



# CONSTITUTION

## ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this Association is the Sachem's Head Yacht Club.

## ARTICLE II. OFFICERS

The officers of the Club shall be a Commodore, Vice-Commodore and Fleet Captain, hereinafter designated the Flag Officers, each of whom shall, at the time of his election, be the owner or part owner of a yacht enrolled in the fleet, a Secretary, a Treasurer and a Measurer.

## ARTICLE III. DUTIES

It shall be the duty of the Commodore to command the squadron, to preside at all meetings of the Club, and to enforce its laws and regulations.

It shall be the duty of the Vice-Commodore to assist the Commodore in the discharge of his duties and in his absence to act in his stead.

It shall be the duty of the Fleet Captain to assist the Commodore and Vice-Commodore in the discharge of their duties, and in their absence to act in their stead. He shall arrange and superintend all races and regattas of the Club, with the advice and assistance of the Regatta Committee, and shall be ex officio chairman of said committee.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of all meetings of the Club and the Executive Committee; to keep a roster of the officers and committees, a roll of the members and of the yachts enrolled in the fleet, to issue all notices hereinafter provided for, and to report to the Club at its annual general meeting and to the Executive Committee when required.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive and collect moneys due to the Club, to have general charge of its funds and to make such disbursements therefrom as are ordered or approved by the Executive Committee; to keep an account of the property and investments of the Club and of its receipts and disbursements and to report to the Club at its annual general meeting and to the Executive Committee when required.

It shall be the duty of the Measurer to make accurate measurements of all yachts of the fleet, which may be entered in any race of the Club, according to the rules of measurement adopted by the Regatta Committee; to keep a true record of such measurements and to calculate therefrom the racing length of each yacht so measured and certify the same to her owner and to the Secretary. His compensation shall be fixed by the Executive Committee.

The Commodore may at his pleasure appoint a Harbor Master, a Flag Lieutenant, a Fleet Surgeon, and a Chaplain, to serve during his term of office and to perform such functions consistent with their professional calling, as he shall require.

## ARTICLE IV. PROPERTY

All the property of the Club shall be vested in the Commodore as trustee for the members thereof, under his official title, and he shall have power to act for and bind the members of the Club, as their agent, in all transactions relating to such property and duly authorized by the Club or its Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE V.  
STANDING COMMITTEES**

The Executive Committee shall consist of 13 members, including the Flag Officers, the Secretary and the Treasurer. Seven members, including at least one the officers, shall be a quorum. All meetings of this committee shall be called by the Commodore, or in his absence by the officer next in rank. The ranking officer present shall be chairman of the meeting. The Executive Committee shall have the general control and direction of the policy and finances of the Club and the election of members thereto. It shall authorize all disbursements and contracts and audit all accounts and may require all other committees and all officers, except the Commodore, to report to it when necessary for the discharge of its duties. It shall report to the Club at its annual general meeting and to any special meeting called for that purpose, as provided in the next article.

The House Committee shall consist of a chairman and eight other members, four of whom shall be women, to be appointed by the Executive Committee, and shall have charge and control of the Club House and grounds and the property therein contained. It shall have power to make the necessary rules for the government and use of the Club House and grounds, shall collect all moneys arising from the use thereof and pay the same to the Treasurer, and shall report to the Club at its annual general meeting and to the Executive Committee when required.

The Regatta Committee shall consist of at least five members, including the Fleet Captain, and as many more as deemed practical by the Commodore and the Regatta Committee Chairman; and shall have the charge and control of all races and regattas held by the Club, with power to make necessary rules and regulations for the government and management thereof. It shall decide all questions referred to it by the judges and captains of competing yachts, select and award all prizes offered by the Club, and shall report to the Club at its annual general meeting and to the Executive Committee when required.

The Membership Committee shall consist of the chairman and six members, to be appointed by the Commodore and approved by the Executive Committee. It shall have charge of all membership applications. If approved by the committee, applications will be sent to the Secretary in order that they may be presented to the Executive Committee for final action.

The Entertainment Committee, consisting of chairman and co-chairman, and as many members as the Commodore wishes to serve, will be appointed by the Commodore.

**ARTICLE VI.  
MEETINGS**

The annual general meeting of the Club shall be held at the Club House on the Friday night before the first Monday of September in each year, at such hour as the Executive Committee shall direct, and written notice of such meeting shall be given every member in good standing by the Secretary and posted conspicuously in the Club House at least one week before the date thereof.

