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## Portage Yacht Club

Sailboat Racing since 1953

March 2021

Greetings!

The Board of Governors appointed the following 2021 Race Committee:

|                     |               |               |                                  |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------------------|
| Brook Smith, V Chr. | Bill Foster   | Kerry Pebbles | Bill O'Donnel                    |
| Clark Chapin, Sec   | Brian Hawkins | Tyler Cathy   | Rick Jarzembowski, Quartermaster |
| Tom Ehman           | Rick Lyons    | Ann Taylor.   | Jack White, Chair                |

2020 was a pretty terrible year, here at PYC and everywhere else. But things are looking up and racing season is upon us. We worked last year to revamp the PYC racing program based on the input that we received from the September 2019, all-hands meeting and subsequent survey. But, COVID prevented us from executing on that plan. This year we feel we have a much better handle on issues related to the virus and how it spreads. Our program will abide by state guidelines and the rules set forth by PYC, our host.

The recap below, repeated from last year, is meant as an overview. The NOR is the definitive document.

1. The Large Boat Silver (Thursday Night) Series will have 16 race nights. We are going to have more, shorter, back-to-back races (not unlike the Small Boat Silver (Tuesday Night) Series).
2. The Gold Series will have eight, scheduled race days with 3 back-to-back races scheduled on a staggered basis (usually every other weekend). We anticipate shorter, more tactical races.
3. One RM crew will serve for all three races on any given day.
4. In order to better ensure that there are eight race days, eight additional days will be designated as alternate (make-up) days. If a race day is moved to an alternate weekend, then the designated race management will be expected to cover the alternate date.
5. Gold Series races' Warning Signal on Saturday is at 1200, Sunday is at 1300. In each case three races will be attempted.
6. Small Boat Silver Races' Warning Signal is at 1830, Large Boat Silver warning signals will be at 1900 from 27 May to 12 August, and 1830 thereafter.
7. There will be several different events designed to increase the number of sailors at PYC, and there will be opportunities for you to help out in this endeavor.
8. The Race Committee is committed to welcoming racers with boats that are not members of our existing racing fleets with Portsmouth Handicap scoring if necessary.

The 2021 Sailing Instructions along with the Race Management Team assignments will be distributed in mid-May to those who register to race this coming season.

COVID-19 has added a degree of uncertainty to our ambitious plans to revise what has been our typical racing program. The Race Committee will be taking cues from Federal, state and local governments regarding best practices for outdoor activity and social isolation. Also, as mentioned above, we will follow PYC rules. Depending on the progression of the COVID virus, we will adjust our plans accordingly and provide notice to the racers on May 10, 2021. That being said we hope that all new and returning racers will sign by the deadline, and we, the Race Committee, are going to work hard to maintain a full racing season at PYC.

A potential **Crew List** is maintained by the PYC Office and is available to whoever is in need of a temporary or permanent crew. The **Crew List** indicates one's racing experience, race days of availability, spinnaker experience, and usually their body weight. Rick Lyons also puts a Crew List application on Craig's List.

PLEASE NOTE your REGISTRATION FORM and FEES MUST BE RECEIVED BY **APRIL 26**, to avoid the addition of a 20.00 LATE FEE.

PYC Race Committee