

# YRALIS Performance Handicap Racing Fleet Regulations, 2026

## I. Performance Handicapping

PHRF stands for Performance Handicap Racing Fleet, and it describes a group of sailboats of varying performance characteristics that are handicapped for racing on the basis of observed performance, rather than the measured dimensions. It is the purpose of the PHRF system to handicap yachts of various classes or types on the basis of the potential speed of a well-sailed, well-maintained, and well-equipped specimen of each type. It is not the purpose of the PHRF system to handicap skippers and crews. Where sailing skill (or lack of it) is the cause of the result, winning will not lead to a faster rating, nor losing to a slower one.

PHRF certification is open to any single-hulled, self-righting boat of any age, and almost any description. Boats that are not self-righting may be handicapped at the committee's discretion. The goal is to provide fair and equitable racing for as many boats as possible. In cases where a boat is of so radical a design that any rating assigned to it would impair the rating balance of the fleet as a whole, a handicap rating may be refused.

PHRF handicaps are assigned by the PHRF Committee, a committee of the YRA of LIS. The PHRF Committee usually meets on the second Thursday of each month throughout the year for the purpose of assigning new ratings, reviewing old ones, drafting or revising regulations, and transacting any other business before it. The time and place of the meetings, and meeting minutes, will be available to members and published on [www.yralis.org](http://www.yralis.org)

The YRALIS PHRF fleet is a designated U.S. Sailing racing "class" and the YRALIS PHRF rules and regulations should be viewed by all as stringent a classification as the most scrutinized one design fleet. Organizing authorities and race committees who have declared in their NOR and SI's that boats are sailing with declared YRALIS handicap ratings are obligated to abide by class rules in addition to RRS. RRS 87 CHANGES TO CLASS RULES states, "The sailing instructions may change a class rule only when the class rules permit the change or when written permission of the class association for the change is displayed on the official notice board."

Simply put, a club may NOT alter class rules without permission from the YRALIS PHRF Committee.

## II. Administration

1. The PHRF-LIS class is administered by the PHRF Rating Committee, the PHRF Technical Committee and the Executive Committee of the YRA of LIS.
2. The duties of the PHRF Rating Committee are to set ratings for base boat classes, review ratings, enact and interpret rules that apply to boat ratings and rating adjustments (the Rating Rules), rate individual boats and issue and publish PHRF certificates.
  - 2.1. The PHRF Rating Committee is composed of members and handicappers. Handicappers are members, but not all members are handicappers.
  - 2.2. Members participate in setting base boat ratings, enacting and interpreting the rules that apply to ratings and review ratings.
  - 2.3. Handicappers have those duties plus they assign ratings to boats and issue certificates.
3. The duties of the PHRF-LIS Technical Committee (TC) are to receive inquiries concerning whether a boat is in compliance with her certificate. Inquiries are welcome from both current YRALIS members and Organizing Authorities. The TC will use various means to verify compliance, including inspection and measurement. The Technical Committee is not restricted by any specific event's protest deadline and may act on any information provided concerning whether a boat is in compliance with her certificate. The Technical Committee may call a hearing to determine if that were so and upon determination that a boat is not in compliance with its certificate, can then recommend that the Rating Committee revoke the certificate, including retroactively, and/or they may refer the certificate to the Rating Committee for review and revision. The Rating Committee may issue a new certificate, and upon consultation with the TC, the new certificate may be back dated. The TC or Rating Committee may order that races under its jurisdiction scored using the invalidated certificate shall be re-scored. Either committee may recommend that the boat not be scored for YRALIS season trophies for races in which she sailed with a revoked certificate. Depending on the facts found and the egregious nature of the offense, the TC, as required by the rules when there has been a gross breach of class rules or of good manners and sportsmanship, may refer the matter to the Executive Committee for further action.
4. The duties of the Executive Committee (EC) are to hear rating review appeals, and to act on any matters referred to them by the TC. For TC referrals, actions could include anything from simply continuing a certificate revocation for a period of time of their determination, up through Rule 69 actions.

5. If the YRA of LIS Technical Committee or PHRF Committee is notified or discovers that an owner is not, was not, may not have been, or may not be, in compliance with the above, then the informed Committee will notify the other of the purported violation and either Committee, or both, may impose an appropriate penalty or, depending on the egregious nature of a violation, file a complaint with the YRA of LIS Executive Committee and the Executive Committee may impanel three (3) US Sailing certified Judges to hear the complaint. The panel shall promptly inform the owner in writing of the claimed breach of YRA regulations and of the time and place of the hearing and follow the procedures in RRS 63.2, 63.3(a), 63.4 and 63.6 except that:
  - 5.1. the Executive Committee will appoint a person to present the complaint at the hearing; and
  - 5.2. the owner against whom a complaint has been made under these rules shall be entitled to have an advisor/ representative present at the hearing to act on his/ her behalf.
6. The hearing panel may reschedule the hearing if there is good reason to do so. If good reason to reschedule a hearing is not provided and no one appears on the owner's behalf, the hearing panel may conduct the hearing without the owner or a representative being present. The standard of proof shall be a preponderance of the evidence. If the hearing panel determines that there was or is a breach of YRA regulations, it may:
  - 6.1. revoke or temporarily suspend the PHRF certificate in question;
  - 6.2. restrict the owner's and boat's ability to participate in any YRA of LIS event, or sanctioned event, for a prescribed period of time;
  - 6.3. impose such other penalty, or no penalty, as the hearing panel considers equitable under the circumstances.
  - 6.4. Revocation or suspension may be made retroactively.
7. The failure to accurately report information on PHRF rating applications (or the failure to have a boat's rating reconsidered after any modifications are made that might affect that rating prior to the next race) is a clear breach of RRS 78.1 Compliance with Class Rules: Certificate and may also violate RRS 2 Fair Sailing.
8. Competitors and Race Committees are encouraged to protest (and Protest Committees to penalize) boats that fail in this regard, and Race and Protest Committees are requested to report any such penalties to the YRA of LIS for possible further action. If the YRA of LIS finds such violations to be intentional and/or part of a pattern of non-compliance, it may well consider that behavior or any

attempt to cover it up as gross misconduct, and call a hearing to take further action under RRS Rule 69, as prescribed in that rule.