Special meetings of the Club may be called by the Commodore at his pleasure, and shall be so called upon the written request of any ten members in good standing. Such meetings shall be held at the Club House if in commission, and at other times at such place as the Commodore shall direct, as most convenient to the majority of the members.

Such special meetings shall have power to transact any business which might be transacted at the annual general meeting and for which they shall have been expressly called.

Fifteen members, qualified to vote and present in person or by proxy, shall be a quorum at any meetings of the Club.

The Secretary shall mail to every member of the Club in good standing, and post conspicuously in the Club House, if in commission, at least one week before the date of such meeting, a notice thereof and of any special business for which it is called.

The Executive, House, Regatta, Membership and Entertainment Committees shall have the power to arrange and call their own meetings, at such times and places as shall be most convenient, but the Commodore may call

a meeting of any such committee at any time upon such notice as is above prescribed for a special meeting of the Club.

## **ARTICLE VII. ELECTIONS**

The Commodore, Vice-Commodore, Fleet Captain, Secretary, Treasurer, Measurer, and members of the Executive Committee shall be elected at the annual meeting in every year by a majority vote of the members present, to serve for the term of one year from the fifteenth day of September next ensuing and until their successors are elected.

A Nominating Committee, consisting of three members in good standing, shall be appointed by the Executive Committee not later than one month before the annual general meeting, and shall meet and nominate officers and members of the Executive Committee, for election at the annual general meeting. Such nominations shall be conspicuously posted in the Club House not less than two weeks prior to such meeting.

A vacancy occurring in the offices of Commodore, Vice-Commodore, Fleet Captain, Secretary, Treasurer, or Measurer, may be filled for the unexpired term of such officer, at an election to be held at a special meeting of the Club, called for that purpose, upon the same notice of the time and object of such meeting as is hereinafter provided for amending the Constitution.

In default of such election, the Commodore may appoint an acting officer, with the same powers and duties, to serve for the unexpired term or until a successor be elected.

The Executive Committee shall have power to fill any vacancy in their own number, for the unexpired term of such vacancy, and shall appoint the House and Regatta Committee, and have like power to fill vacancies therein.

## **ARTICLE VIII. MEMBERSHIP**

1. Membership shall be classified as follows:
  - Family – Classes A, B, C, & E
  - Single – Classes D & F
2. Family membership shall entitle all dependents of a member residing in his or her household, except persons 23 and over, to the general privileges of the Club House.
3. Membership A, B, C, D, E, & F shall exclusively carry the voting privileges.
4. Ages – All ages shall be determined as of January 1st of the calendar year billed for.
5. Family Membership – Class A: Persons 33 years of age and over. Dues: \$770.00 per year. Initiation fee: \$2,300.00.
6. Family Membership – Class B: Persons from 28–32 years of age, inclusive. Dues: \$462.00 per year. Initiation Fee: \$1150.00.
7. Family Membership – Class C: Persons from 23–27 years of age, inclusive. Dues: \$363.00 per year. Initiation fee: \$800.00.
8. Family Membership – Class E: Available upon written request to members in good standing over 65 years of age with a minimum of 15 years active membership. Dues for members requesting Class E membership after January 1, 1982 will be 60% of the Class A membership dues in effect during the year the request is made. Dues for these members will be fixed at the amount so calculated as long as their Club membership is retained.
9. Single Membership – Class D: Any unmarried person. Dues: \$402.00 per year. Initiation Fee: \$1200.00.
10. Single Membership – Class F: Available upon written request to single members in good standing over 65 years of age with a minimum of 15 years active membership. Dues \$125.00 per year. Dues for members

requesting Class F membership after January 1, 1982 will be 60% of Class D membership dues in effect during the year the request is made. Dues for these members will be fixed at the amount so calculated, as long as their club membership is retained.

Application for membership must be made in writing to the Membership Committee. Such application must be signed by the applicant and the proposer, and state the name and address of the applicant, and the class of membership applied for, and also whether said applicant owns or is part owner of a yacht, and if so, her name and general description.

