



**Gulf Yachting Association Annual Meeting  
Saturday, May 1, 2021  
St. Andrews Bay Yacht Club**

**Call to Order** – 10:05 hours by Commodore Jimmy Ruthven

**Executive Committee & Other members present:** Commodore Jimmy Ruthven, Vice Commodore Gary Rogers, Rear Commodore Robbie Schmidt, Secretary-Treasurer, Jennifer Schmidt and Parliamentarian Cary Trapani.

**Roll Call** – 17 Clubs were present: ABYC, BWYC, BucYC, FYC, FWYC, GYC, JYC, MYC, NYC-P, NOYC, PCYC, PYC, PontYC, SRYC, SYC, SABYC, TYC - a quorum was met.

Vice Commodore Gary Rogers led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. Commodore John Matthews led us in a prayer and recognized the recently deceased commodores and/or sailing friends with a moment of silence: Gordon Renovitch, ABYC; Past Commodore Emile Fallo, BYC; Ernest “Butch” Henley, BYC; Nancy Sellers Klooz, Bucyc (daughter of 1981 GYA Commodore Roy Sellers); George Haynie, DIYC (formerly Pensacola YC); Tom Garner, FWYC; Past Commodore Harry Bell, GYC; 2005 Past Commodore Ben Jackson, JYC; Dr. Charles Jackson, JYC; Dr. Ben Root, JYC; Lynn Mahlum, JYC; Scott Harrell, PYC; Rudy Bray, PYC; Louise Nolan, PYC; Kurt Adler, PontYC; Ronnie Beard, PontYC; Burt Keenan, PCYC, New York YC & SYC ; Commodore Charles Elsheman, Jr., SYC; Mrs. Joel Roy Barnett, SYC (she was the 2005 recipient of the Jack & Flo Scheib Service award & wife of 2000 GYA Commodore Stewart Barnett, Jr.).

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

**Conduct of the Meeting** – Parliamentarian Cary Trapani (BWYC) stated that 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 5 minutes, comments to 3 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.

**GYA Past Commodores Recognized-** Catherine “Cathy” Cromartie (FYC), Michael G. Hage (GYC), Harry Chapman (BWYC/SYC), John Morrow (GYC/SABYC), Basil Kennedy (BWYC), John H. Matthews (PYC/NYC-P), Dave Bolyard (TYC), Danny Killeen Jr. (PCYC), Ewell C. “Corky” Potts (SYC).

**Welcome:** Commodore Jimmy Ruthven, on behalf of Commodore Chris Cumberland (SABYC) welcomed everyone to St. Andrews Bay YC, he welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the Opening Regatta and Board of Directors meeting. If you need assistance over the weekend please let him know or seek out anyone on the race committee, will be in red shirts.

**Minutes** – John Matthews (PYC/NYC-P) made a motion, seconded by John Watson Galloway (GYC) to waive the reading of the minutes from January 10, 2021 Winter meeting hosted at Pensacola YC and to accept as published, unanimously approved.

**Financial Report- Secretary-Treasurer-** Jennifer Schmidt Reported as of April 30, 2021 GYA account balances are: Invest I (Trophy) \$29,636.67, Invest II (GYA) account \$26,581.93, checking account \$25,301.38, Total of all accounts \$81,519.98. \$2,500.00 has been contributed to the GYA Trophy self-insurance account for 2022.

**Executive Committee** – Commodore Ruthven reported that Chief Administrative Judge James “Doc” Hunter has submitted the assigned judges for the 2021 sailing year and was approved as presented. The nominating committee for 2021 will be as follows: Michael Hage (GYC) Chair, John Matthews (PYC/NYC-P), and Dave Bolyard (PontYC). The executive committee is looking for input in regard to publication to the annual GYA Directory, should we stop printing?

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Racing Regulations** – Richard “Boo” Heausler, no report.