9. Organizing Authorities holding regattas which are subject to the YRA of LIS PHRF regulations or are qualifying events for YRA of LIS seasonal trophies, shall appoint a Technical Committee. The inclusion of the contact information for The YRA of LIS Technical Committee in the NOR's and SI's is sufficient. Compliance violations noted by competitors or Organizing Authorities do not have to be filed with the respective event's protest committee and should be brought to the attention of the Technical Committee.
10. OA's are subject to having trophy qualifying status revoked for those events due to non-compliance of these regulations.

### III. PHRF Procedures

PHRF ratings are available to PHRF members of the YRA of LIS upon submitting an application via the YRA of LIS website ([www.yralis.org](http://www.yralis.org)). Guest certificates are also available at a reduced price for boats from out of the YRALIS area and are only valid for the event entered (Block Island Race Week, Block Island Race, Around Long Island or Vineyard Race). The application will then be assigned to one of the Handicappers. If the boat is one of a standard class or type, to which a "base rating" has already been assigned, the handicapper will assign that rating, adjusted where necessary for differences in sail area, propeller type, spinnaker pole length, etc., provided that such differences are within the range of the "standard modifications" as described below. Once it is completed, an automated e-mail will be sent to the applicant providing notification that the certificate can be downloaded or printed off the YRA website.

If the boat is one of a standard class or type to which no base rating has yet been assigned, or if the differences from the standard version are beyond the scope of the standard modifications, or if the boat is the only one of its kind, the handicapper will present the application to the entire PHRF Committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting, and the rating will be assigned by that group as a whole. Members or guests submitting an application that requires a handicapper or committee review, and where an imminent regatta requires the applicant to have a rating before the Committee's next regularly scheduled meeting, must complete all certificate fields and address the handicappers inquires at least one week prior to the regatta. Assuming that all the data has been provided by the member/guest, any handicapper is empowered, but not obliged, to issue a provisional rating, which is valid for all purposes until the next meeting. At that meeting, the provisional rating will be reviewed and either accepted as is or altered as the Committee may decide.

It must be recognized that no system of handicapping will adequately rate all types of boats on all points of sail and in all wind and sea conditions. It is the aim of this committee to assign ratings for conditions prevailing on Long Island Sound.

## IV. Rating Review

There is no such thing as a “final” PHRF rating. Any rating may be reviewed and challenged in either direction at any meeting without notice to the skipper. Before final determination of a rating change, the chairman of the fleet or class of boat, or the owners of the boat or boats under review may be invited to discuss the rating with the committee. Whenever the Committee is satisfied, on the basis of observed performance, that the rating of a particular boat or type of boat does not fairly reflect the speed potential of that boat or type, it will make whatever changes in the rating it finds to be fair. Changes to ratings that have been long established are seldom made. In the case of more recently rated boats, particularly where little data was available when the rating was first assigned, changes are more likely as experience accumulates.

Any current YRALIS PHRF member may request a review of any yacht's rating by writing to any member of the PHRF Committee. The letter will be more effective if it sets forth details of a boat's performance relative to another boat on various points of sail and in various wind speeds. Empirical data and information of this kind is more useful than race results because race results are influenced by factors in addition to boat speed. The Committee will consider every such application as soon as possible at a subsequent meeting. The Committee will not acknowledge anonymous letters or emails. A party requesting a review of another yacht's rating must identify themselves so that the rated yacht's owner may know who is requesting the review and has the opportunity to defend the current rating against data presented by the member requesting the review and any data determined valid by the PHRF Committee. In addition, the Committee may itself initiate a review of a rating whenever it considers such action warranted. The PHRF Committee may, as a matter of routine, review the rating of any boat at any time. If a certificate is found to have been issued in error, or to contain any error, the PHRF Committee may correct those errors at any time.

Any member who considers that he has not been fairly and reasonably treated by the Committee may bring his/her complaint before the Executive Committee of the YRA of LIS. While that group will not normally undertake to assign or change PHRF ratings, it will investigate actions of the PHRF Committee with respect to the complainant's case and take whatever steps are necessary to ensure a fair and reasonable disposition.

The effective date of any rating change made at a PHRF Committee meeting is the first Monday following that meeting. If this results in a yacht's rating being changed during a regatta series, the rating used for that series is at the discretion of the Race Committee

of the sponsoring organization. The organization may at their discretion use changed ratings in races that occur the weekend after a meeting.

## V. PHRF Committee

The names and email addresses and LIS region represented of all the members of the current PHRF Committee are available on the YRALIS website.

All of these committee members are working hard to make this program a success. Feel free to call on any of them for advice or help when you need it.

## VI. Owner's Obligation to Disclose Alterations

### 1. Accuracy

PHRF ratings, and the racing that relies on them, is entirely dependent on accurate information being provided to the Handicapping Committee, and on a boat being maintained to continue her compliance with that rating. The PHRF Committee takes that accuracy and compliance very seriously. It is the sole responsibility of each boat owner to advise the PHRF Committee of any modifications to their boat, that in any way alters the configuration of the hull, foils, internal structure, sail plan, mast or rigging of the boat or that could potentially affect the sailing performance of the boat when compared to the rated standard boat.

### 2. Proper Racing Trim

Yachts shall race as rated with at least all the equipment and furnishings supplied as standard by the manufacturer. A yacht that has altered or has removed bulkheads, permanently attached furniture, or structural interior components shall be considered a custom yacht. Drawers, headliners, cabinet and locker doors, steps, ladders, and engine enclosures shall remain in place as supplied as standard equipment. If they do not so remain, then the yacht shall be considered a custom yacht and rated accordingly. Passageway doors, cushions, dining tables, and carpets are specifically exempted, and are alterable or removable provided all safety standards are met. Lifting keels (not designed to be adjusted while racing) must be fixed and locked in the lowered position while racing.

