
| Moigs | July 8 - 9 | Fort Walton YC | 4 | | |
| Galloway / GYA Laser Championship | August 19 - 20 | Gulfport YC | 5 | 3 | |
| Back to School | September 16 - 17 | Portchartrain YC | 6 | 4 | 4 |
| Waldwitz | September 30 - Oct 1 | Fairhope YC | 7 | 5 | 5 |
| Mark Smith | Oct 14 - 15 | Bay-Waveland YC | | 6 | 6 |

US Sailing Championships – Sam Vasquez, No report.

US Sailing Representative – Holly Murray, No Report

Offshore Council – Scott Sonnier reported 18 clubs were represented at today's meeting, great attendance. He thanked Pensacola YC for hosting a great event last year. The 2022 Challenge Cup winner was Southern YC. The 2023 Challenge Cup will be hosted at Gulfport YC June 23-25. If you have any questions about the PCS scoring system that will be used, please reach out. The GYA Women's PHRF Championship will be held in New Orleans June 11th in conjunction with the Fleur de Lis Regatta. Thank you to Pensacola Beach YC for hosting this event for many years. The New Orleans to Gulfport race will be June 17th, the Gulfport to Pensacola race will be June 30th.

PHRF – PC Tom Beery reported the current PHRF/ORI-1 certificate numbers are 402, this is a significant decrease of 93 from December 2020. GYA Clubs have access to scoring systems through NextSailor. Beery will be retiring from the GYA PHRF Committee in January 2025 and will continue to work with the Offshore Council as this committee will move under Offshore as a subcommittee.

One Design – Zak Fanberg (BWYC), no report.

Safety Committee – Miller Guice, No Report

Unfinished Business and General Orders- Danny Killeen reported for Karl Kleinschrodt in regard to the special committee formed to study how to spend the excess funds from the centennial Lipton (it's roughly \$9,500). The committee is comprised of Karl Kleinschrodt, Danny Killeen, Tom Pace, Christian Gambel and Randy Wainwright. The committee has met and offers the following options on how to spend the funds:

1-Donate to the GYA Foundation; 2-use funds to subsidize a youth sailing clinic each year, possibly prior to Jr. Lipton each year; 3-use funds to subsidize charter boat fees for clubs who do not own a Viper but, would like to participate in events; 4-use funds to purchase spare parts for the Viper due to lack of spare parts accessibility to clubs; 5- use funds to purchase a marker/monument to be displayed at SYC where the event all started; 6 – do nothing until the committee can unanimously agree upon how to spend the funds.

PC Danny Killeen (PCYC) made a motion, seconded by Frank Lopiccio (PCYC) to donate all excess funds donated to the GYA Foundation to be earmarked with the idea that any of the above reference five ideas may be implemented with the use of those funds.

PC John Matthews made motion, seconded by PC Shan Kirk to table the motion, motion approved.

New Business – PC John Matthews (PYC/NYCP) made a motion, seconded by PC Cathy Cromartie (FYC) to approve moving the 2023 Opening Regatta to May 19-21 with approval from BucYC due to Jazz Fest events being hosted in New Orleans during the regular scheduled date, unanimously approved.

Nominating Committee: Chairman Cathy Cromartie (FYC) presented the following slate to serve as the 2023 GYA Flag Officers: Commodore Robert J. Schmidt (Southern YC), Vice Commodore Randy Fitzpatrick Wainwright (Fairhope YC), Rear Commodore Alan McMillan (Pensacola YC), Immediate Past Commodore Gary Rogers (Jackson YC) and Secretary/Treasurer Jennifer Schmidt (Southern YC). **PC Danny Killeen (PCYC) made a motion, seconded by PC Dave Bolyard (Pont YC/TYC) to approve the slate as presented, unanimously approved.**

Closing Remarks/Announcements – Commodore Gary Rogers (JYC) thank the nominating committee for their hard work and turned the meeting over to Commodore Robbie Schmidt (Southern YC). Commodore Robbie Schmidt (Southern YC) presented Past Commodore Gary Rogers (Jackson YC) with a plaque for his services and dedication to the GYA. Commodore Schmidt thanked the Board for electing him to serve as the Commodore of the GYA, it is a great honor. He announced that the GYA Opening Regatta and Annual meeting will be hosted at Southern YC May 19-21 and looks forward to seeing everyone back for a great event. Schmidt stated if you have any questions, his ear is always open, just reach out and look forward to seeing everyone over the next year from great on the water competition and great times on shore ahead.

PC Cathy Cromartie (Fairhope YC) made a motion, seconded by PC Gary Rogers to adjourn the meeting.