**Capdevielle Committee** – Karl Kleinschrodt reported on behalf of Paul Kleinschrodt that the Committee met this morning, 8 clubs attended. Committee reviewed a few regulations regarding bow numbers, which was voted today to waive for 2021 year due to delays for some clubs/boat owners in receiving in time for events. It was also noted that the ability to charter Vipers by clubs will expire this year unless further action is taken for 2022. The committee is unclear how sails are recorded, they will reach out to Viper and coordinate with GYA chief sail measurer in regard to the spreadsheet kept when sails are purchased to help facilitate and streamline this class rule. He reported that the Mardi Gras Regatta was a success this year. If NOYC attends all required regatta’s the Mardi Gras Regatta will be off probation.

**Race Management** – Randy Wainwright-Fitzpatrick is working on streamline the QO program and how get more individual involved. If anyone needs assistance, please reach out and assistance can be given.

**By-Laws** – PC Cathy Cromartie, no report.

**Schedule**- Randy Wainwright-Fitzpatrick, no report.

**Centennial** – PC Corky Potts announced that flyers regarding making reservations for all events that will be hosted at SYC for the 100<sup>th</sup> Lipton celebration at September 3-6, 2021. If you have not purchased a \$100 raffle ticket, please see him or a member of the committee. Commodore Potts agreed to purchase any of his remaining 30 tickets if all committee members sell their 10 tickets. He stated that the weekend will be complimentary. There will be an auction for the original Centennial painting by Jennifer Grant.

**Appeals Committee** – Charles Harp, no report.

**Chief Administrative Judge** – James “Doc” Hunter, no report.

**Membership Committee** – PC Danny Killeen reminded that Birmingham Sailing Club has withdrawn its status as a general member club.

**Trophy Committee** – PC John Matthews reported the committee met this morning. There will be a new perpetual trophy for the GYA Finn Championship, thank you to PC Corky Potts. A full trophy inventory has been completed and all trophies are accounted for. All Commodores were put on notice that they are responsible for returning perpetual trophy accountability forms to the trophy committee following any regatta where a perpetual trophy is awarded. Not one accountability form has been returned over the last 2 years.

**US Sailing Championships / US Sailing Area D** – Sam Vasquez submitted a written report: The GYA’s Quarterfinal for the US Sailing Junior Championship “Sears Cup” will be held in conjunction with the Spring Regatta at Buccaneer in Viper 640’s. May 15-16, 2021. Please have your teams contact GYA Area D Rep Holly Murray. 4 kids per boat. The Area D Semifinals for the Sear, Bemis, Smythe will be held at Fairhope Yacht Club on June 26-27, 2021. Bring your own laser radial and club 420 for the Smythe and Bemis. The GYA’s Qualifier for the US Sailing Adult Championship will

be held at Gulfport Yacht Club on August 7-8, 2021. It will be sailed in VX Ones and Viper 640's. There is a possibility I might be the next Chairman of the Adult Championship Committee. The US Sailing Offshore Championship is being held September 24-26 in Navy 44's. If you have a sailor and team that is interested, please have contact me ASAP. The request for invitation is due before July 1st. There are still US Sailing Championships Finals that need host clubs for future years. You can find out the available regattas on the US Sailing Championship Page. Please check with the office staff at your club to make sure the dues for US Sailing and the GYA are paid. Also, please remind your club members to join US Sailing and take advantage of all the resources they have to offer. I strongly recommend you set up US Sailing's MVP Program at your club to get your membership discount on their US Sailing Membership. US Sailing has been working on their Skill Up App. It is a powerful tool to allow your camp instructors to update the students' achievements in real time. It also gives every camper a US Sailing Membership for only \$10! It's now required for kill cords to be worn while underway. Please make sure your instructors and RC helpers are always clipped in. Also remind them to clip to their body or leg. Preferably not on the wrist as it is more likely to pull out when quickly turning the wheel. Stay safe, have fun, and get out and sail!

**US Sailing Representative** – Holly Murray, No Report

**Youth Committee**– Sam Vasquez submitted a written report: 2020 was not the best year for youth sailing, any sailing at that. There is an opening in the weather, and we are sailing! The sailing schedule is packed all year! The Youth Committee recommends that all clubs still follow their state and local Covid 19 guidelines when hosting any event. Safety of the children should be the deciding factor in all decisions. The GYA Youth Committee will be hosting an online meeting on Tuesday, May 18th at 6:00pm and we encourage all to login and join the conversation of youth sailing in 2021 I will be sending an email with link and login credentials. Please encourage your sailors to participate in the GYA One Design Circuits. Please feel free to contact me anytime for advice or recommendations. Thank you and see you on the water,

**GYA Foundation** – PC Danny Killeen announced that the foundation would like to thank all the clubs for their contributions this year and the organization looks forward with working with everyone again in the future.