### 3. Modifications

A modified boat is any standard boat that has been changed in some way that might affect its performance from the original design. Changes to the hull shape or structure, appendages, spars or sail plan, boat weight or propulsion are often created to make a boat more competitive. While older boats may require significant restorations in order to

be maintained as safe and competitive, any and all of these should be noted where the restoration does not replicate the original design.

#### Modifications Which Must be Reported for Evaluation:

1. Hull, Transom, Keel, Board or Rudder: Changes that alter either the weight of the boat or the flow of water over wetted surfaces such as size, shape, length, materials, weight, location, center of gravity, etc.
2. Internal Structure: Changes or additions to the original manufactured design and construction that affect strength or stiffness of the hull, keel sump, rigging, weight, or weight distribution. This includes interior bulkheads, longitudinal stringers, keel sump bracing, tie rods, and compression struts.
3. Spars: Changes to weight, length, cross section, design, materials (Carbon Fiber, etc.), external support structure, standing rigging design or materials (PBO), etc.
4. Sail Plan: Changes to the original dimensions of the rated sails (Mainsail, largest headsails, largest asymmetric spinnaker for each different tack location, largest spinnaker)
5. Mechanical Propulsion: Changes from original production installation that affect location, weight and/or underwater drag (different strut, prop, or sail drive configurations).

#### Modifications Which Need Not be Reported:

1. Fairing and smoothing of the hull, rudder, keel or centerboard that conform to the original design except as limited by One Design class rules.
2. Additional sails no bigger than the rated sails.
3. Sail material such as Mylar, Kevlar, Dacron, etc.
4. Cosmetic changes to the hull, interior, or rigging of the boat not affecting the weight, trim, or speed of the boat.
5. Passageway doors, cushions, dining tables, and carpets are specifically exempted, and are alterable or removable provided all safety standards are met.

## VII. PHRF Regulations

### 1. Base Rating.

The “base rating” is the rating assigned to a “standard” boat of a class or type. It assumes:

- 1.1. the standard rig dimensions for the class, a genoa whose LP dimension is in the range of greater than 145%, up to and including 155% of J or if smaller, of a size as designed for the boat,
- 1.2. a folding propeller if exposed or a two-bladed fixed one if in an aperture. If propulsion is by an outboard engine, it assumes the engine is dismounted and stowed in an optimum location aboard when racing.
- 1.3. that the boat is equipped with a spinnaker. If symmetrical, that the spinnaker pole length (SPL) is equal to the width of the base of the fore triangle (J), and that the maximum girth (SMW) of the spinnaker at any point is in the range of greater than 168%, up to and including 183% of J. If asymmetrical, that the dimensions of the sprit and spinnaker are within the dimensions as designed for the boat
- 1.4. Finally, that the boat is in all other respects similar to the standard boat of its type as originally supplied by its manufacturer.

### 2. Variations

Certain variations from these norms are not uncommon. They are set forth in the following tables from which departures from the “base rating” on account of differences in genoa and spinnaker size, propeller type, etc. can be determined. Variations affecting performance which are not set forth in these tables require action by the entire Committee at a meeting. When the Committee feels that the table or other noted adjustments does not properly reflect the performance change in the boat, the Committee reserves the right to assign an appropriate adjustment.

### 3. Adjusted Ratings

The resulting handicap rating will be the sum of the base rating and any adjustments resulting from variations. In addition, there are provisions to provide the following types of ratings:

- 3.1. Spinnaker - the rating to be used when racing on courses where spinnakers are permitted to be used.
- 3.2. Non-spinnaker - the calculated rating excluding spinnaker related adjustments. Handicappers may also compensate for performance considerations when a



boat's observed performance differs greatly from the majority of the fleet when not using a spinnaker. Non-spinnaker ratings are intended to be used in races against other boats without spinnakers, not in mixed classes where only some boats may use them.

3.3. All Purpose - the ALL PURPOSE base rating for races that include a mixture of windward, leeward and reaching points of sail. This rating is intended for use in races of any length that are not inshore upwind-downwind courses. This includes distance races, such as the Block Island Race, Vineyard Race, Around Long Island Race, destination races to lighthouses or government marks, day races such as the Stamford-Denmark Friendship Race, Geartester, and Vanderbilt Cup, and other course shapes that include triangles, rectangles and others, regardless of the course length or race duration.

3.4. Windward/Leeward - Commonly abbreviated to W/L, this rating is ONLY for use in races where there are only two marks of the course (windward and leeward) and is adjusted to reflect the boats performance in VMG windward/leeward headings with no significant reaching element to the course. This definition is not intended to rule out the use of gates or windward offset marks when the Race Committee wish to employ them, nor is this definition grounds for protest or appeal if the Race Committee are unsuccessful setting a course parallel to the wind or if wind shifts during a race introduce a reaching element. This rating would be commonly associated with the use of drop-marks/movable inflatable buoys.

3.5. Double-handed - The certificates described in 3 A, B, C, and D all assume a full crew. A member who wishes to use a different configuration when racing Double-handed can also apply for a separate Double-handed certificate which will be marked for Double-handed racing only. A double handed racing certificate may describe a completely different configuration from the fully crewed certificate.

#### 4. Handicap Adjustments

##### 4.1. Headsails

4.2. Adjustment is based on the largest headsail and is determined by the LP/J ratio stated as a percentage. The following table is relative to a boat designed to carry a 155% headsail.

Table VII.4.2

LP/J%	Adjustment
Greater than 195	Determined by the PHRF Committee
Greater than 185 to 195	-12
Greater than 175 to 185	-9
Greater than 165 to 175	-6
Greater than 155 to 165	-3
Greater than 145 to 155	0
Greater than 135 to 145	+3
Greater than 115 to 135	+6
Greater than 95 to 115	+9
Up to 95	+12

#### 4.3. LP line

No headsails may be set to extend aft of the LP line used to establish the handicap without adjustment.

