

YORK RIVER YACHT CLUB
BYLAWS
(as Revised 3/2/24)

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be YORK RIVER YACHT CLUB, INC. (YRYC)

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purposes of this organization shall be to:

- a. encourage and support yachting on the York River, and on the adjacent waters;
- b. promote social and recreational fellowship among owners of yachts in the York River area; and
- c. advocate safety, boating education and etiquette, and responsible marine stewardship.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Prospective Members In Any Category:

- a. must be sponsored and introduced to the membership body at a General Meeting or YRYC function;
- b. shall obtain the signature of one (1) member in good standing and two board members; and
- c. shall complete an application and pay fees upon request.

Section 2. Family Unit Membership:

- a. Ninety percent (90%) of the membership, or a number as determined by the Board of Directors, shall consist of owners of watercraft.
- b. A Family Unit is defined as an individual and his/her spouse or significant other and minor children.
- c. One (1) member of the family unit must be at least eighteen (18) years of age
- d. A family unit must own a sail or power vessel when joining YRYC, but need not retain ownership to retain membership.

Section 3. Inactive Membership:

- a. A member (or someone on member's behalf) may request inactive membership status by submitting a written request to the Membership Captain for approval by the Board of Directors for the following reasons:
 1. leaving the area for an extended period;
 2. financial hardship;
 3. personal health; or
 4. other reasons deemed valid by the Board of Directors.
- b. An inactive member will receive a newsletter but may not participate in club sponsored events. An inactive status is not to exceed a period of 3 years unless approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Honorary Membership:

The Board may invite the serving Commanding Officer of the Yorktown United States Coast Guard Officer Training Center at Yorktown, Virginia to join the YRYC as an Honorary Member. If that individual accepts the invitation, he/she will enjoy all privileges of membership, except voting privileges, and will not be required to pay an initiation fee or annual dues. Honorary Membership shall cease when the individual vacates the Commanding Officer position, or is relocated from that facility.

Section 5. Removal from Membership:

- a. A member shall be removed for the following reasons:
 1. unbecoming conduct;
 2. violation of YRYC Bylaws;
 3. conduct considered offensive or injurious to the well-being of YRYC; or
 4. failure to pay dues by April 30th.
- b. The Secretary shall give written notice to the member of membership termination and the reasons thereof.
- c. Any decision by the Board of Directors to recommend removal of a member may be appealed by a written

notice within thirty (30) days of the mailing date of the recommendation for removal notice.

- d. The appeal will be held at the next General Membership meeting, and any decision rendered will be by a 3/4 vote of the members present.

ARTICLE IV. DUES AND FEES

Section I. Initiation Fees:

- a. An initiation fee shall be set each year by the Board of Directors, subject to confirmation by the General Membership.
- b. The initiation fee shall be waived for rejoining inactive members.
- c. Initiation fees will be deposited in the Capital Growth Fund.

Section II. Annual Dues:

- a. shall be set each year by the Board of Directors and approved by the General Membership;
- b. shall be prorated quarterly during the year a new member joins;
- c. shall be applied to the YRYC's operating expenses; and
- d. shall be due and payable as follows:
 1. remitted by January 1;
 2. received or postmarked by December 31 of previous year may be discounted at a rate determined by the Board of Directors;
 3. not received or postmarked by March 31 shall result in a 10% penalty above annual dues, except in extenuating circumstances as approved by the Board of Directors.
- e. Dues payments are not refundable.

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1. Eligibility:

To be eligible for election all candidates shall be active regular members in good standing for a period of at least one full year.

Section 2. Officers:

- a. The elected officers of the YRYC shall be a Commodore, Vice-Commodore, Rear Commodore, Secretary, Treasurer, Race Captain, Cruise Captain, Membership and Communications Captain, and the Immediate Past Commodore.
- b. The officers shall be responsible for planning, scheduling, and coordinating an annual calendar of events.
- c. If there are vacancies on any Committee and/or Board position, the existing Board Officer/s may temporarily fulfill the role and responsibilities of the vacancies.

Section 3. Term:

- a. The term of office for all elected officers shall be for a minimum period of one (1) year.
- b. Unless the majority of members vote otherwise, the Commodore and Vice-Commodore shall not serve in the same capacity for more than two consecutive years.

Section 4. Duties of the Commodore:

- a. shall be the Chief Executive of the YRYC and preside at all meetings and the Board of Directors;
- b. serve as an ex officio member of all YRYC committees, except for the Nominating Committee;
- c. shall cast the deciding vote in the event of a tie; and
- d. shall appoint needed chairperson positions at his/her discretion
- e. May chair the Nominating Committee in the absence of the Past Commodore.

Section 5. Duties of the Vice-Commodore:

- a. shall serve as Commodore during the Commodore's absence;
- b. shall act as liaison to other yacht clubs; and
- c. be responsible for evaluating the YRYC's activities and programs to keep them responsive to the needs of the membership.

Section 6. Duties of the Rear Commodore:

- a. shall serve as Commodore in the absence of both the Commodore and Vice-Commodore;
- b. shall serve as the Chairperson of the monthly meeting programs; and
- c. unless otherwise defined in this document or unless otherwise agreed upon by the Officers, will act as the primary event coordinator and shall coordinate with the Cruise or Race Captain on any specific social functions for major club events.

