

## BYC Racing in the Times of Corona Virus

The safety of the members and staff at Beverly Yacht Club (BYC) is our highest priority. It follows then that BYC is subject to the Reopening Guidelines issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that apply to yacht clubs and to sailboat racing. These rules are referenced in 1.2 of the BYC Notice of Race posted on the BYC web site.

As a service to our members, we have summarized the sections of the Commonwealth's Phase 3 Step 1 guidelines for reopening as specifically related to racing below:

The Guidelines from the Commonwealth came out on Monday July 6 for Phase III, Step 1. The rules regarding sailboat racing are in the [\*Workplace Safety and Reopening Standards for Businesses and Other Entities Providing Youth and Adult Amateur Sports Activities\*](#). The document is in the link above, the summary of the guidelines are as follows:

- Boats with 1 person per boat can race in "Competitions" and "Tournaments".
- Boats with 2 or 3 people per boat can race in "Competitions."
- Boats with more than 3 people per boat can practice, but cannot race.
- The provision/requirement for sailing with single household groups has been removed. The limit for racing is still no more than 3 people per boat.
- The guidelines further require that face coverings must be worn by everyone racing with 2 – 3 in a boat at all times unless it is deemed unsafe.

By definition of the Phase 3 Step 1 guidelines, any race BYC runs with a single starting line qualifies as a "Competition". (Regattas with multiple starting lines and multiple days would be a "Tournament". "Tournaments" are allowed only for single person boats at this time.)

H-12 and Bullseye crews are happy, Shields and J/80's are more challenged but the fleets believe they have members who want to and are able to sail with 2-3 racers onboard. PHRF racers who can sail with 2 or 3 are pondering whether to fly a spinnaker or not. Short Handed and Double Handed enthusiasts finally have their time in the spotlight.

We remind everyone that the [\*Workplace Safety and Reopening Standards for Recreational Boating Businesses – Phase III, Step 1\*](#) continue to guide BYC's policies for the use of the Club, docks and launch. The summary of the already existing BYC guidelines for the use of the Club are as follows:

- All persons should remain at least six feet apart to the greatest extent possible
- Face coverings are required for everyone on the BYC property unless seated at a table on the porch.
- Visitors from out of state (other than CT, NY, NJ, RI, VT, NH and ME) are asked to quarantine for 14 days.
- Launch capacity is limited to allow groups and individuals to remain appropriately socially distant.

- Dining at the Club is limited in capacity according to the Phase 3 guidelines and is by reservation only.
- The Club bar is only open for server service during the hours the Club restaurant is open and access is restricted to several outdoor chairs and tables

For now, this is the plan; let's make the best of it.

See you out on the water.