When a membership application is presented to the Executive Committee they shall consider and vote upon it, and a favorable vote of all members present and voting shall be necessary to an election. The number of members in each class shall be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Honorary Members may be elected in recognition of special services to the Club, or of distinction in yachting or naval science, or in public service, by the unanimous vote of the Executive Committee, to be ratified at the next meeting of the Club.

Members shall pay to the Treasurer within two weeks after receiving notice of their election their annual dues for the current year together with the initiation fee as billed by the Treasurer, and if such dues are not paid within one month after receipt of such notice, their election shall become void unless the time of payment be extended by the Executive Committee.

No initiation fee shall be charged to any dependent of a member who is accepted into membership within one year after his or her family membership rights are terminated by virtue of having reached age twenty-three (23).

Annual dues shall be payable on the first day of March, and if such dues are not paid by the first day of April, the Treasurer shall send notice to the member in arrears. If such dues remain unpaid on the first day of May, his membership may be deemed forfeited and his privileges cease, subject to being renewed by the Executive Committee on such terms as in their discretion shall be just.

Honorary members shall pay no admission fee or dues.

Any member accused of breaking the rules or regulations of the Club, or of conduct unbecoming a gentleman or prejudicial to the good order and welfare of the Club, shall be notified in writing of such charges by the Secretary and given an opportunity to be heard in his own defense before the Executive Committee, and upon such hearing, or upon his failure to appear, the committee may, if it finds the charges proved, admonish or suspend such member from any of the privileges of membership, or may declare his membership forfeited.

Such member shall thereupon have the right of appeal to the Club, at a special meeting to be called for that purpose, and the Club may, by a two-thirds vote of all members present, reverse the action of the Committee and set aside the penalties so imposed.

Any member who has not paid all sums due to the Club for the immediately preceding season (ending Labor Day of that year) by the later of December 1, or the 45th day after the charges are first billed, shall forfeit his membership, subject to being renewed by the Executive Committee on such terms as in their discretion shall be just.

## **ARTICLE IX. YACHTS**

Any yacht owned wholly or in part by, or chartered to, a member of the Club, and used exclusively as a pleasure craft, may be enrolled in the fleet, and her owner shall file with the Secretary a description of the yacht, including her name, ownership, dimensions, rig, and the name of the builder, if known, with a description or diagram of the owner's private signal.

Only yachts so enrolled shall be allowed to compete in any race or regatta or for any prize offered by the Club, except upon special invitation of the Regatta Committee.

**ARTICLE X.  
SIGNAL AND PENNANTS**

The distinguishing signal of the Club shall be a pointed flag, of dimensions three units on the fly for every two units on the hoist, divided by a diagonal line running from the head of the luff, red above and blue below the diagonal, to a point bisecting the lower side.

The Commodore's pennant shall be rectangular flag, the breadth two-thirds of the length, divided by a diagonal line running from the head of the pennant, red above and blue below the diagonal, and bearing three white stars in line horizontally from luff to leach.

The Vice-Commodore's pennant shall be the same as the Commodore's but bearing two white stars, similarly placed.

The Fleet Captain's pennant shall be the same as the Commodore's but bearing a white foul anchor instead of the stars, placed midway upon and perpendicular to the said diagonal line.

By resolution of the Executive Committee the flag Lieutenant, when afloat on official business, is authorized to carry a distinguishing pennant, consisting of the Club signal, bearing a white arrow, placed horizontally, point inward, three-fourths the length of the signal.

The pennant of all members of the Executive Committee and all standing committee heads shall be a pointed flag of dimensions three units on the fly for every two units on the hoist, divided by a diagonal line running from the head of the luff, red above and blue below the diagonal, to a point bisecting the lower side, bearing a single white star placed midway upon the diagonal line.

**ARTICLE XI.  
AMENDMENT**

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present in person or by proxy, at any general meeting of the Club or any special meeting called for that purpose. Such amendment shall be proposed in writing addressed to the Secretary, who shall give notice thereof to the Commodore in writing. The Commodore shall thereupon, if he deems it for the interest of the Club, or if requested in writing by any ten members thereof, in good standing, call a special meeting of the Club to consider and vote upon the said amendment, unless the annual general meeting is to occur within one month after the proposal of such amendment. At least one week's notice of the place and time of such meeting and of the object for which the same is called, with a copy of the proposed amendment, shall be mailed or delivered by the Secretary to every member of the Club, and shall also be conspicuously posted in the Club House, if in commission.