Section 7. Duties of the Treasurer:

- a. prepare an annual budget for approval by the Board of Directors;
- b. receive, deposit, and account for all funds of YRYC in the Operating Account and Capital Account;
- c. make disbursements as are authorized by the Board of Directors; and
- d. execute investments and manage the financial reserve as authorized by the Board of Directors
- e. submit a monthly report of the financial status of YRYC to the Board of Directors
- f. The Treasurer, Commodore, and Rear Commodore shall be the only persons authorized to sign checks for YRYC with only one signature required on the check. If the Rear Commodore position is vacant, the Commodore may assign check writing privileges to another Board Member.

Section 8. Duties of the Secretary:

- a. shall keep all records of YRYC business, including the minutes of meetings;
- b. shall prepare and dispatch YRYC correspondence; and
- c. shall be responsible for all YRYC physical property, including general supplies, routine and emergency maintenance;
- d. may appoint a Port Captain to serve as an assistant.

Section 9. Duties of the Race Captain:

- a. shall plan YRYC racing activities;
- b. shall coordinate with other club's racing programs;
- c. shall coordinate major race events with the Rear Commodore and the Social Committee; and
- d. may appoint a Race Committee.

Section 10. Duties of the Cruise Captain:

- a. shall coordinate cruise planning for the sail and power fleets; and
- b. may appoint a Cruise Committee.

Section 11. Duties of the Membership & Communications Captain:

- a. shall be primarily responsible for recruiting new members;
- b. shall compile and distribute new member packets;
- c. shall present new member applications for consideration to the Board of Directors; and
- d. may appoint a Membership Committee.
- e. shall organize and implement an e-mail membership notification and any social media

Section 12. Duties of the Past Commodore:

The Past Commodore shall chair the Nominating Committee in selecting the new slate of officers.

Section 13. Vacancies:

Vacancies on this Board of Directors occurring between annual elections shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Board members.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

Section 1. General Meetings:

Meetings for the general membership shall be held monthly or at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Annual Meeting:

The annual meeting will be held in November or December.

ARTICLE VII. STANDING COMMITTEES AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1. Audit and Investment Committee:

- a. shall be appointed by the Commodore;
- b. will be comprised of no more the three members
- c. will serve for a period of time defined by the Commodore
- d. attend YRYC Board meetings, when requested

Audit Responsibilities

- a. shall audit the financial records of the YRYC for a calendar year; and
- b. shall present to the Board of Directors a report of the audit

Investment Responsibilities

- a. serve as an investment advisor to the YRYC Board
- b. review and opine on YRYC cash reserve and current investments
- c. monitor and analyze financial market conditions
- d. provide investment recommendations
- e. monitor and recommend adjustment to YRYC cash reserve and investments
- f. work directly with the YRYC Treasurer to execute financial investments
- g. the Board and ultimately the Commodore will have final decision and control on the YRYC cash reserve and investments

Section 2. Bylaws Committee:

- a. shall be appointed by the Commodore;
- b. shall evaluate all proposed amendments to the bylaws before being presented to the Board of Directors and the General Membership; and
- c. conduct a detailed study of the bylaws at a minimum of every 4 (four) years and make appropriate recommendations to the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Cruise Committee:

- a. may be selected by the Cruise Captain; and
- b. help prepare a schedule of cruises to be held during the year.

Section 4. Membership & Committee:

- a. may be appointed by the Membership & Communications Captain; and
- b. help to recruit new members.

Section 5. Race Committee:

- a. A Race Committee shall be selected to assist the Race Captain.

Section 6. Social Committee:

- a. may be selected by the Rear Commodore; and
- b. help plan and implement YRYC social functions.

ARTICLE VIII. QUORUM

A majority of members shall constitute a quorum for all meetings of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Nominations:

- a. The Past Commodore shall chair and appoint a Nominating Committee of at least two (2) members.
- b. The Nominating Committee shall recommend one (1) candidate for each position on the Board of

Directors.

- c. The proposed slate of officers shall be made available to the General Membership thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting.

Section 2. Elections:

Elections will be held at the annual meeting by a majority vote of members present.

ARTICLE X. LIABILITY

Neither the YRYC, Inc., its officers nor members shall assume any liability for personal injury and damage or loss of property belonging to YRYC members, private individuals, or corporations or their representatives, while using YRYC facilities or participating in any YRYC events or activities. Neither the YRYC, Inc., its officers nor members shall assume any liability for financial losses to the Operating Account(s), Reserve Account(s) and Investment Account(s) as long as these persons are fulfilling club duties and acting in good faith.

ARTICLE XI. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The current edition of Roberts Rules of Order shall govern all meetings.

ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the active members provided notice of the proposed amendment(s) have been submitted in writing to every member at least fourteen calendar (14) days before the end of the voting period.

ARTICLE XIII. DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of the YRYC, Inc., and after the resolution of debts, all tangible assets will be sold or contributed to charity, and all funds will be donated to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. None of the assets or funds will be distributed to any member or officer.

Date Bylaws Revised: 03/02/2024

Date Approved by Board of Directors: 03/02/2024

Date Approved by General Membership: 3/19/2024