#### 4.4. Battens

Up to four battens may be used to support the leech of headsails with an LP of 110% or less. Variations, or more than four battens must be reported to the Committee for consideration on a case by case basis.

#### 4.5. In-Haulers

Boats which were originally designed with overlapping genoas, but which have declared the use of only non-overlapping jibs, and which use in-haulers, or have otherwise modified the sheeting configuration of the headsail to reduce the sheeting angle of the headsail, must declare this and will be assessed a -3 adjustment.

#### 4.6. Self-tacking jibs

Boats equipped with self-tacking jibs should alert the Committee for consideration of possible credit for their arrangement.

#### 4.7. Non-Overlapping Jib Boat

A boat whose largest upwind headsail is constrained by the construction configuration of the boat and/or rig. These boats may not declare an LP of greater than 115% and the LP/J% adjustment table above does not apply.

#### 4.8. Whisker Poles

Any boat (including sprit boats) may use a whisker pole on a jib or genoa. Whisker poles may not be longer than LP without penalty. Extendable poles must

be banded to indicate their maximum permitted length. Spinnaker poles may be used as whisker poles. Credits will not be given for undersized whisker poles in spinnaker ratings.

#### 4.9. Roller Furling

A three (3) second credit will be given, if requested, for having headsails set on an above-deck roller furling system. In order to obtain the credit, the furling system must be fully functional and in use whenever a headsail is hoisted. All headsails (except storm sails, spinnaker staysails, spinnakers and Free Flying Headsails) must be set using the furling system and must be able to be furled using the system. Sail changes are allowed. Sails may also be dropped and re-hoisted.

##### 4.9.1. Cruising Headsail Configuration

A nine (9) second credit will be given, if requested and in lieu of the Roller Furling adjustment, for using a single cruising headsail, set on a fully functional above-deck roller furling system across a wide range of sailing conditions. To qualify for this adjustment, the following criteria must be met:

- 4.9.1.1. the sail must be constructed of a woven polyester with no exotic fiber content (aramid, spectra, carbon, ultra-pe, and similar). Laminates or other hi-tech constructions do not qualify under this definition.
- 4.9.1.2. the sail must be commonly used for both cruising and racing, and be stored on the furling system when not in use.
- 4.9.1.3. The sail must be equipped with roller-reefing reinforcements and be of a design suitable for partially furled operation in strong winds.
- 4.9.1.4. In very strong winds, the cruising headsail may be dropped or furled and replaced with a heavy weather headsail or staysail. The replacement Heavy Weather Headsail must be no larger than that prescribed by the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations for the Heavy Weather Headsail, section 4.26.2(a)i.

## 5. Spinnakers

### 5.1. Spinnakers Flown From A Pole

- 5.1.1. This includes both symmetric spinnakers and asymmetric spinnakers flown from a pole.
- 5.1.2. The maximum un-penalized spinnaker luff length (SL) for a symmetric spinnaker, and the average of the spinnaker luff (SLU) and spinnaker leech (SLE) shall not exceed  $.95 \sqrt{(ISP^2 + JC^2)}$ . If these maximums are exceeded,

then excess length shall be converted to girth (SMW) for handicapping purposes, using the following formula:  $\text{Rated Girth} = (\text{SMW}/\text{J}) (\text{SL}/(.95 \sqrt{(\text{ISP}^2 + \text{JC}^2)})$ . This Rated Girth will be used in place of the standard SMW/J ratio (stated as a percentage) to assess penalties adjustments in accordance with table VII.5.1.4. **For the above calculations in the case of an asymmetric spinnaker SMG shall be used in place of SMW.**

5.1.3. Adjustment is normally based on either the dimensions of the largest spinnaker (expressed as its SMW/J percentage ratio) or the length of the spinnaker pole (expressed as  $1.8 \times \text{SPL} / \text{J}$  percentage ratio). Unadjusted spinnaker pole length (SPL) equals J.

Table VII.5.1.4

SPIN %	Adjustment
Greater than 228	Determined by the PHRF Committee
Greater than 213 to 228	- 9
Greater than 198 to 213	- 6
Greater than 183 to 198	- 3
Greater than 168 to 183	0

## 5.2. Spinnakers Flown From Centerline

5.2.1. These sails will be tacked on centerline, either to the deck, bowsprit, or anchor platform/roller.

5.2.2. The average length of the leech and luff shall not exceed  $1.15\sqrt{(\text{ISP}^2 + \text{TPS}^2)}$

5.2.3. Neither SMG nor SF shall exceed  $1.8 \times \text{TPS}$ . **If a maximum spinnaker area is included in the base rating for a type of boat, that area shall not be exceeded without adjustment.**

5.2.4. Spinnaker tack points and bowsprit options (TPS) vary by design and will be rated per table VII.5.2.4.

Table VII.5.2.4

TPS/J %	W/L Adjustment	Distance Adjustment
Greater than 148	Determined by PHRF Committee	
Greater than 140 to 148	-6	-12
Greater than 132 to 140	-3	-9
Greater than 124 to 132	0	-6
Greater than 116 to 124	+3	-3
Greater than 108 to 116	+6	0
Up to 108	+9	+3

5.2.5. Boats with an articulating sprit, oversized sail dimensions or other variations will be rated by the Committee on an individual basis.

5.2.6. Modifications to a factory supplied bowsprit that are not rated using section VII.5.2.4 (as they have this standard equipment reflected in their base ratings) may not modify these bowsprits without adjustment. Changes will be subject to review by the Committee on an individual basis.

5.2.7. The following shall be reported for all asymmetric spinnakers:

5.2.7.1. How the sail will be attached to the boat (i.e., centerline tacked on bow, on fixed sprit, on retractable sprit, on laterally articulating sprit, pole, etc.) If a boat has multiple asymmetric spinnakers that are attached in different manners, the largest of each must be reported separately.

