

# What's New for PHRF - 2026

## EASTERN CONNECTICUT & EASTERN LONG ISLAND

### ECSA & ELIYA Racing Sailors!

Welcome to the 2026 race season! The snow is melting, and we're excited to get on the water. Please take a moment to read the 2026 PHRF Regulations, paying close attention to the highlighted sections that include new or updated information. Here are some key updates and reminders you should know:

**Random Leg Handicap Ratings:** Base-boat ratings for Spinnaker Class boats now include two ratings: one for windward/leeward and another for random leg courses. See **Section XIV** for details.

**Headsails will be rated using a new formula:** if the mid-girth (HHW) exceeds 50% of the Luff Perpendicular (LP), then **Rated LP = (2\*HHW)/J\*100**.

**Any changes or replacements of Rated Sails** not previously reported require documented sail measurement certificates before use in ECSA/ELIYA events. Rated Sails include your largest Symmetrical, Asymmetrical, Code Zero Spinnakers, Mainsail, Headsails, and Free-Flying Headsails. Contact your handicapper for clarification on measurement requirements.

**Pole Flown/Deck-Tacked Asymmetric Spinnakers:** boats without sprits may fly Asymmetric Spinnakers from a spinnaker pole or deck-tacked interchangeably, without penalty.

**Non-Spinnaker speed % adjustment:** this compensates for differences in standard handicap adjustments affecting speed as a percentage of performance rather than a fixed seconds/NM.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS:**

To get a handicap certificate, simply log onto the ECSA or ELIYA website

**For ECSA**, click on “**Join**” at the top of the page.

**For ELIYA**, click on the “**PHRF Form & Lookup**” line in the PHRF section on the right side.

**For all:** If you created an account last year, just log in and follow the steps to renew your handicap certificate. If you are new to the system, you will need to create an account. Your email address will be your username, and you will set a password.

If you qualify for Recreational Credits, have Foils or water Ballast, made Modifications, or noted any changes from last year's data, you will go to the data page to provide the necessary information. If there are no changes from last year, you can import the previous year's data for your 2026 certificate. For a new handicap certificate, you need to provide your contact information, as well as the hull, rig, and sail measurements of your boat. You can get measurement certificates for rated sails from your sailmaker, and these are required for all rated sails. If your boat qualifies for the roller furler credit, you must select this option in the “Additional Information” section of the input data sheet, even if there are no other changes from last year.

After you make a payment, you will get an email confirming that we received your application. This email will also let you know that your handicapper will contact you within ten days. Once the handicapping process is finished, we will send you another email. You can then log onto the ECSA or ELIYA website to look up, save, or print your 2026 Rating Certificate.

If you have questions, please check the **2026 PHRF Regulations** on the website for answers. You can also reach out to any of the PHRF handicappers for help.

We wish you fun and success this season!  
PHRF of Eastern Connecticut / Eastern Long Island