**Offshore Council** – Commodore Richard Provensal (SYC) made a motion, second by Commodore Ken Pyle (NYC-P) to approve regulation changes as presented today to clear up some grammatical errors, PHRF verses ORR-ez differences and add a provision regarding crew weight and weigh-in for the challenge cup. **Commodore Louis Lambou (NOYC) made a motion, seconded by PC John Morrow (GYA/SABYC) to table the motion to a later date when the entire proposal may be reviewed by the entire committee, approved.** Commodore Tom Pace (PYC) questioned the approval of the change of using the ORR-ez for all classes during the challenge cup at the Winter meeting. PC Cathy Cromartie (FYC) By-laws chairman stated that the offshore council submitted a written report which was read at the meeting and included in the minutes which were then ratified at the beginning of this meeting which in turn approves the change.

**US Sailing Area D** – Sam Vasquez submitted a written report:

**PHRF** – PC Tom Beery submitted a written report:

**Sail Measurement** – Steve Nolte, No Report

**One Design** – Paul Reese, No Report

**Safety Committee** – Miller Guice, No Report

**Unfinished Business and General Orders**- None

**New Business** – The Executive Committee would like to make a **board recommendation that Viper Bow numbers be waived for the 2021 GYA sailing year, at the discretion of the events Principal Race Officer, Cathy Cromartie made the motion, seconded by John Matthews, unanimously approved. Tom Pace (PYC) made a motion, seconded by Cathy Cromartie (FYC), to approve the WFORC regulations as presented with the notice of meeting, unanimously approved (see attachment)**

**Closing Remarks/Announcements** – Commodore Ruthven (SABYC) announced the GYA Semi-Annual meeting and Centennial Lipton Celebration will be held at Southern Yacht Club September 3-6, 2021 and GYA Winter meeting 2022 will be hosted at Gulfport Yacht Club January 14 – 16, 2022.

**Past Commodore John Matthews made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Past Commodore Michael Hage.**

**Adjourned** – 10:53 hours.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jennifer Schmidt

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed change to Part 4 – OFFSHORE REGULATIONS, Section M – Sanctioned Offshore Events, Paragraph 41 WEST FLORIDA OCEAN RACING CIRCUIT (WFORC)

As reads: The Commodore Ronald F. Richards Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the winning skipper of Class A based on corrected Time.

Change to read:

41.1 Host Club and Schedule

- (a) The host club shall be the Pensacola Yacht Club and it shall conduct the event.
- (b) The event shall be held in October unless otherwise directed by the Offshore Council.
- (c) Entry fees may be charged.

41.2 Eligibility

- (a) Entrants shall be members of GYA clubs. There is no limit to the number of entries per club.
- (b) Entrants shall register and sail in their boat's PHRF Spinnaker Class.

41.3 Number of Races.

Five (5) races are scheduled. One of the five shall be designated as a Distance Race. Two (2) races shall be completed to constitute a series.

41.4 Boats

- (a) The series shall be sailed in owned, chartered or borrowed PHRF boats.
- (b) Each competing boat shall have a current, valid GYA PHRF Certificate

41.5 Trophies

- (a) All trophies for each class shall be purchased by the host club.
- (b) The winning skipper of Class A, based upon corrected time, shall be awarded the Commodore Ronald F. Richards Memorial Trophy, a perpetual GYA trophy. The winner shall also be provided a marker trophy.
- (c) The winning skipper of Class B, based upon corrected time, shall be awarded the Commodore John R. Chappell Memorial Trophy, a perpetual GYA trophy. The winner shall also be provided a marker trophy.
- (d) The Dr. J. Lindsay Riddle Cup shall be awarded to the skipper who wins the Most Competitive Class of all classes entered in the WFORC Regatta.