5.2.7.2. The luff, leech, SMG, and foot dimensions for the largest spinnaker.

5.2.7.3. The luff, leech, SMG, and foot dimensions for all sails with an SMG/SF ratio of 90% or less.

### 5.3. Additional Spinnaker Regulations

5.3.1. Boats that wish to use a mixture of spinnaker pole flown and bowsprit flown sails must report that to the Committee. The handicapper will explicitly note this configuration on the certificate. In general, boats rated for this configuration will carry a -3 s/m penalty on all spinnaker ratings. Boats which are fitted with a bowsprit but elect to use spinnaker pole flown sails only must not use the bowsprit in any manner, even temporarily during maneuvers.

5.3.2. Boats which were originally designed with only pole-flown spinnakers and that still only carry pole flown spinnakers may request a pole-only spinnaker credit adjustment of +3 s/m on their All Purpose ratings.

5.3.3. Credit will not be given for undersized spinnakers or any sail set forwards of the headstay.

## 6. SPECIAL REACHING SAILS

The measurements of all specialist reaching and downwind sails shall be declared. These are defined as any sail set forward of the headstay with an SMG/SF ratio of 90% or lower. Examples of sails in this group include Code Zeros, Large Roach Headsails (LRH), Free-Flying Headsails (FFH) and many cruising spinnakers. These sails are measured as spinnakers for the purpose of establishing girth ratios and dimensions but may also be measured as a headsail to establish LP in cases where the sail is considered to be an FFH.

6.1. Adjustment will be applied to the spinnaker distance racing handicap only, per table VII.6.1

Table VII.6.1

Sail Type	Adjustment
Spinnakers with 75% SMG/SF ratio and higher, (but note that all sails with an SMG/SF ratio of 90% or lower need to be documented on the certificate for their use to be permitted)	0
Free Flying Headsail (FFH) - a sail set flying free, forwards of the headstay, and of LP and overall area no larger than the largest headsail used to establish the handicap	-3
Any sail set forwards of the headstay with an SMG/SF ratio of 75% or less, except FFH	-6

6.2. Specialized reaching sails may incorporate battens in the leech. If battens are used they must be declared and will be subject to an additional -3 adjustment.

6.3. When a boat carries only a single off-the-wind sail, whether that be a spinnaker, Code Zero, Free Flying Headsail, or Large Roach Headsail, the -6 adjustment for SMG/SF ratios of < 75% may not apply. Owners must declare this configuration to the handicapper and the Committee will consider requests on a case-by-case basis.

6.4. Specialist reaching sails exceeding the standard unpenalized sizes will be adjusted by the Committee on a case by case basis.

## 7. OTHER FREE FLYING HEADSAILS

7.1. Emerging sail technologies that permit free-flying-headsails to be used on upwind points of sail, including but not limited to VMG beating to windward, will be considered by the Committee on a case-by-case basis. The Committee stress that the onus is on the owners looking to exploit these new opportunities to report their sail inventory and sail crossover tables to their handicapper. Owners are reminded that PHRF is a performance based rule and investment in an innovative new sail type, configuration or technology should not be viewed through the lens of yielding a performance advantage over the rest of the fleet. Innovation within the sport is encouraged, but it should not be in the spirit of exploiting the limits of the PHRF Rule to gain an advantage. The principle of PHRF requires that any performance improvement be offset with adjustments.

7.2. After approval by committee, bloopers are permitted to be used on yachts with symmetric spinnakers where such sail was part of the original designer's sail plan. This typically means IOR era yachts designed and built before 1990.

7.3. Staysails may be used on ketches and yawls when racing in Spinnaker classes.  
Use of such sails in non-spinnaker classes is prohibited.

## 8. MAST, RIG, SPARS

The effect on performance of changes from standard rig dimensions varies from boat to boat to such a great extent that no rational table of rating changes based on rig size can be formulated. Accordingly, these changes are treated on a case by case basis. If your boat is one of a class and your rig differs from the standard for that class, you must notify the Committee of that fact. If you have a custom boat and your rig is changed from that described on your prior rating application, you must notify the Committee of the changes. A “change” refers not only to length, but also to material, weight, wire size, number of spreaders, diameter, or use of aramid/carbon standing rigging.

## 9. MECHANICAL PROPULSION

9.1. Adjustment is based on propeller type and its installation, per table VII.9.1. An out of aperture installation is either an exposed shaft or a sail drive. In aperture is a traditional installation in a cutout behind a full keel.

Table VII.9.1

Prop/Installation	Adjustment
Folding/Feathering Out of Aperture	0
Fixed 2-Blade In Aperture	0
Outboard Retracted When Racing	0
Fixed 2-Blade Out of Aperture	+6
Fixed 3-Blade In Aperture	+6
Fixed 3-Blade Out of Aperture	+12
Non-Standard	(as estimated by handicapper)

9.2. NOTE: If the propeller or installation type is not included in the adjustment table, then the Committee will assign the adjustment based on the assumed relation to the table and indicate the action in its notes.

9.3. Retractable drive systems must all be declared to the Committee. When installed as standard equipment the Committee anticipates no adjustment.

9.4. Electric drives must be declared to the committee and will be considered on a case by case basis.

## 10. OPTIONAL CREW WEIGHT LIMITS

10.1. The crew weight limit will be printed on the PHRF Certificate.

10.2. The crew weight limit is for everyone aboard, including the skipper.

10.3. Double handed certificates will be issued for a crew of two people, regardless of weight.

## 11. BALLAST & FOILS

YRALIS PHRF will permit the following exceptions to RRS rule 51 (Ballast) and will rate boats with these exceptions on a case by case basis:

11.1. Canting keels – vessels that are produced with canting keels may seek a PHRF rating. Ratings for the canted position will consider the percentage of ballast relative to total displacement and the change in righting moment as a result.

11.2. Water Ballast – vessels built with internal water ballast may seek a PHRF rating. Rating for the vessel will consider the location and % of total displacement of the water ballast.

11.3. Vessels equipped with water ballast but not wishing to use it must disable the system to prevent use. For the purpose of this section, disabled is defined as any system that requires the use of a tool to undo. Water ballast adjustments are only applied to All Purpose ratings, hence disabling such a system will only affect a boat's adjusted AP ratings.

