



## **Online Announcement**

### **May 2016**

#### **Report from Commodore Ron Orr and Notice of Proposed Bylaw Amendments:**

The first quarter of my tenure as Commodore has been quite eventful. I really did not fully appreciate all projects, events, meetings and interactions with our wonderful volunteers and members. There is good news in that our membership has been slowly but steadily increasing. The more stressing news is that we are still in the negotiating process with the Department of Beaches and Harbors over a renewal of the lease of our Clubhouse premises. As part of those negotiations, I have come to realize that we have not utilized our clubhouse premises to the extent possible and to maximize the member experience. We have a wonderful kitchen, dining room, bar and patio which not enough members have been able to fully appreciate. Further, our volunteer Wednesday night dinners have not been able to attract enough of our existing members, much less really realize the membership potential of our Yacht Club.

Therefore, I am pleased to announce that the Board of Directors has approved bringing in an experienced food and beverage operator who will provide regular, scheduled meal services for our membership and their guests. Effective June 1, 2016, the Club will be serving breakfast, lunch and dinner at the Club bar and patio and Wednesday through Sunday fine dining at the banquet room. There will be a full dining menu, Bar and Patio Menu and a Happy Hour menu all at reasonable prices. This new service should substantially improve the club experience and enhance our ability to grow the membership. I will be providing more details of the new food and beverage services in the near future and as June 1 approaches.

In addition, I have proposed amendments to the By-Laws that will broaden and amend the Classes of membership and their privileges to allow us to grow the membership so that our unique Yacht Club experience will be available to more people. As you can see below, we are expanding the definition of those on-the-water activities that qualify for a Fleet membership and adding other membership categories to build our membership. I am the most proud of the proposed new First Responder Membership which will provide reduced rate memberships to sworn United States military servicemen, law enforcement officers, paramedics and firefighters. These men and women who serve our community

and our country in time of need will be warmly welcomed to enjoy our club experience. The Bylaw Amendments stated below were presented to the Board of Directors at their May 12, 2016 meeting held at our clubhouse.

**Therefore, pursuant to Paragraph 10.1 of the Bylaws of the Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club, notice is hereby given that at their next regularly scheduled meeting on June 7, 2016 the Board of Directors will vote on the following Bylaws amendments as follows:**

Paragraph 2.3 will be amended and replaced to read as follows:

**2.3 Classes:** Classes of Membership shall be ten (10): Flag (FM), Senior Flag (SF), Individual Flag(IF), Junior (JM), Collegiate (CM), Mariner (MM), Non-Resident (NR), Fleet (FL), Racer (RM), Junior Family Membership (JFM), Affiliate Membership (AM), Trial Membership (TM), Visitor Membership (VM), Honorary (HM) and Life Membership (discontinued).

Paragraph 2.4 H will be amended and replaced in its entirety to read as follows:

**H. Fleet Membership** shall be limited to those persons who meet any of the following requirements:

- (1) Be a member or owner of a boat of a recognized US Sailing, World Sailing, SMWYC Small Boat, PHRF, Cruising Class or Fleet, subject to the approval of the Fleet Captain and Board of Directors;
- (2) Regularly participate in on-the-water activities other than sailing including, but not limited to, kayaking, canoeing, fishing, kite surfing, surfing and stand up paddling, subject to the approval of the Fleet Captain and Board of Directors;

Dues for this class shall be the same as those for the Mariner Class of membership without regard to age.

Each Fleet Group of five or more may nominate and elect its own internal officers, establish its own bylaws not inconsistent with SMWYC Bylaws, hold meetings and may appoint or elect a representative to report its activities to the SMWYC Race Chair.

New Paragraphs 2.3 L, M and N will be added to read as follows:

**L. First Responder Membership** shall be limited to active United States military servicemen, law enforcement officers, paramedics or firefighters. Member shall pay dues as set forth by the Board of Directors.

**M. Trial Membership** shall be available to anyone qualified to become a member in any other Class of Membership who expresses an interest in becoming a member of the Club and signs a Trial Membership Application. The Trial Membership shall be for 14 days from the execution of the Trial Membership

- N.** Application. If the Trial Member files an application for any other Class of Membership and pays the Application fee within the 14 day trial membership period, his rights and privileges as a Trial Member shall continue until the Board has voted on his membership application. During the Trial Period, the Trial Member shall not be required to pay dues and shall only have the right to utilize the Clubhouse, the food and beverage services and the right to take and pay for sailing instruction at the Club. The Commodore or Vice Commodore shall have the right to revoke a Trial Membership at any time in his or her sole discretion, and the Trial Member thereafter shall thereafter have no rights and privileges at the Club.
- O. Visitor Membership** shall be available to anyone whose principal residence is outside Los Angeles County and is qualified to become a member in any other Class of Membership who desires to use the Clubhouse facilities for a limited period of time for a period not to exceed 7 days at one time. The Visitor Member shall pay, in advance, a daily membership fee in an amount approved by the Board of Directors. During the term of the Visitor Membership the Visitor Member shall only have the rights to utilize the Clubhouse, the food and beverage services and the right to take and pay for sailing instruction at the Club. The Commodore or Vice Commodore shall have the right to revoke a Visitor Membership at any time in his or her sole discretion, and the Visitor Member shall thereafter have no rights and privileges at the Club.

Existing Paragraphs 2.3 L will become Paragraph 2.3 O

Existing Paragraph 2.3 M will become Paragraph 2.3 P.

Paragraph 2.5 will be amended and replaced in its entirety by the following:

## **2.5 Rights and Privileges of Members**

- A. Each Flag Membership, Individual Flag Membership or Senior Flag Membership shall have the right to hold office, make full use of all club facilities, race under the Club's burgee, and shall have one vote in the annual elections. Only one member in a Dual Membership may be elected or appointed to serve on the Board of Directors at the same time.
- B. Each Collegiate, Mariner, Fleet, Racer, Junior Family and Affiliate Membership shall have the right to be Elected or Appointed a Director at Large, participate in Committees (but not become a Bridge Officer), make full use of all club facilities, race under the club's burgee, and shall have one-half vote in the annual elections.
- C. All other Members shall have the same rights as Flag Members, except the right to vote or hold office.

The Board of Directors will consider and vote on these Bylaw amendments at its next regularly scheduled Board meeting at the clubhouse on June 7, 2016 at 730 PM. I believe that the new food and beverage services and the expanded membership opportunities are necessary to enhance the SMWYC membership experience, allow us to increase our membership in order to validate and utilize the enhanced food and beverage service. This will also allow our Club to expand its Junior Sailing Program, expand its sailing instruction program to a larger group of adult members and the parents of junior sailors. It will also allow us to better to contribute to the goals of the Small Craft Harbor Commission Goals for the Marina del Rey.

Sincerely:

**Ron Orr**

**Commodore Ron Orr**

**Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club**



**May 14, 2016**