

GSBYRA Encourages Participation

The Great South Bay Yacht Racing Association welcomes recreational and competitive sailors and volunteers of all ages and abilities to participate in sailing activities, enjoy camaraderie at social events, have fun, and explore educational opportunities!

The mission of GSBYRA is to:

- promote local recreational and educational sailing, boat building, on the water safety, and maritime heritage;
- improve communication between member clubs, fleets and sailors;
- promote racing in accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing;
- coordinate a regatta schedule and run Race Week;
- schedule and run local Championship events according to US SAILING dictates.

GSBYRA operates as a not for profit sailing organization since its founding September 27, 1906. Representatives from four yacht clubs drafted the original By-Laws to gather sailors from many clubs for competitive racing and combined social events. That mission remains primary today among the delegates appointed by the sixteen member clubs and the annually elected officers. The association remains a forum of unpaid volunteers who direct and refine the mission.

GSBYRA funds the mission by collecting annual dues from member clubs and individuals, entry fees at Race Week, and donations. To align the mission with the national sailing organization, GSBYRA appoints a delegate to attend US SAILING meetings and pays dues as a regional member.

The dedicated cadre of volunteers who meet to exchange ideas, standardize formats and communicate great pride and spirit to fellow sailors on our bay regularly seek new volunteers from sailors, fleets, and member clubs who will help organize sailing opportunities and promote participation.

Gsbyra.org and this publication list contacts, information and schedules for everyone interested in sailing to participate as a sailor or volunteer. GSBYRA encourages all sailors to be aware of and take advantage of all opportunities provided for members. GSBYRA provides:

- a website and yearbook to communicate to members;
- clinics and seminars for members to improve skills in competitive sailing, safety, sportsmanship, sailing programs, and race management;
- open meetings for local one design and PHRF sailors and fleets to voice concerns, and posts meeting dates and location on the web site;
- annual sailing grants to sailors who pursue post secondary education and are members of Full Member Clubs;
- interclub rivalry for members at Junior Regattas, Invitation Regattas, Race Week and Championships;
- Race Week prizes;
- Fleet Champion trophies for classes that pre-determine qualifying events before sailing begins for the season;
- use of 2 Flying Scot boats and 12 suits of Flying Scot sails to Full Member Club Championships used exclusively in triple-handed Championship events;
- 29 perpetual trophies awarded to members of Full Members Clubs, engraves winners names on those trophies, displays them at the Long Island Maritime Museum in West Sayville, and gives the winners an award to keep;
- entry fee and cost payments for winners of GSBYRA Championships to compete at the next level ladder event; and
- a regional Appeals Committee required by US SAILING.

Make a difference and participate with time, energy and enthusiasm!

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Author and researcher: MaryAnn Deering

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