11.4. Any other movement of internal weights for the purpose of improving stability is not permitted and will not be rated.

11.5. Foil systems of any type must be declared for individual consideration. Any design which incorporates foils as part of the standard equipment will have the specifics of those foils detailed in the Base Rating notes.

## 12. MANUAL POWER

RRS 52 is modified to read "A boat's movable hull appendages shall be operated only by the power provided by the crew". Use of stored power to operate or adjust the standing rigging, running rigging or spars must be declared as follows. This Rule may be amended by Notice of Race.

12.1. The use of stored power for the hoisting of mainsails, or the reefing or furling of sails need not be declared.

12.2. Boats using stored power solely for the adjustment or operation of backstays shall declare this to the Committee.

12.3. Boats using stored power for the adjustment or operation of running rigging other than as noted in Rules 11 & 12 shall declare this to the Committee.

12.4. Boats sailing in double-handed classes may use autopilots.



## 13. OTHER REGULATIONS

### 13.1. Annual Declaration of sail size and stated configuration.

13.1.1. The size of sails declared for a yacht at the time her certificate was issued or renewed is intended to remain in effect for the duration of the year for which the certificate was issued. Members may request a change to their rated sails in limited circumstances, typically the result of taking delivery of a new sail after the season's certificate has been issued or suffering unrepairable damage to a sail and retiring it from inventory. Such a request may be made only once per year, and requires a written application to the PHRF Committee stating the reasons for the change. Such requests will not be approved if the Committee finds that the proposed change is an attempt to fine tune the yacht's rating to suit anticipated weather or qualification requirements of any specific race, series, or time of year. The effective date of any such rating change is first Monday following the approval of such change unless otherwise approved by the Committee. If this results in a yacht's rating being changed during a regatta series, the rating used for that series is at the discretion of the sponsoring Organizing Authority.

13.1.2. Any other changes to the configuration of the boat after a certificate has been issued are not typically allowed. If an owner finds themselves in unique circumstances and an in-season change to something on their certificate is necessary, then the handicapper who rated the boat should be contacted and the boat will be reviewed at the next PHRF committee meeting as if it were a new application. Regardless of circumstances, this will only be allowed in rare situations and only once a year. This rule is NOT intended to be interpreted by members as an entitlement to one elective reconfiguration per year, but rather as an accommodation for owners who find themselves forced into changes as a result of damage or loss to reconfigure for the remainder of the season.

13.1.3. Owners who request to undo mid-season changes that were requested less than 12 months prior will be called to explain their circumstances to the Committee. This rule spans Annual Declarations and is intended to further discourage fine tuning of a yacht's rating around specific events or prevailing weather conditions.

### 13.2. Sail Measurement Limitations

13.2.1. The ratings assigned by the PHRF Committee assume that sail dimensions not specifically stated on the certificate conform either to the yacht's class or to limitations that have long been standard in all measurement rules. Any departure from these limitations amounts to a

change from the standard or norm. Therefore, notice of the departure must be given to the Committee. Sails are to be measured in accordance with the World Sailing Equipment Rules of Sailing, and any sail may be measured at any time by a Technical Committee.

### 13.2.2.Mainsail Headboards

13.2.2.1.Mainsail headboard width (MHB) shall be declared.

13.2.2.2.Mainsail headboard shall not exceed the greater of 6 inches or 4% of E without adjustment. Any class specific variation to this will be detailed in the Base Rating for that design.

13.2.2.3.The dimensions of a square top or “fathead” mainsail shall be adjusted as a proportion of E (MHB / E) as follows:

<1.16	-3
1.32	-6
1.48	-9
>1.48	Per Committee review.

13.2.3.Mainsail Girths. Any Mainsail or Mizzen where the MUW is greater than 22% of E, or the three-quarter width MTW is greater than 38% of E or the half-width MHW is greater than 65% of E girth limitations shall be declared. The increase in sail area above the maximums shall be stated as a percentage of increase. This data can be obtained from the sailmaker.

13.2.4.Mainsails which exceed any of the P, E or any of the above defined girth measurements shall result in an adjustment as determined by the Committee unless specified in their Base Rating.

13.2.5.Mainsails with full battens are allowed without penalty if the roach of the mainsail has not been increased from the above limits.

13.2.6.Mainsail roller furling systems must be declared to the handicapper, and with Committee approval may be eligible for adjustment per below:

13.2.6.1.Mainsail in-mast roller furling systems with no battens to support the roach of the mainsail may be granted a +15s/m adjustment.

13.2.6.2.Mainsail in-mast roller furling systems with vertical battens may be granted a +6 s/m adjustment.

13.2.6.3.In-boom roller furling systems with limited outhaul and/or Cunningham functionality may granted a +3 s/m adjustment.

13.2.7.A sail may not be measured or used as a spinnaker unless its mid-girth is at least equal to 75% of its foot length, and any sail flown forward of the

headstay with a mid-girth measurement of less than 90% of its foot length must be declared and their measurements noted on the certificate.

13.3. The difference between a headsail and a spinnaker is that the width of a headsail, measured between the midpoints of its luff and leech, is less than 75% of the length of its foot. A sail tacked down behind the foremost mast is not a headsail.

#### 13.4. Non-Spinnaker Regulations

13.4.1. The following regulations supplement the YRA of LIS PHRF Fleet regulations:

13.4.2. Non-Spinnaker YRA of LIS PHRF ratings: Participating yachts must have valid YRA of LIS PHRF certificates. Each YRA of LIS PHRF certificate bears both spinnaker and non-spinnaker ratings.

13.4.3. The intent of Non-Spinnaker racing is that boats sail off the wind with the same sails they use to sail on the wind. Therefore, ketches and yawls may not fly staysails off the wind unless such sails are used when sailing upwind.

