



**Gulf Yachting Association
Annual Meeting
Saturday, April 18, 2026
Bay Waveland Yacht Club**

Call to Order – 10:02 am GYA Commodore Richard “Boo” Heausler. Thanks to everyone for coming to Bay Waveland Yacht Club for the Annual Meeting and Opening Regatta.

Executive Committee & Other members present: Commodore Richard “Boo” Heausler (BWYC/SYC), Vice Commodore Jennifer Brune-Schmidt (SYC), Rear Commodore Scott Hartwell (FYC), Immediate Past Commodore Alan McMillan (PYC), Parliamentarian Cary Trapani (BWYC), and Secretary-Treasurer, Shannon Weatherly (PCYC)

Roll Call – 18 Clubs were present: BWYC, BucYC, FYC, FWYC, GLYC, GYC, JYC, LFYC, LBYC, NavyPYC, NOYC, PCYC, PYC, PontYC, SRYC, SYC, StABYC, and TYC - a quorum was met.

PC Commodore Shan Kirk (SYC) led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.
PC Shan Kirk (SYC) led the assembly in the invocation.

The following deceased commodores and sailing friends were recognized with a moment of silence: Reynold (Ronnie) Pitts. StABYC, Roy A. Troendle- BWYC/SYC, George Sladovich, III, SYC, Mrs. Walker Coleman, SYC, Carol de la Houssaye, SYC, and Dr. Tod Holman, BYC.

Introduction of all the Ex-Com members & other members as listed above.

GYA Past Commodores Recognized- Harry Chapman (BWYC), Gary Rogers (JYC), John Morrow (StAYC), Shan Kirk (SYC), Jimmy Ruthven (StABYC), David Bolyard (PontYC), Michael Hage (GYC), Robbie Schmidt (SYC), Tom Beery (SRYC), Randy Fitzpatrick Wainwright (FYC) and Alan McMillan (PYC)

Conduct of the Meeting – Cary Trapani stated that we honor Robert’s Rules of order. All comments should be directed to the chair, Commodore Heausler and limited to 5 minutes. Any motions made need to be stated clearly, and a 2nd is required for a vote. Any amendment to a motion must have a motion and 2nd before a vote on the amended motion. Let’s have a great meeting.

Minutes – PC Shan Kirk (SYC) made a motion, seconded by PC Gary Rogers (JYC) to waive the reading of the minutes from the Winter Meeting January 11 at Pensacola Yacht Club and to accept, all unanimously approved.

Financial Report- Secretary-Treasurer- Shannon Weatherly (PCYC) reported account balances as of March 31, 2026:

\$16,100.93	Checking Account
\$48,830.76	Invest 1 (Trophy self-insurance)
\$59,682.05	Invest 2 (GYA)
\$124,613.74	Total of all accounts

Executive Committee – Commodore Heausler reported that an ExCom meeting was held last night at BWYC. We approved the minutes from our last ExCom meeting at PYC. The rule changes were reviewed. The RC Scott Hartwell reported that the 420 Championship will be hosted by LBYC. The

PC Alan McMillan reported on the American Majic and activity on Pensacola Bay. The 2026 Judges for our 2026 events were approved by ExCom.

COMMITTEE & COUNCIL REPORTS

Racing Regulations – VC Richard “Boo” Heausler (BWYC/SYC) reported that we have several rule changes that were properly noticed to be presented today.

The first two are to correct some clerical items and have no significant effect on each event. Rule 20.1 Host Club and 21.6 Boat Sailed. Motion by PC Michael Hage (GYC) and 2nd by PC Randy Fitzpatrick-Wainwright (FYC) to approve both changes. Motion unanimously carries.

Offshore Council – Scotty Sonnier (SYC) The remaining changes were submitted by the Offshore Council for the Challenge Cup event, so they will be presented separately.

Rule 41.3 (a) allows the host club to use TOT or PCS scoring. Rule 41.3 (c) allows for a boat to be scored in the faster class (play up rule) Motion by SYC Commodore Rocky Sanchez and 2nd by PC Gary Rogers (JYC) to approve and motion carries.

Rule 41.4 Eligibility allows for 2 GYA Clubs to form a team. Motion by SYC Commodore Rocky to pass the motion as noticed. 2nd by Gary Rogers. Discussions on the effect took place. PC John Morrow (StAYC) amends the motion to remove the strike out so one club could not have 2 teams. 2nd by GYC Commodore Joey Beattie. the Amended Motion carries.

Rule 41.6 allows crew to be a member of a GYA Club for 3 months for eligibility. Motion for SYC Commodore and 2nd by PC Gary Rogers and motion carries.

Rule 41.7(c) banning all hiking devices on a boat. Motion by SYC Commodore Rocky Sanchez and 2nd by PC Gary Rogers (JYC) to approve, motion fails.

Rule 41.7(d) requiring boats to have an auxiliary propulsion system. Motion by SYC Commodore Rocky Sanchez and 2nd by PC Gary Rogers to approve, motion carries.

Capdevielle Committee – Paul Kleinschrodt (BucYC) no report. Commodore Heausler reported that Sero Sailing is now producing the Viper 640's along with parts for repairs. They have been invited to the 2026 Lipton Challenge at BWYC.

By-Laws – PC Catherine Cromartie (FYC)– No report.

Race Management – PC Robbie Schmidt (SYC) Reminder to submit an application online for the Race Management award. Only 1 application has been submitted to date.

Schedule – PC Randy Wainwright-Fitzpatrick (FYC) Reminder to all clubs to use the GYA Calendar to promote your events. If you need help uploading your docs via the link for your club, let her know.

Appeals Committee – Charles Harp (PYC) –Currently one appeal this year. Appeals are not for relitigating you're hearing. Appeal only if a rule has been applied incorrectly.

Judges – Karen Reisch (SYC) Currently there are 8 certified judges and 1 in training. If anyone wants to volunteer for training, please reach out to her or John Farris.

Membership Committee – PC Shan Kirk (SYC) reported the following: SSS has not paid their 2026 dues. A letter has been delivered on the benefits of remaining a member of the GYA, and we have had no response.

GYA Foundation – PC Danny Killeen (PCYC) No report.

Trophy – PC Robbie Schmidt (SYC) We will be redoing the Jr. Lipton Sportsmanship trophy. The Judge Emeritus trophy is being replaced.

Sail Measurement – William Zehner (StABYC), No report.

US Sailing Championships and Youth Committee– RC Scott Hartwell (FYC) The 2026 Mallory will be at Lakewood YC and the Sears is in FL on 6/12-14.

Handicap– Kevin Blank (FWYC) Currently there are 166 EZ Certs. There are some changes this year, so please get your fleet to update their certs.

One Design - Susan Domagala (PYC), no report.

Old Business- None.

New Business - Nominating Committee Chair Gary Rogers (JYC) announced his committee members PC Randy Fitzpatrick-Wainwright (FYC) and PC David Bolyard (PontYC) to select a slate for 2026.

Closing Remarks- Commodore Heausler introduced BWYC Commodore Bergeron, and he welcomed all to this event. Further Commodore Heausler announced the Semi-Annual meeting will be held at Bay Waveland Yacht Club September 5-6, and the GYA Winter meeting will be at Bay Waveland Yacht Club with the date TBD.

Adjourned – Motion to adjourn and all approved. Adjourned at 10:53am

Respectfully submitted by:
Shannon Weatherly