

**SEATTLE SINGLES YACHT CLUB  
MISSION STATEMENT AND BY-LAWS**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

SSYC is a non-profit organization whose function is to provide a healthy social environment wherein its membership can participate in all recreational, educational and social aspects of the sport of boating, both power and sail, skiing, and other activities.

**SEATTLE SINGLES YACHT CLUB  
BY-LAWS**

(Amended December 2009)

**ARTICLE I  
MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

Section 1. There shall be the following classes of membership:

- A. Annual: Provides for the right to cast one vote. Qualifies for discounts and reciprocal rights. Does not pay dues at each weekly meeting attended.
- B. Skipper in Good Standing: Provides for the right to cast one vote. Qualifies for discounts and reciprocal rights. Does not pay dues at each weekly meeting attended nor dance fees.
- C. Casual: No voting rights. Does not qualify for discounts or reciprocal rights. Dues are collected at the door for each meeting attended.
- D. Past Commodores: In perpetuity, provides for the right to cast one vote; qualifies for discounts and reciprocal rights; does not pay dues at each weekly meeting attended nor dance fees.
- E. Associate: Available for annual members who marry and who have both been annual members for a minimum of one year. No voting rights, cannot hold office. Qualifies for discounts and reciprocal rights. Does not pay dues at weekly meetings attended.

Section 2. Dues: The Board of Trustees will establish the fee structure for all classes of membership. The Board of Trustees is specifically authorized to subdivide annual membership into Regular Annual Members, Club Skipper Annual Members and Associate Annual Members and to have different membership requirements for these three subdivisions.

Section 3. The Club year shall be from January 1st to December 31st of the same year.

Section 4. Membership is open to all non-married adults and Associate Members over the age of 21 interested in boating and other recreational activities, (e.g. water-skiing and snow skiing).

Section 5. The Board of Trustees may, by majority vote, reprimand or expel a member for unbecoming conduct or actions inimical to the Club.

Section 6. Annual Memberships are good for 12 months and are renewable during the anniversary month of the membership. All applications for annual membership are subject to Board approval.

**Article II  
OFFICERS AND DUTIES**

Section 1. The Club (the Bridge) will be the Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore, Secretary and Treasurer. These officers shall be elected at the annual election for the following year. All elected officers and appointed Board Members shall be Annual Members in good standing.

Section 2. The Board of Trustees shall consist of the elective officers, a Past Commodore, Fleet Captain and the Members-at-Large. The Commodore shall appoint both the Fleet Captain and the Member-at-Large with the advice and consent of the Bridge. Their term of office shall be one year. The Board of Trustees shall be responsible for the management of the Club. The Past Commodore representative shall be selected by the ex-officio committee of Past Commodores, normally to be the most recent past Commodore.

Section 3. The Commodore shall be the senior executive officer of the Club and shall be responsible for the business of the Club. He/she shall preside at all meetings of the Membership and the Board of Trustees.

Section 4. The Vice Commodore shall take the place of the Commodore in his/her absence. He/she shall act as Executive Officer to the Commodore. He/she shall be responsible for the Club racing and cruising program, other events and activities.

Section 5. The Rear Commodore shall take the place of the Commodore in the absence of both the Commodore and Vice Commodore. He/she shall be responsible for Club Household affairs, equipment and publicity.

Section 6. The Secretary's duties shall include the keeping of records of all proceedings of the Club and the Board of Trustees, and of all members enrolled in the Club, and a file of documents, records, communications and other matters connected with the Club business.

Section 7. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all funds of the Club, shall give necessary receipts for monies paid to the Club, and shall deposit Club money in the bank approved by the Board of Trustees in the name of the Club. Disbursements shall be made by the Treasurer upon the authority of the Board of Trustees. He/she shall keep suitable books of accounts, shall make reports to the Board of Trustees and to the general membership business meetings, regarding the financial condition of the Club. The Treasurer shall be bonded, as directed by the Board of Trustees.

Section 8. All disbursements will be made by check. All disbursements in excess of \$50.00 must be signed by two officers, normally the Commodore and another elected officer.

Section 9. The Commodore, with the advice and consent of the Board of Trustees, shall annually appoint the Club delegates or representatives to other yachting organizations.

Section 10. The immediate Past Commodore shall serve as chairman of an ex-officio committee of Past Commodores and shall present by the October Board meeting the name of the Past Commodore who is to serve as a Board member.

Section 11. The Fleet Captain shall represent the interests of the skippers to the Board, and organize skippers' activities.

Section 12. The Membership Person-at-Large shall represent the interests of the general membership to the Board. He/she shall pole and organize the ongoing interests of the general membership community.

Section 13. Each Trustee of the Board shall be entitled to appoint an assistant to serve in the Trustee's stead should the Trustee be unavailable for one or more meetings. The assistant may help the Trustee in the completion of the position's regular duties.

### **Article III COMMITTEES**

Section 1. The Commodore shall appoint with the advice and consent of the Board of Trustees, chairpersons of such committees that the Board of Trustees may deem necessary.

