

BYLAWS

South Florida Model Sailing Club

ARTICLE I Name

The Club shall be known as the South Florida Model Sailing Club Corporation (SFMSC) operating radio-controlled sailboats in Broward County, Florida. It will operate in a manner as to qualify as a sanctioned club by the American Model Yachting Association (AMYA).

ARTICLE II Objective

The objective of the Club shall be to promote model sailboat building, sailing and racing in a positive spirit of sportsmanship and help to develop our members skills and understanding of yacht racing. As a member, there are opportunities and needs for active participation in the Club activities, see Addendum (B).

ARTICLE III Leadership

Sect.1. The Executive Board shall consist of a Commodore, Vice-Commodore, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Sect.2. The Officers shall consist of the Commodore, Vice-Commodore, Secretary, Treasurer, and additional selected members as required to conduct Club and fleet duties.

Sect.3. The Race Committee shall consist of a Member or Members appointed by the Executive Committee.

Sect.4. Executive Board elections shall be held at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and shall hold office until the AGM of the following year or until others are elected or appointed to their places.

Sect.5. All Officers and Fleet Captains shall be elected at the AGM each year and shall hold office until the AGM of the following year or until others are elected or appointed to their places. Annual elections shall be for Commodore, Vice Commodore, Secretary, Treasurer, Score Keeper, and Fleet Captains.

ARTICLE IV Duties of Officers and Committees

Sect.1. The Commodore Duties:

- 1.1. Reside at all meetings of the Club.
- 1.2. Enforce all bylaws and regulations of the Club.

Sect.2. The Executive Committee Duties:

- 2.1 Will have responsibility for all property belonging to the Club.
- 2.2 Approve all documents, papers, etc., relating to the Club.
- 2.3 Have the power to fill vacancies among the officers until the next AGM.
- 2.4 Have authority to establish impromptu committees for special projects, events, or other needs. These impromptu committees are not considered as standing committees of the Club and members need not be voted on.

Sect.3. Vice Commodore Duties - Stand-in for the commodore when necessary.

Sec.4. The Secretary Duties:

- 4.1 Keep an accurate record of all Club meetings.
- 4.2 File all documents, records, reports and communications connected with the affairs of the Club.
- 4.3 Give notice of meetings to members in good standing.

Sect.5. The Treasurer duties:

- 5.1 Collect all monies payable to the Club.
- 5.2 Maintain important papers of the Club.
- 5.3 Pay all bills contracted by the Club.
- 5.4 Record all Club assets and keep a directory of members.
- 5.5 Make a report at the AGM each year of all receipts, disbursements, and money on hand at the time.
- 5.6 Notify any member who is in behind in dues or any other obligation.
- 5.7 Present a budget of all expenditures of the Club for the coming year at the AGM.

Sect.6. The Race Committee Duties - Manage all activities at the Lake relative to supporting and conducting Club, Open, Regional, and National races and regattas. Requirements and procedures to be followed are contained in Addendum (A). Addendum (A) can be revised annually as needed to be consistent with current AMYA and US Sailing RRS rules. Any non-legislated changes requested by the Race Committee require the approval of the Executive Committee prior to implementation.

Sect.7. The Score Keeper Duties:

- 7.1 Maintain all race results and publish a sailing program such to be forwarded to members by e-mail and or Club website.
- 7.2 Responsible for gathering and reporting results for Club Series and for the Regattas that are conducted and providing information to the members.

ARTICLE V Membership

Sec.1. SFMSC membership is by household and boats sailed. If one household owns more than one boat, but only sails one at a time, that is one membership. Multiple family members may take turns sailing one boat as one membership. A second boat sailed by a family member requires a second payment of dues. If two individuals are partners in the ownership of one boat and take turns sailing it, this constitutes one membership.

Sec.2. In addition to a SFMSC membership all sailors need to become members of the American Model Yachting Association (AMYA). AMYA membership is required for entry into any sanctioned regatta sponsored by our Club. A minimum number of AMYA club members are required to maintain the club as a registered AMYA club and to maintain pond insurance as required by Broward County Parks Dept.

Sec.3. Voting rights – One vote per dues paid.

ARTICLE VI Dues and Fees

Sec.1. Dues shall be set at the AGM

Sec. 2. Dues shall be collected only for the purpose of funding the activities of the Club.

Sec. 3. Annual dues are due in January 1 of each year. Memberships applied for after June 30 shall be 50% of the annual due.

Sec.4. If dues are not paid within 60 days of the due date, the Club membership is forfeited.

Sec.5. Since the Club budget may not be able to anticipate all the expenditures necessary, there may be other fees assessed from time to time to fund a specific event or purchase.

ARTICLE VII Annual General Meeting

Sect.1. The AGM of the Club shall be held between November 1 and December 31st.

