



February 9, 2017

Dear PHRF-LE Certificate Holder:

Enclosed is your 2017 PHRF renewal notice. Please note the following items:

**E-mail Addresses-** Please check your email address on your renewal form and update if incorrect / missing.

**PDF Renewals & Certificates-** The renewal fee remains the same for 2017 at \$35.00 if paid **before May 15<sup>th</sup>**. Renewals received **AFTER May 15<sup>th</sup>** and the remainder of the season will be \$45.00. **Canadian members with a Canadian address at this writing can pay \$35.00 Canadian for their membership renewal.**

**New applications** will return to the regular fee of \$35.00 in 2017. We are sending renewal notices by e-mail again this year. PHRF-LE will also again provide your 2017 certificate as an electronic PDF to the e-mail address we have on file. If this is not acceptable to you, please send an e-mail note or letter to [info@phrf-le.org](mailto:info@phrf-le.org) **ASAP. PLEASE RENEW PROMPTLY.** If you receive your certificate by mail and you want a PDF copy, please send an e-mail to: [info@phrf-le.org](mailto:info@phrf-le.org). PHRF-LE continues to be dedicated to provide ratings to support races.

**Web Site:** You will notice a new look to the web site. We have optimized it for mobile access. We encourage you to view it for the class rules, ratings, and official forms. (<http://www.phrf-le.org>).

**Forms & Information-** The 2017 Class Rules, Applications & Forms, Regatta Schedule and our meeting minutes are found at our web site at <http://www.phrf-le.org>. We try to post the minutes immediately following the meeting in which they are approved.

**General Membership Meetings:** A general membership meeting is held twice a year in the spring and winter in conjunction with the ILYA meeting. Our April board meeting will again be held at the Erie Yacht Club in Erie, PA on Sunday, April 23rd. We will not hold a general membership meeting as we have in the past

**Results:** As always, PHRF-LE is looking for accurate race results. We endorse and strongly encourage clubs to utilize the race scoring program at [www.NoticeofRace.net](http://www.NoticeofRace.net). The site was created by a PHRF-LE member and is free for clubs and members. The site provides a medium to easily retrieve race results. Race results can always be sent to the [info@phrf-le.org](mailto:info@phrf-le.org) email address in any format. These race results are used during new ratings and rating range reviews.

**Financials-** The financial state of PHRF-LE remains strong. PHRF-LE's only income is dues. Expenditures are for administrative, mailings, web site and meeting costs. The 2016 membership continued a slow decrease to 499 in 2016 vs. 514 in 2015, 521 in 2014, and 533 in 2013. 2016 expenses were slightly higher than dues income and what was budgeted. As of 12/31/16, PHRF-LE had a healthy balance, about the level of one year of expenses. In 2017, we anticipate spending about the same as our yearly income which will keep the balance at a similar level. We have no unusual expenditures planned for 2017 and the renewal and application income will help maintain our reserve of one year's operating expense. Please encourage those racing at your club without a certificate to join.

Good luck in 2017 and have a safe year racing.

Bill Kellner  
PHRF-LE Chairman

## **PHRF LE Rules Reminders**

U.S. Sailing Rules prohibit adjusting of standing rigging (other than backstay) during a race. Although some OD rules allow this, it is a rules violation when racing in a PHRF class.

Lifelines must conform to the current (circa 2014) U.S. Sailing U.S. Safety Equipment Requirements. Go to <http://www.ussailing.org> and search for Safety at Sea. "Lifelines shall be taut" by Rule 49.2 of the Racing Rules of Sailing and the U.S. Sailing U.S. Safety Equipment Requirements. "As a guide, when a deflecting force of 50 N (5.1 kgf, 11.2 lbf) is applied to a lifeline midway between supports, the lifeline should not deflect more than 50 mm". Further, where "taut synthetic rope" is used to secure lifelines, the gap may not exceed 100 mm. There is no place for bungee cord or other elastic devices in the lifeline system. Also see PHRF-LE Class Rules 9.1. This is a protestable event by a competitor.

A boat that qualifies for a regular PHRF-LE certificate will be allowed to race without a certificate for one race/regatta by taking a 7 second/mile penalty. Cruising credits are not applicable in this instance. (See Section 7.8 for further details).

### **Clubs are encouraged to state:**

"The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing and the PHRF-LE Class Rules" in their sailing instructions.

PHRF-LE rules not only support boat ratings, but also include many other rules such as:

Which sails may be used i.e. a spinnaker cannot be used in a PHRF-LE JAM class

Limits JAM boats from using two head sails on the same stay

Rules as to what equipment must be on the boat (and what can be legally removed)

Equipment requirements such as lifelines, propulsion.

For more, see our rules at <http://www.phrf-le.org>.

In general, one design ratings (OD) cover the sails that may be used, whether the class legal sails are the maximum size and type that is to be used: (OD), or the PHRF-LE sail configuration is to be used. Where the boat rating is for OD sails, it is specifically stated on the boat's rating certificate and in the membership information at <http://www.phrf-le.org> => Membership,

e.g. SYNCHRONICITY	J- 105 OD
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PHRF-LE OD rating does not address other class rules (e.g. number of sails, crew size, etc.). PHRF-LE rules supersede class rules for things like multiple head sails, lifelines-bow sprit, crew weight, etc.