



February 25, 2018

Dear PHRF-LE Certificate Holder:

Enclosed is your 2018 PHRF renewal notice. Please note the following items:

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

PDF Renewals & Certificates- The renewal fee remains the same for 2018 at \$35.00 if paid **before May 15th**. Renewals received **AFTER May 15th and the remainder of the season will be \$50.00.** **Canadian members with a Canadian address at this writing can pay \$35.00 Canadian for their membership renewal.**

We are sending renewal notices by e-mail again this year. PHRF-LE will also again provide your 2018 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 **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. PHRF-LE continues to be dedicated to provide ratings to support races.

Web Site: We encourage you to continue to use our website (<http://www.phrf-le.org>) for forms and information. Class Rules, Applications & Forms, and our meeting minutes are found at our web site. The Minutes page is updated monthly with the current approved minutes plus information about future meetings. A contact page is also available for your convenience.

General Membership Meetings: A general membership meeting is held twice a year in the spring and winter in conjunction with the ILYA meeting. We have had poor attendance at general meetings held in Erie the last few years and have elected not to do so again this year. We encourage you to attend the ILYA meeting.

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. 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 email address in any format. These race results are used during new ratings and rating range reviews.

Reporting New and New to You (Used) Sails: Submission of sail measurement forms has dropped in the last few years. It is not enough to just report the purchase of new sails. It is the obligation and requirement of members to submit sail measurement forms. Your sailmaker should provide you with a measurement of a new sail and your club measurer can measure any purchased used sails.

Financials- The financial state of PHRF-LE remains strong. PHRF-LE's only income is dues. Expenditures are for administrative, US Sailing Fleet dues, web site and meeting costs. The 2017 membership continued a slow decrease to 484 in 2017 vs. 498 in 2016, 514 in 2015, 521 in 2014, and 533 in 2013. 2017 expenses were slightly higher than dues income and what was budgeted. As of 12/31/17, PHRF-LE had a healthy balance, about the level of one year of expenses. At the end of 2018, we anticipate spending some of the balance on a new website that will allow members to renew and pay online for certificates. Since dues income is our only resource, please encourage those racing at your club without a certificate to join.

Good luck in 2018 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.

PHRF-LE subscribes to the current U.S. Sailing U.S. Safety Equipment Requirements prescriptions relative to Lifelines. Go to <http://www.ussailing.org> and search for Safety at Sea.

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).

As a reminder, on outboard rated boats, outboards must be carried on board and must be capable of being reinstalled in their normal motoring position while underway (Section 15.3).

Clubs are encouraged to state in the Notice of Race and/or Sailing Instructions.

“The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing and the PHRF-LE Class Rules and Ratings”. As a PHRF-LE member you have the right to know what rules and ratings to expect at a regatta. A Race Organizing Authority does not have the authority to change ratings. While the Race Organizer can accept a certificate from another area, the PHRF-LE Class Rules clearly address this issue (Section 7.8.1) and must use the PHRF-LE rating if one exists.

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. A 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, hiking, bow sprit, crew weight, etc.