



QRYA News

Issue 2006-1

MEMBERSHIP CARD AND MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Membership card for the current financial year have been posted to all members.. Please ensure you have this available when you visit another Club or compete in a major event as it will be required to prove your membership status at future events.

1. Measurement Compliance

In recent events there have been a number of cases of boats being presented at registration where for some reasons they do not comply with measurement requirements. It is the skipper's responsibility to ensure that his/her boat complies in all respects including having all sails measured and signed, a situation quite often overlooked. A check list of pre-event measurement requirements that may be confirmed is enclosed.

2. Sportsmanship and the Rules

The basic principle of yacht racing is:

“Competitors in the sport of sailing are governed by a body of *rules* that they are expected to follow and enforce. **A fundamental principle of sportsmanship is that when competitors break a rule they will promptly take a penalty, which may be to retire.**”

Paul Elvstrøm has said “The best way to avoid problems is still to sail against others in the same way that we wish to be sailed against. This unwritten rule is the best way of preserving friendships and encourage participation in sailboat racing. It is great to win in yacht racing but only if the other competitors join in the pleasure”

There have been recent cases where these basic principles have been ignored much to the dissatisfaction of other competitors.

While it is best that racing incidents be sorted out on the water and the appropriate penalty taken in line with the rules there will be cases where both parties believe they are right and in such cases the incidents need to be taken to protest for resolution.

The protesting boat or boats should hail the other “X protests Y” repeated once and then if no action is taken formally advise the other

competitor and lodge a protest with the race committee within 15 minutes of completion of the race (see part 5 of the Racing Rules of Sailing 2005-2008) No other calls or on the water bickering should take place.

For the future success of our sport it is important that our most experienced skippers lead by example to establish a climate of fair sailing.

3. Race Management

The QRYA Committee has requested our most experienced PRO in Radio Sailing Bill Clancy to develop guidelines for major event management in line with our commitment to the 2007 Nationals and when this work is complete we will forward his recommendations to each club administration for implementation.

Remember that the administration of our sport is by a dedicated group of volunteers without which our sport would not exist.

4. Online Nomination

In Queensland over recent time with the help of our Publicity Officer and Webmaster Eddie Cowell we have established an excellent online nomination process with payment on the day which is very convenient for competitors and allows for early nomination. **If for any reason you nominate and later change plans it is your responsibility to email both Eddie and the Race Secretary advising of your intention to withdraw.** This common courtesy will greatly assist the successful operation of the process.

Eddie has advised:

“Those members who use the online entry forms to enter regattas are reminded to please check their “sent” box a few minutes after submitting their entry.

In most instances your entry should appear as a sent message if the form was processed successfully. While the Race Secretary should also acknowledge receipt of your entry, it is the responsibility of the entrant to ensure that their details have been included on any online skipper list. If your details do not appear online within 24 hours either;

a. Resend the entry by forwarding it from your sent box to the race secretary or

4. Online Nomination continued

b. Send your name, address and at least three frequencies to the race secretary in a separate plain text email. The subject line should be the regatta you wish to enter.

While nearly all entries are received without any problems, there are a small percentage that are affected by a configuration glitch which originates at the entrants computer. Online entries are offered as a convenience only and automatic entry should not be assumed by submitting your details online.”

5. Communication

The QRYA Committee proposes to keep members informed on what the association is doing by regular updates on our Association web-site at:

[Www.radiosailing.org.au/qrya/qrya.htm](http://www.radiosailing.org.au/qrya/qrya.htm)