



## Saint Croix Sailing Club

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# *Handicapping Policy*

*Approved 2016-09-07*

The board of directors of the Saint Croix Sailing Club shall appoint a ratings committee in accordance with this document. It shall be the duty of the ratings committee to assign each registered boat a handicap based on the procedures defined in this policy and to assign registered boats into the number of divisions requested by the organizing committee. Any changes to this policy shall require the approval of the board of directors before going into effect.

The ratings committee shall consist of the following voting members:

- The ratings chair
- Two representatives for each division defined as of the time of the last annual meeting

as well as the following non voting members:

- The race committee chair
- The organizing committee chair

The ratings committee shall be led by the ratings chair who shall be responsible for ensuring the committee fulfills its duties in accordance with this policy. A majority of voting members shall be required to be present in order to constitute a quorum. In the event that a committee vote results in a tie, the ratings chair shall cast one additional vote to break the tie.

### **Appointment of Committee Members**

Ratings Committee representatives for each division shall be appointed by the organizing committee representative for that division. Representatives for the divisions shall have either been a skipper in the division or actively participated in racing as a crew member in the division in the prior season. Should the organizing committee representative for the division fail to appoint members to the ratings committee, the ratings chair shall appoint the representatives for the division.



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### Handicap Process

The base handicaps for a boat shall be the latest published US Sailing national reference handicap (NNR) for medium air windward/leeward courses for her type. If a national reference handicap is not available for a boat, her base handicap shall be the median of the base handicaps for her type as published in the latest version of the US Sailing PHRF handicaps handbook<sup>1</sup>. When determining the median base handicap, only handicaps from fleets which have updated their base handicap for the boat type in question within the last ten years shall be included in the median calculation. Should neither of the two methods described previously succeed in establishing a base handicap for a boat, the ratings committee shall establish a base handicap using any additional data sources it deems suitable.

A boat's final handicap shall be her base handicap as determined using any of the methods described above plus any adjustment required to account for differences between her and the base boat. If required, any adjustments to a boat's base handicap shall be made in accordance with the latest version of Part II of the PHRF Lake Ontario handicappers manual<sup>2</sup>.

### Appeals

Handicaps may be appealed by submitting, in writing, a handicap appeal including all relevant information detailing why the assigned handicap is believed to be incorrect to any member of the ratings committee. Any handicap appeal shall be decided by a jury consisting of at least one representative from each division. In case of a tie, the ratings chair shall cast one additional vote to break the tie.

### Measurements

The ratings chair shall serve as the measurer for any races where this policy applies and shall notify the race committee in writing of any cases of non compliance with applicable class rules or measurements upon which the handicap for a boat was based.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ussailing.org/racing/offshore-big-boats/phrf/phrf-handicaps-book/>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.phrf-lo.org/images/Documents/Handicappers\\_Manual\\_Part\\_II.pdf](http://www.phrf-lo.org/images/Documents/Handicappers_Manual_Part_II.pdf)



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### Division Assignments

The ratings committee shall assign boats into the number of divisions requested by the organizing committee. Division assignments shall be based solely on the handicaps for the boat with the exception of one design divisions where the division assignment shall be based on the boat type. It shall be the responsibility of the ratings committee to define class rules and notify competitors as necessary.

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