13.4.4. Headsails must be attached along their luff to the headstay, unless the boat has no headstay.

13.4.5. Whisker Pole Length:

13.4.6. Whisker poles may not be longer than "LP" without penalty.

13.4.7. Longer than LP whisker poles will be considered on a case by case basis.

13.4.8. Extendable poles must be banded to indicate their maximum permitted length.

13.4.9. Spinnaker poles may be used as whisker poles.

13.4.10. When a competitor declares a LP greater than 135% and a pole of J length, a +6 credit may be claimed. If the declared LP is from 120% to 135% with a J length pole, +3 credit may be claimed. No credit is available when the declared LP is less than 120%. No credit is available for a less than J length whisker pole.

13.4.11. If a boat does not possess a whisker pole it may nevertheless claim a credit under 13.4.10

### 13.5.Jib Limitations:

13.5.1.Non-spinnaker racing is defined, for this purpose, as prohibiting the use of any headsail whose mid-girth (mid-luff to mid-leech) measurement is more than 50% of its foot measurement.

13.5.2.Except when changing headsails, participating yachts may not fly more than one headsail at a time. (Yachts that are permanently cutter rigged may fly their staysails.)

To apply for a PHRF handicap, please visit the YRA website, [YRALIS.org](http://YRALIS.org).

**AREA** Area of asymmetric spinnaker as calculated by the IACC formula. Contact your sailmaker

**BAL** Ballast of the yacht in pounds. Note any additions or deletions from the standard and the locations.

**BEAM** Maximum beam of the vessel.

**CREW** "STD" if to use base boat maximum weight. Otherwise, declare maximum weight desired.

**DISPL** Displacement of the yacht in pounds, without crew, water, fuel, or stores aboard.

**DRAFT** Draft of the hull and keel. Also include draft with the board down if a centerboard yacht.

**E** The maximum, unpenalized length of the foot of the mainsail. The boom shall be marked with a black band, at a distance equal to E, measured from the back of the mast.

**I** Height of fore triangle. Measured from deck sheer line abeam the mast to the highest point of headsail attachment.

**ISP** Spinnaker halyard height. Measured from deck sheer line abeam of the mast to the top of the spinnaker halyard sheave.

**J** Distance perpendicular from the foreside of the mast line to the point of intersection of the forestay with the deck.

**JC** The greater of J or SPL or SMW / 1.8.

**LOA** Length overall of the hull. Note bowsprit and/or boomkin separately.

**LP** Distance perpendicular from the luff to the clew of the largest jib.

**LWL** Load waterline length.

**MATERIAL** Construction material of the hull, keel, rudder, and mast (e.g., fiberglass, lead, iron, aluminum, carbon fiber, etc.)

**MHW** Mainsail girth measurement from a point along the leech, halfway between the clew and the head, to the nearest point of the luff.

**MTW** Mainsail girth measurement from a point along the leech, three-quarters of the distance from the clew to the head, to the nearest point of the luff.

**MUW** Mainsail girth measurement from a point along the leech, seven-eighths of the distance from the clew to the head, to the nearest point of the luff.

**P** The maximum, unpenalized length of the luff of the mainsail. The mast shall be marked with a black band, at a distance equal to P, as measured from the top of the boom.

**SL** **Symmetric** spinnaker luff length.

**S. Area** Symmetric spinnaker area. Consult your sail maker.

**SMW** For symmetric spinnakers only, maximum girth leech to leech. (Fold on centerline, measure max. width, and multiply by two.)

**SMG** For asymmetric spinnakers only, the mid-girth, found by measuring between the mid-points of the luff and leech.

**SPL** Spinnaker pole length measured with the pole in its fitting and set in a horizontal position athwartship, as measured from the center of the mast, to the outermost end of the pole.