Sect.2. Order of Business:

1. Call to order by the Commodore
2. Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting.
3. Treasurer's report
4. Correspondence and action thereon
5. Status of Sailing Location/s
6. Reports of Committees
7. Report of Membership
8. Unfinished Business
9. New Business
10. New Appropriations
11. Election of Officers
12. Adjournment

ARTICLE VIII Eligibility

Sect.1. A member owing dues shall be ineligible to be scored in the Club races nor qualify for any Club prizes until dues are paid in full. Those races sailed prior to paying the dues will not be entered into the Score Keeper's data. Club scoring for that member will only begin when dues are paid.

Sect.2. Any member owing more than the amount of one year's dues shall be dropped from the rolls of the Club.

ARTICLE IX Communications

Sec.1. SFMSC will maintain a website www.soflamsc.com which will post all information pertinent to the activities of the Club, such as schedules, race results and notices of meetings.

Sec.2. Members are to maintain an email for a primary means of communication with the Club.

Sec.3. Email will be used to call attention to notices posted on the website, and members are encouraged to communicate by Email with the Executive Board, the Webmaster and each other via Email.

Sec.4. Texting may be used as an alternate means of communicating when appropriate.

ARTICLE X Alteration of By-Laws

Sect.1. Bylaws may be amended, altered, or repealed by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at the AGM. A notice and a copy of the proposed amendment must be mailed to members at least seven days prior to such meeting.

ARTICLE XI Dismissal

Sect.1. Any member or participant in an event shall not commit gross misconduct, including a gross breach of a rule of the class, AMYA, US Sailing, or rules established by the Club. Any member who repeatedly in spite of warnings repeatedly conducts their behavior in any manner detrimental to the welfare of the Club be it by action or communication shall by a vote of the Executive Committee be dismissed from the Club. The Executive Committee's decision is to be final.

Sec.2. If a situation develops during a race event, the individual can be disqualified for that race or for the rest of the series by the Race Director or an Executive committee member if available.

ARTICLE XII Dissolution

In the event of dissolution of the SFMSC any remaining material assets shall be sold for cash and all cash assets distributed equally among the current membership.

SOUTH FLORIDA MODEL SAILING CLUB BYLAWS

ADDENDUMS

Addendum (A) Race Committee Responsibilities and Procedures.

Sec. 1. Responsible for conduct and management of all Lake and Fleet Activities required to Support Club Races including following items:

- 1.1 Develop a Coordinated Annual Event Schedule of Club Member Racing and Club, Open, Regional, and National class events. Proposed schedule shall be presented to the Executive Committee for review and approval prior to communicating with membership. Subject schedule to be available for a vote by the members at the AGM.
- 1.2 Any Club, Open, Regional, or National Regatta which is desired to be included in the Club Schedule must be presented to the Executive Committee for approval prior to committing to members of the Club or outside organizing authorities. (This does not preclude an inquiry from an AMYA or Class Officer responding to an inquiry but response should be clear that opportunity must be reviewed and approved by executive committee prior to a commitment.) Proposal submission to the Executive Committee shall include the desired date or dates, how the racing and social activities will be supported and managed.
- 1.3 Race Committee is responsible for organizing and management of on Lake and associated activities required to support Club fleet racing. This includes the items in Sec. 2. Below.

Sec. 2. Published sailing instructions for Club Racing Events. (Club, Open, Regional and National events are stand alone and require a specific set of sailing instructions.

- 2.1 For Club, Open, Regional and National Events, A Notice of Race is required. Race Committee is responsible for maintaining and placement/removal of sailing marks. These may be repositioned as needed at the direction of the On-site Race Director during the conduct of a race event.
- 2.2 Race Committee is responsible for organizing and obtaining personnel to run the races. This include positions of Race Director, A person to act as Score Keeper (If more than 10 boats expected), and other support required to conduct the racing and social activities of the event.
- 2.3 Individual Members of the Race Committee are responsible for ensuring that those racing in their fleet are compliant to the rules and regulations of the class and if required are members of the class organization and have paid dues if applicable.
- 2.4 Fleet Captains are responsible for obtaining and presenting Series, Season and Local Regatta awards for their fleet.
- 2.5 Fleet captain in conjunction with a member of the Executive Committee and the Race director to decide protests if filed.
- 2.6 Fleet Captain shall keep a record of all races and of all proceedings and expenditures.
- 2.7 Fleet Captain responsible for providing results of each race to the Score Keeper in a timely manner
- 2.8 Should Fleet Captain not be able to be present at a fleet event, he/she should assign an alternate to stand in.
- 2.9 If a Club, Open, Regional, or National event is approved and put on the schedule, no Fleet Captain can unilaterally cancel said event. The Race Committee and Executive Committee to be consulted prior to any such action. (Note this does not preclude the cancelation of an event due to severe weather or dangerous sailing conditions. In those cases, the Race Director in combination with the on-site Fleet Captain or Executive Committee member is empowered to cancel the day's activities)

Addendum (B) Member Involvement Responsibilities

Sec.1. Participate in the events and operations of the Club

Sec.2. For class racing, be a member of the Class Organization in which they race and be compliant with the rules of that class. Be a member of AMYA as it represents the sport of RC Sailing thru representation of the sport to US Sailing and other National and International entities responsible for the rules and regulations governing the sailing. Further, it provides communications and resources about the classes and events for our sport.

