

RACE COMMITTEE POLICY

1. Intent: The AYC Race Committee is committed to promoting quality yacht racing at and beyond the Club level. For the purpose of administering the Club racing program and to encourage activity and continuity, the Race Committee will limit the number of fleets and starts according to the activity of those fleets. The Committee encourages members to race within the currently recognized one-design fleets in order to improve the quality of competition in each of those fleets. The list of recognized one-design classes and handicap fleets is updated regularly and are listed in the AYC Directory.
2. Changes in One-Design Fleets: If a one-design fleet not currently recognized has an average of five boats in each of the races for which such a fleet is eligible for two consecutive series, that fleet may replace a one-design fleet in its category (centerboard or keel) which has failed to maintain such a five-boat average. If a fleet meets the five-boat average and no other fleet fails to do so, the Race Committee may make a recommendation to the Board as to whether or not to increase the number of recognized fleets. If a fleet has lower participation than the five-boat average, the Race Committee may make a recommendation to the Board to reduce the number of recognized fleets.
3. Changes in Handicap System: Those interested in handicap sailing shall form a fleet and, as a group, decide on which handicap system is favored. The fleet captain will advise the Race Committee of the handicap system which has been selected. The Race Committee will make a recommendation to the Board which will make the final decision. It is recommended that the handicap system be approved on an annual basis; however, the fleet may change the handicap system at any time according to the procedure outlined above. If no handicap system is recommended, the Race Committee will make the decision.
4. Protests: Protests in series races should be viewed as a means of learning the racing rules as well as deciding right and wrong in a given situation. The Race Committee is to conduct and decide each protest in an equitable manner.
5. Fleet Participation: One-design fleets shall receive credit, for the purpose of fleet recognition only, for participation in out-of-town regattas that conflict with the Series races. Fleet Captains should report such activity to the Race Committee representative for the series.
6. Cancellation of Series Races: Before the series race committee leaves the dock, the Permanent Race Committee representative shall be responsible for canceling the day's races based on the following guidelines:
 1. Races may be canceled for all classes if there is lightening in the vicinity or if the temperature is below 45 degrees F.
 2. Centerboard handicap races may be canceled if the wind exceeds a steady 20 mph and gusts above 25 mph.
 3. All classes may be canceled if the steady wind exceeds 25 mph and gusts above 30 mph.
 4. Normally races may not be canceled before the scheduled starting time. In the rare event that races are canceled before the scheduled starting time, they must be canceled by the PRC representative.

5. Centerboard races may be canceled ashore or afloat in accordance with the Race Instructions.
7. Cancellation of Regattas: The preceding criteria for canceling a series race shall serve as a guideline for regattas at AYC. However, a regatta race committee may exercise its own judgment on when to cancel.
8. Race Committee Duty
 1. Series races will be conducted by a race committee composed of members of the scheduled duty fleet. The fleet will provide suitable personnel to operate the committee boat and two chase boats, and will report to the Permanent Race Committee representative for the series not later than one and a half hours prior to the scheduled warning signal.
 2. Regatta race committee will be chaired by a member of the Permanent Race Committee. The recognized fleets must provide the members for race committee duty as determined by the Permanent Race Committee in conjunction with the Fleet Captains' Committee.
 - o Fleet Captains are the designated liaisons with the Permanent Race Committee. If fleets fail to meet their responsibilities, the Permanent Race Committee may recommend to the AYC Board appropriate sanctions.
9. The Committee boat and chase boats shall be used only by those authorized by the Race Commander and Club Manager. A minimum of two people per boat is required. The boat driver must have a current driver's license. The consumption of alcohol is strictly prohibited, while operating any AYC boat for any reason.
10. Boats racing in AYC Series races must have an AYC member aboard unless previously authorized by the Race Commander. Special racing series that are approved by the Board are exceptions. Reciprocity with other clubs will be honored.
11. Racing Calendar
12. The official racing calendar of AYC is published in the annual AYC Directory and Handbook. This calendar or an updated version will be posted on the AYC Race Committee Official Notice Board (normally located at the patio level of the AYC clubhouse) to provide official notice of the dates of racing events.
13. The AYC Board of Directors must approve any schedule changes to the racing calendar. Such changes must be approved one month prior to the scheduled or proposed date of the event being changed, added, or deleted, whichever is earlier. Requested exceptions to the one-month notice will be considered by the Board.