### **Article IV MEETINGS**

Section 1. Weekly meetings of the Club shall be on Monday evenings.

Section 2. The general membership business meeting shall be held annually.

Section 3. The Commodore may call special meetings of the members of the Club or at the request of a majority of the Board of Trustees by giving ten days written notice thereof to the Annual Members, stating the object of the meeting.

Section 4. The Board of Trustees shall meet regularly, on a schedule determined by the Board of Trustees or at the behest of the Commodore. Board meetings shall be open to the membership.

Section 5. The business activities of the Club shall be addressed at the Board of Trustees meetings or at special meetings. A quorum consisting of a minimum of five of the Board of Trustees shall be present for voting. Club affairs, which require decision by voting, shall be decided by a majority vote of the Board of Trustees.

Section 6. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all meetings, unless superseded by this document.

## **Article V NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees each year, to appoint an Election Committee of three Annual Members by July 1, each year. The committee shall select its own chairperson. No more than one member of the Board of Trustees shall be appointed as a member of the Election Committee.

Section 2. The Election Committee shall present a slate of nominees to the Board of Trustees, at the first Board Meeting in the Month of November.

Section 3. The Election Committee shall read its selections to the Club members at a nominating meeting called for this purpose on the third Monday in November. Additional nominations may be made:

A. From the floor at this meeting by Annual Members. No member shall be nominated without his or her consent. All nominees shall be Annual Members in good standing.

B. By mail to the Secretary of the Club prior to this nominations meeting, A nominating letter must be signed by three Annual Members or Club Skippers in good standing and include the consent of the person nominated. All nominees shall be Annual Members in good standing.

Section 4. The Election Committee will email ballots to all Annual Members and Skippers in good standing during the week after the nominations meeting per Section 3. Members may request a hard copy of the ballot be sent through regular mail. Ballots may be returned to the Club address or brought to the Election Meeting to be held during the first Monday meeting in December. Ballots returned by mail must be in the hands of the Club Secretary prior to the start of this election meeting in order to be considered.

Section 5. The Election Committee shall act as election judges and distribute and count ballots used in the election, and then certify to the Commodore the successful candidates. It is not required to have more than one nominee for any office.

Section 6. In the event of a tie for any position, Robert's Rules of Order shall apply (i.e. a re-vote of attending Annual Members).

Section 7. The Change of Watch ceremony and Appreciation Awards presentation shall occur at a regular December or January meeting designated by the Board of Trustees. The newly elected Board assumes command on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **Article VI BURGEE AND OWNERS**

Section 1, The Club Burgee shall be a white sailboat on a red circle outlined in blue on a white field. It shall be flown according to prevailing custom.

Section 2. Boats owned by Club Annual Members or boats in which a Club Annual Member has at least a quarter interest may be enrolled in the Club squadron and may fly the Club Burgee.

Section 3. Boats not in the Club squadron, but operated by a club Annual Member may fly the Club Burgee while that member is aboard.

Section 4. No yacht or boat chartered to, or owned by a non-member of the Club, or engaged in trading, shall be entitled to fly the Club Burgee.

**Article VII**  
**FLAGS OF OFFICERS AND APPOINTMENTS**

Section 1. The Commodore, when afloat, may fly a blue rectangular flag with a white fouled anchor encircled by thirteen white stars, according to prevailing custom.

Section 2. The Vice Commodore, when afloat, may fly a red rectangular flag with a white fouled anchor encircled by thirteen white stars, according to prevailing custom.

Section 3. The Rear Commodore, when afloat, may fly a white rectangular flag with a red fouled anchor encircled by thirteen red stars, according to prevailing custom.

Section 4. The Past Commodore, when afloat, may fly a blue rectangular flag with a white fouled anchor and three stars in a line, according to prevailing custom.

Section 5. The Secretary, when afloat, may fly a blue rectangular flag with crossed quills, according to prevailing custom.

Section 6. The Treasurer, when afloat, may fly a blue rectangular flag with an acorn, according to prevailing custom.

Section 7. The Fleet Captain, when afloat, may fly a white rectangular flag with an anchor, according to prevailing custom.

**Article VIII**  
**PROPERTY RIGHTS**

Section 1. This Club has no capital stock. No member shall have any right, title or interest whatsoever in or to any of the property assets, which the Club may have except upon dissolution, according to law. The Commodore and Treasurer shall maintain a list of the description, at-cost value, and location of the Club's capital assets.

**Article IX**  
**SOLICITATION**

Section 1. No member shall use or release to others, the Club membership roster for any purpose other than Club business, unless specifically authorized by the Board of Trustees.

**Article X**  
**AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. These By-laws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Trustees, and shall be approved by majority vote of Annual Members at a general membership business meeting. Notice and copy of the proposed amendment shall be emailed to each Annual Member at least ten days prior to such meeting. Members may request a hard copy of the notice and copy of the proposed amendment be sent thru the regular mail.

**Article XI**  
**RECIPROCAL PRIVILEGES**

Section 1. The Board shall annually establish a policy for reciprocal privileges.