Sec.3. Be current on Club dues.

Sec.4. Encouraged to serve at least one event per year as a Race Director, a scorer, or other support activities related to the conduct of Club races or regattas.

Sec.5. It is the responsibility of our members to sail fairly, be compliant with the rules, and to treat all members and guest participants with respect.

Addendum (C) Sailing Instructions

- Sec.1. Sportsmanship - First and foremost, sailing requires sportsmanship. All members and guests sailing in SFMSC events are invited to join in the spirit of good competition within the bounds of sportsmanship. This is an area that all competitors are strongly encouraged to consciously consider and support. Poor sportsmanship or prolonged arguing and false hailing during a race will not be tolerated.
- Sec.2. Racing Rules - All competition shall be governed by the current US Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing. It is incumbent on the right of way boat to hail the give way boat by sail number and allow that skipper the chance to respond. Collisions are to be avoided at all costs. After hailing, a right of way boat must take action to avoid a collision if the give way boat fails to respond.
- Sec.3. Class Rules - All Classes must comply with the latest class regulations governing the boat and its equipment. This also includes class membership if required by class regulations.
- Sec.4. Race Director (RD) - The designated RD for the day, has the authority to change these Sailing Instructions during the course of the sailing day within the boundaries of the Sailing rules
- Sec.5. Penalties
- 5.1 Unless otherwise noted, there is no penalty for hitting an assigned mark for the courses.
 - 5.2 Penalty for hitting a start or finish mark is a 360 degree penalty turn.
 - 5.3 For other rule infractions, a 360 degree penalty turn shall be performed as soon as the boat can be sailed clear of other boats, and on the leg of the course that the infraction occurred. One jibe and one tack.
 - 5.4 Penalties that are committed once a start clock has announced the beginning of a start sequence; "Two Minutes Until Mark", "One Minute Until Mark", or "30 Seconds Until Mark" are required to perform a 360 degree penalty turn.
- Sec.6. Protests
- 6.1 A DSQ (disqualification) cannot be used as a throw out race.
 - 6.2 To protest, a skipper shall hail "protest" and the offender's sail number. If the offender refuses to do a penalty turn, a hearing will be heard by the RD a protest selected committee at the Lake at the end of the race day or during a significant break in the racing day.
 - 6.3 All Protests heard and decided by the RD and committee will be final.
 - 6.4 Prolonged arguing and false hailing during a race will not be tolerated. The RD may disqualify offenders.
- Sec.7. Start
- 7.1 The start time sequence will be started soon after the last boat finishes each heat.
 - 7.2 Only a line judge or RD may call a boat over early, not another competitor.
 - 7.3 A boat over the starting line before the start has no rights while returning. Such a boat must return to the start side of the line and re-cross the starting line.
 - 7.4 An "I flag signal" at the start requires a boat over early to return to the pre-start side of the line by rounding either end.
 - 7.5 A boat over the line early that does not return is scored DSQ.
- Sec.8. The Race - A race will be scored if 4 or more boats sail the course on an established race day. No races will be started after the daily scheduled finish time.

Sec.9. Finish

- 9.1 A boat officially finishes when any part of the boat in its normal position touches the finish line.
- 9.2 After finishing, boats must keep clear of boats that have not finished.
- 9.3 The RD may allow a last place boat to abandon the course to allow the next heat to start promptly.

Sec.10. Repair Delays.

- 10.1 A boat may request a 5-minute repair delay before a start sequence begins. Only one repair delay may be taken by each competitor per race day.
- 10.2 Adjustments to boats are not considered a reason for delaying a race start.
- 10.3 A boat that is damaged or entangled by a "keep clear" boat during a race and cannot finish, will be scored DNF or can ask for redress.
- 10.4 Request for redress must be made to the race committee within five minutes of the end of the heat.

Sec.11. Racecourse -The RD shall select the racecourse before the start of each race. The RD may announce changes to the course at any time, before or during a race, as long as the change is fair to all competitors.

Sec.12. Obstacles - Competitors may hail for room to tack or alter course to avoid obstacles as fishing lines, shoreline, docks, and other floating debris or wildlife.

Sec.13. Scoring

- 13.1 Scoring will be done using the Low Point System. First place boat gets 1 pt. Second place gets 2 pts. and so on.
- 13.2 Club, Open, Regional, or National events may be scored using a scoring system approved by the Race Committee.
- 13.3 DNF, DNS, DSQ or retire = # of competitors + 1.
- 13.4 The minimum number of heats races that must be sailed to constitute a race day is 5. 4
- 13.5. Throw out's races will be one in every six heats completed. A DSQ cannot be used as a throw out race.
- 13.6 All heat race scores will be totaled at the end of the race day.