

PHRF - EASTERN CONNECTICUT

THE PERFORMANCE HANDICAP RACING FLEET OF THE ECSA

CHANGES TO ECSA PHRF REGULATIONS for 2021

ECSA Racing Sailors!

Welcome to ECSA's 2021 race season. We are all looking forward to another exciting year of racing. As you may be aware, we continue to work improving the handicapping process. Below are notes on several updated sections in the Regulations. We appreciate your feedback. The most significant change for 2021 is the addition of "Recreational Credits" which are designed to make cruising sailboats competitive with the more focused racers. In addition, breaking with past traditions, we are now rating boats with Lifting Foils and Water Ballast.

1. **Boats with cruising sails now get time credits to level the playing field:** This year we are awarding additional credit to boats that want to race in the Non-Spinnaker class, equipped with Dacron (or similar) cruising sails and furling systems for headsails and mainsails. These **Recreational Credits** provide a means for these boats to be competitive with boats that have racing sails. Implementation of these credits in no way implies less knowledge or experience on the part of the skipper. **See Section XII for details.**

Headsail Credits: for boats that race with just their primary roller furling headsail, Dacron headsails with UV covers on the leech and foot receive a (+9) second bonus and headsails smaller than 155% offer additional bonus time.

Mainsail Credits: Boats with an **In-mast** Roller Furling Mainsail will receive (+12) second rating bonus and an **In-boom** Roller Furling Mainsail will receive (+6) second bonus.

2. PHRF of Eastern Connecticut will now handicap boats with **Water Ballast or Lifting Foils** so they can race in the ECSA Offshore Circuit. See notes under **QUALIFICATIONS**.
3. **Mid-year rating changes** are restricted where the intent or perceived intent of optimizing for a race, series, or seasonal trends shall not be considered.
4. **For owners that have any planned modifications**, typical rating adjustments for modifications to mast, rudder, or displacement are available on request.
5. **Section V: Mainsails** now reads: "MGL (1/4 leach) shall not exceed 0.87 E" to better reflect mainsail shape. In addition, whereas in the past, mainsails that exceed maximum girths **may** be penalized, now they **shall** be penalized.
6. As permitted in past years, **Both Symmetric and Asymmetric Spinnakers MAY be flown from the pole on a boat without a sprit.** Symmetric Spinnakers MAY NOT be flown from a pole on a boat with a sprit.
7. As a reminder, required **SAIL MEASUREMENTS** include all Code Zero Spinnakers with rated sails (main sail, largest jib, Code Zero Spinnakers, and largest symmetric and asymmetric spinnakers). As always, all new rated sails added to your inventory since your last **ECSA Handicap Certificate** was issued must be accompanied with a measurement certificate. Sail specs will be recorded on your rating certificate by your handicapper.

APPLICATION PROCESS In order to get your handicap certificate, simply log onto the ECSA website (www.ecsa.net) and click on "Join" at the top of the page. If you qualify for Recreational Credits, have Foils, Water Ballast, made Modifications, or noted other changes from the previous year's data, you will be taken to the data page where you can provide the required information. If there are no changes from the previous year, you can import the prior year's data which will be submitted for your 2021 certificate. Please note, if you request roller furler credit, or would like to apply for Recreational Credits for the first time you will have to check YES to "ANY changes that might affect your rating"

QUESTIONS? If there are any questions, please refer to the **ECSA 2021 Regulations** elsewhere in the **ECSA Yearbook** (or on the website) for clarification. Alternately, you may contact any one of the PHRF handicappers listed.

We wish you fun and success this season!
PHRF of Eastern Connecticut - 2021