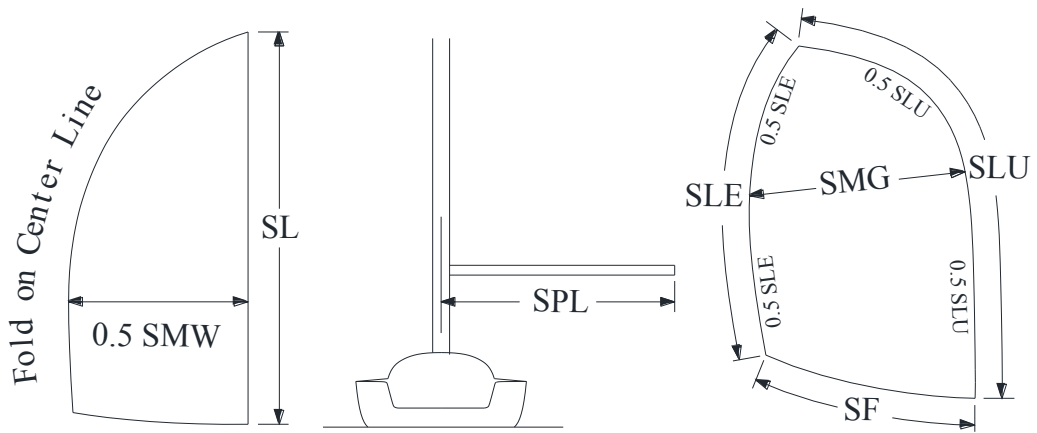
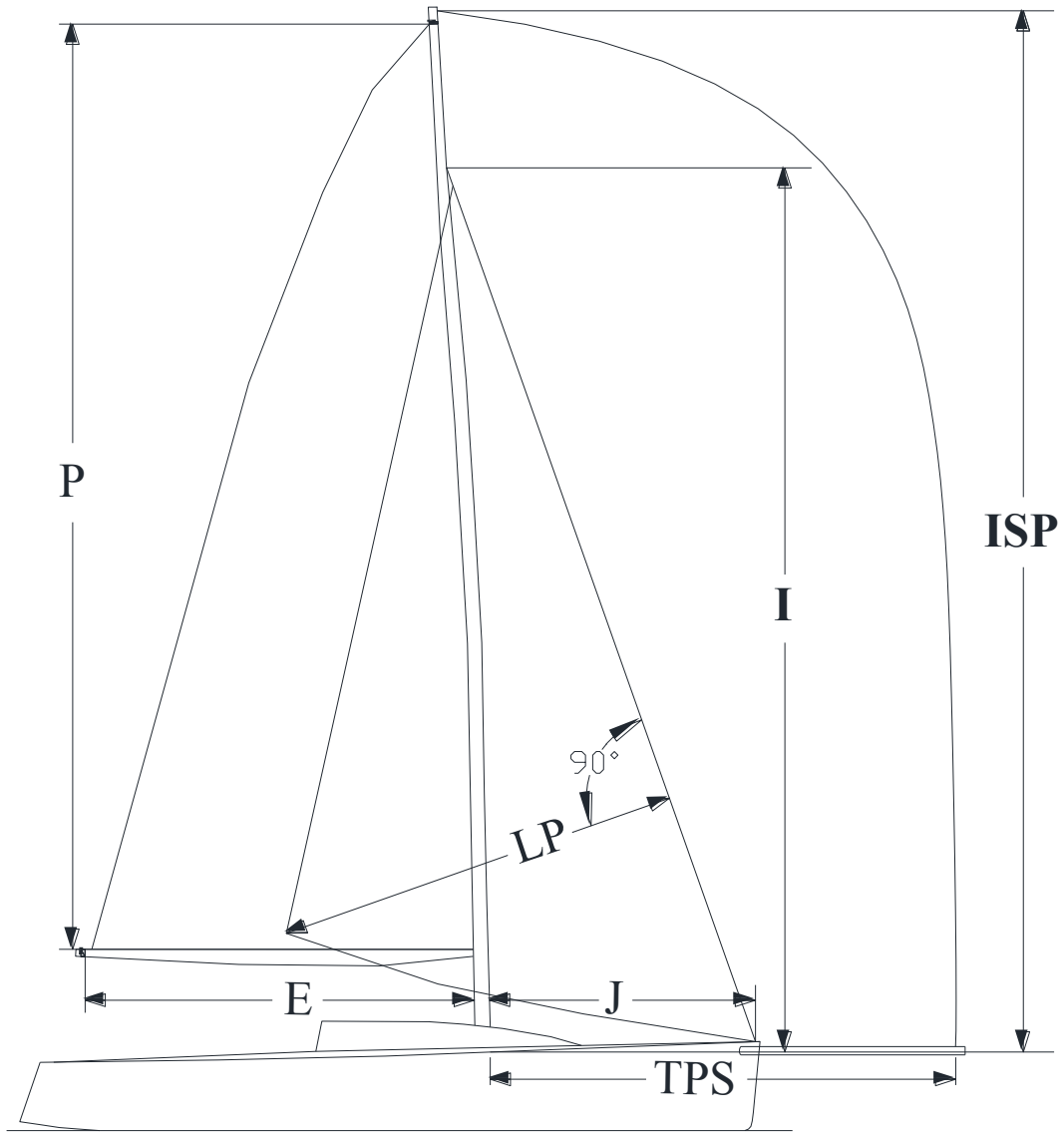
**SF** Asymmetric foot length.

**SLU** Asymmetric luff length.

**SLE** Asymmetric leech length.

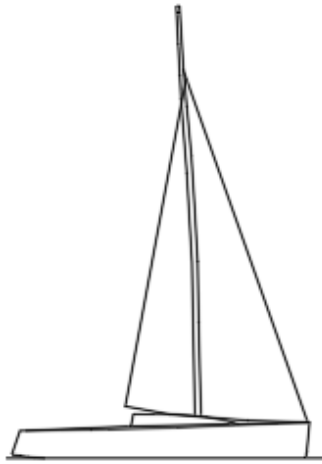
**TPS** Tack point of an asymmetric tacked on the centerline, to the deck or to a sprit, measured from the tack point, to the front of the mast, parallel to the water.

**WPL** Whisker pole length, measured from front of mast..

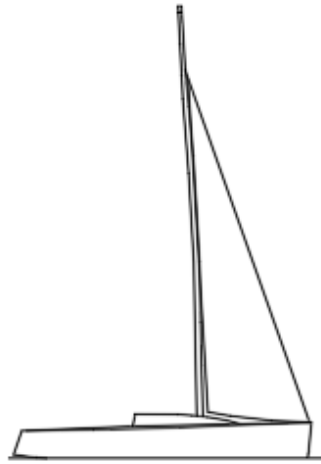


**Definitions**

## HEADSAIL TYPE



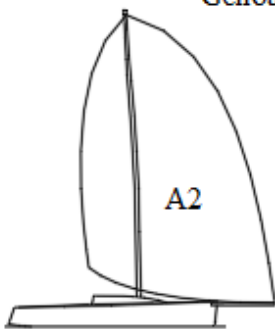
Genoa



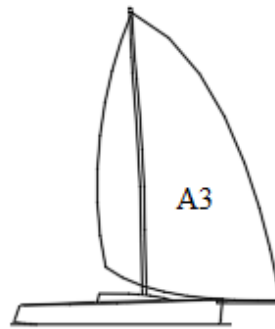
Jib

### Genoa/Jib

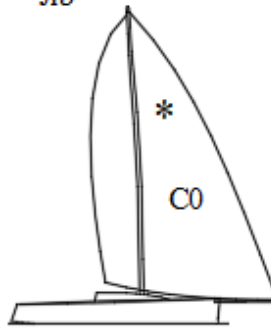
LP of largest sail is the key variable impacting rating.



SMG/SF ~ 180%



SMG/SF ~ 100%



SMG/SF > 75%

### Spinnakers

A2, A3, A5 etc.  
Code Zero

SMG/SF ratio is the key variable. If ratio > 75% no further rating adjustment.



SMG/SF ~ 65%

### Large Roach Headsail/ Tweener

SMG/SF ratio is the key variable < 75%

Note: Jib tops are not included as they are not free flying sails.



SMG/SF ~ 50%

### Free Flying Headsails

LP measurement and overall area must be < largest jib/genoa declared.

If LP or overall area > declared jib/genoa, it is considered LRH/Tweener.

**\* These free flying sails with the SMG/SF ratios under 90% must all be declared**