Adjourned – 1148 hours.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jennifer Schmidt

Approved: _____

PROPOSED GYA RULES CHANGES – 2023 GYA WINTER MEETING

Current Rule

6 SAFETY

- (a) In all GYA sanctioned Viper 640 events and in all junior/youth events, USCG–approved Type I, II or III PFDs 100% dependent on foam for flotation shall be properly worn by all skippers and crewmembers while on board a competing boat while racing, except for brief periods while adding or removing clothing.
- (b) All International Viper 640 Class mandated safety requirements shall be carried on board at all times.
- (c) While racing a Viper 640 in a GYA sanctioned event, a 5 (five) pound minimum anchor to be used with the class required tow line shall be carried at all times.

Proposed Rule

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- (b) All International Viper 640 Class mandated safety requirements shall be carried on board at all times.
- ~~(c) While racing a Viper 640 in a GYA sanctioned event, a 5 (five) pound minimum anchor to be used with the class required tow line shall be carried at all times.~~

Current Rule

14.1 The number of races scheduled and required to constitute a series at each event shall conform to the following:

| Event | Number of Races Scheduled | Number of Races to Constitute a Series |
|---------------|---------------------------|--|
| Lipton Cup | 5* 2022 only | 2 |
| Junior Lipton | 6 | 1 |
| Knost | Maximum of 5 | 1 |
| Sugar Bowl | Maximum of 5 | Per the OA |
| All Others | 5 | 1 |

Proposed Rule

14.1 The number of races scheduled and required to constitute a series at each event shall conform to the following:

| Event | Number of Races Scheduled | Number of Races to Constitute a Series |
|---------------|---------------------------|--|
| Lipton Cup | 5 | 2 |
| Junior Lipton | 6 | 1 |
| Knost | Maximum of 5 | 1 |
| Sugar Bowl | Maximum of 5 | Per the OA |
| All Others | 5 | 1 |

Current Rule

19.1 Host Club

- (a) The GYA club that won the previous year shall normally host in the current year. No club, however, shall host in consecutive years. If, because of this restriction, the previous year winner is not eligible to host, that club may offer hosting the current year to another GYA club. Said offers shall be made to clubs in the order of previous year next-highest finisher(s) beyond a three (3) mile radius of the ineligible club. Any such awarding of an alternate host shall only be with EXCOM approval prior to the next Annual Meeting.
- (b) In the event that a previous year winner that is eligible to host the current year elects not to, that club may offer current year hosting to any GYA club that is eligible to do so. Any such awarding of an alternate host shall only be with EXCOM approval prior to the next Annual Meeting.

Proposed Rule

- (a) **The Host club shall be awarded to the highest placing club, in the prior event, from each state of Florida (2024), Alabama (2025), Mississippi (2026), and Louisiana (2027) on a rotational basis travelling from East to West.** If, ~~because of this restriction,~~ the **proposed host club** is not eligible to host, that club may offer hosting the current year to another GYA club, however, no club shall host in consecutive years. Said offers shall be made to clubs in the order of previous year next-highest finisher(s) beyond a three (3) mile radius of the ineligible club. Any such awarding of an alternate host shall only be with EXCOM approval prior to the next Annual Meeting.
- ~~(b) In the event that a previous year winner that is eligible to host the current year elects not to, that club may offer current year hosting to any GYA club that is eligible to do so. Any such awarding of an alternate host shall only be with EXCOM approval prior to the next Annual Meeting.~~

Current Rule

19.2 Measurement

All boats shall be measured before the first race is sailed. Host clubs shall make the necessary arrangements to have the Chief Measurer, adequate assistants and all templates, scales and measurement tools available at the regatta site to conduct the necessary measurements without impacting the race schedule.

Proposed Rule

19.2 Measurement

The top 5 clubs from the prior event, or any new boat, or a boat in its first year of Capdevielle sailing, shall have their boat measured before the first race is sailed. Host clubs shall make the necessary arrangements to have the Chief Measurer, adequate assistants and all templates, scales and measurement tools available at the regatta site to conduct the necessary measurements without impacting the race schedule.

Current Rule

19.5 Number of Races Sailed by Team Members

- (a) The team captain may skipper or crew and shall comply with the following skipper and crew regulations.
- (b) A skipper shall sail in only one (1) race (shall not crew in other races).
- (c) A team member may crew in one or two (2) races (shall not skipper either one).
- (d) Except for the top 8 finishing clubs in the immediate prior event, a team member may sail in a maximum of two (2) races but may only skipper one (1) race.
- (e) Experimental exception for year 2022: Rule 19.5 a, b, c, d, shall apply to the first four races and shall not apply to the 5th race, if sailed.

Proposed Rule

19.5 Number of Races Sailed by Team Members

- (a) The team captain may skipper or crew and shall comply with the following skipper and crew regulations.
- (b) A skipper shall sail in only one (1) race (shall not crew in other races).
- (c) A team member may crew in one or two (2) races (shall not skipper either one).
- (d) Except for the top 5 finishing clubs in the immediate prior event, a team member may sail in **all races** but may only skipper one (1) race.
- (e) **Rule 19.5 a, b, c, d, shall apply to the first four races and shall not apply to the 5th race, if sailed.**