

## PHRF Youth Regatta Event Brief:

The PHRF Youth Regatta is designed to provide a transition for young sailors to stay with the sport throughout life. The regatta will expose our young sailors to bigger keel boats, provide them with connections to boat owners, and show them the camaraderie that grows sailing as a team. We would love to bring some youth into our normal events and drive down the average age of our crews. We also want to show our youth a world beyond their dinghies and provide sailing opportunities that can accommodate someone having a summer job.

We have designed this regatta with safety as the main priority. We considered the safety of our youth sailors, as well as our volunteered boats and sails. Restrictions are put in place on sail configurations to keep the loads in the boats low, as well as easier to handle for a growing person. We have emphasized the "safety position" on the boat which would place all of the youth in the cabin and allow for the skipper and supplied crew to sort anything out on deck. We have designed our racecourse to be a triangle so there should be no accidental gybes. The general nature of racing boats that have dissimilar speeds allows the boats to spread out across the racecourse so mark roundings are typically solo.

We intend to have 2 races of 3-8 miles each on the day of the event. This will allow the kids to develop their skills each race and build confidence as the day goes on. The event should be about 4 hours long, but that all depends on the sailing conditions. The two races also allow youth to rotate through different positions on the boat.

Parents and instructors are also encouraged to join. The instructors already have a rapport with the youth sailors and have the coaching mindset/patience that will help this event to be fun for all. For the parents it is a great opportunity to see their kids show off their knowledge and skills. We have requested that any parents wanting to join, also join a crew on the Wednesday night PHRF race the week prior. Bringing the parents along will show them what we do and may also inspire some of them to consider purchasing keel boats to help keep their kids involved in the sport as they get older.

Assigning of boats is going to be based on a few factors. We will make sure that we have a couple older kids on each boat to act as the skippers. We will do our best to keep friend groups together as we want to encourage the camaraderie of the sport. We will also do our best to accommodate special requests but decisions will have to be made. We have a large range of boats volunteering for this event, some are fast, some comfortable, some are wet, and some are dry. Not all boats that are volunteering will be used. We are going to work with the skippers very closely to make sure we can have a fun safe experience for everyone.

The event is a whole day affair. Skippers need to arrive at 11:30am for their safety briefing/skipper's meeting. Youth sailors should arrive between 12:00 and 12:15. When they arrive, they will be placed in a group with their fellow sailors and taken to their respective boats as a group. Participants are welcome to bring snacks or drinks or their choice suitable to be consumed while sailing. They should also arrive in proper sailing attire including non-marking footwear. Extra layers, cell phones, keys, and wallets can all be stored in the cabin of the assigned boat.