

# SCOW Racing Policy

As Approved by the Board of Directors

July 2012

## **Each year the Commodore shall appoint a Racing Committee, to be chaired by the Racing Director to perform the functions below:**

1. The Racing Committee may recommend to the Board a schedule of races in which SCOW members are authorized to use the club's boats and which boats (Scots and Cruisers) should be used.
2. The Racing Committee should recommend to the Board policies and procedures for SCOW's racing program that will (a) maintain a fair balance in the use of SCOW boats between those who wish to use them for racing and those who wish to use them for other purposes, and (b) ensure that the boats are skippered and crewed by persons with the requisite level of skill.
3. The Racing Committee should recommend revisions or updates to any parts of the Racing Policy that will enhance the sailing/racing experience of the club's members.

## **Racing Director Duties**

1. Oversee the participation by SCOW boats, skippers and crews in SCOW sanctioned races and ensure that the club's boats are not raced in any events not authorized by the Board.
2. Maintain a list of crew who wishes to race in SCOW sanctioned races.
3. Run the lottery for selecting racing skippers for sanctioned races. (Ideally, racing skippers should be chosen at least two weeks before each race.)
4. Organize and run the Flying Scot races.
5. Coordinate with the marina staff, the other WSM clubs, and the Leukemia Society, and the Leukemia Cup Committee in the organization of the annual Leukemia Cup Regatta and President's Cup.
6. Must notify the DC River Police that we intend to occupy the river for racing on a specific date or time period, and must get police approval for the river or lagoon. This should be done very early in the year, January or February.
7. At the beginning of the season the Racing Director will reserve our boats to be used for racing in our online system.

## **Flying Scot Races**

The Flying Scot races are intended to serve both as a training ground for those wishing to learn the rules and protocols of sailboat racing and to assist skippers and crew in honing and developing their existing racing skills. All crew who wish to race or learn to race are welcome to participate with crew selection taking place on the evening of the weekly Scots races at the docks. Crew will be rotated throughout the evening as weather and time permits to allow as many interested members to participate as possible.

At the beginning of the year the racing director will decide when and how the Scott racing will take place. The above should be followed as closely as possible but it is up to the racing director to determine the pace and intensity of the program. While the Scot racing is to remain open to all, the race director may include special training.

1. To race a Scot a certified Scot skipper must be on the boat.
2. Crew will consist of SCOW members only and who show up to race that evening, others may join at the Racing Director's discretion.

3. The racing will be conducted by the Scot skippers present or those assigned by the Racing Director.

## **Cruising Boat Racing**

1. At the beginning of the year the Racing Committee, should recommend to the board which races will be sanctioned by SCOW and submit this to the board before the board meeting in March of that year unless the board has already approved racing dates for the year at an earlier board meeting.
2. Sanctioned races are races that are sponsored by other clubs, primarily DISC. After the board has approved the sanctioned races the race director should reserve the boats for these dates for racing. Only qualified SCOW racing skippers may race the cruising boats and only SCOW members may be crew. Others may crew at the Racing Director's discretion. **SCOW Racing Skippers who wish to race SCOW boats in DISC races must maintain their own memberships in DISC** and must be DISC members in good standing for the sailing year.
3. A minimum of three on board is mandatory, or more as appropriate for the conditions. When racing with a spinnaker a minimum of 4 (skipper +3) should be aboard.

### **In order to become a racing skipper the following procedure must be followed:**

1. Candidate must be a cruising boat skipper in good standing with the club.
2. Pass the written test for racing.
3. Submit a racing resume which shows how much racing experience the candidate has. It is required that the skipper have at least 20 hours of racing in at least 6 different races as a skipper or crew as a minimum. This can be on SCOW boats or any experiences obtained on other racing boats. Candidates wishing to be certified to race in the spinnaker class need at least 20 hours racing with a spinnaker and appropriate spinnaker handling experience.
4. Candidate must pass SCOW's on the water test. This test will be administered by a certified Racing Checkout Skipper in a special session or with a Racing Checkout Skipper during an actual race. The water test will be used to help determine if the candidate is capable of racing a boat in crowded conditions. It includes items such as an understanding of racing rules, being able to make quick decisive decisions while racing and keeping clear of other boats.
5. A certified SCOW Racing Checkout Skipper is someone who will be recommended by the Racing Director in consultation with the Skipper and Training Certification Committee, and approved by the Board.

### **Lottery procedures for choosing racing skippers to sail in sanctioned races.**

The method of allocation of the sanctioned race opportunities is a lottery, or a series of lotteries, constrained in such a way that all skippers who wish to race have an opportunity to do so if that is possible.

1. All interested skippers submit their names to the racing director who will announce a time and place for the lottery. (If possible, lotteries should be held at least two weeks in advance of races.)
2. Races and KISS Series (usually 6 races) shall be considered separately.
3. For each race or KISS Series of races skipper's names will be placed in a hat and drawn by the racing director or an appointed impartial person.
4. The first skipper's name drawn will have first choice of which boat he/she wants. Subsequently drawn names may each choose their boat.
5. At the subsequent lottery, Racing Skippers who did not race in the previous KISS Series will receive priority in the lottery process.

6. Individual races shall be awarded to Racing Skippers similarly to the above method for awarding a race series (i.e., if you raced the last race, those who did not, will be higher on the list than you are, but if there are boats remaining after the lottery of skippers who weren't able to race the last race, you may enter the follow-up lottery and be awarded a boat.).

### **Crew and choosing crew for the cruising boats races.**

In order to promote racing and to allow as many SCOW members to participate the following rules are to apply.

1. All crew must be SCOW members in good standing with the club, or approved by the Racing Director.
2. A crew list will be kept by the racing director; any SCOW member may submit their name to the list regardless of experience. (The Racing Director is encouraged to advertise to all-SCOW early in the year, encouraging SCOW members to add their names to the list.)
3. Only SCOW members who have submitted their names to the crew list should be chosen by the racing skipper.. Any SCOW cruiser skipper may be a first mate. Crew on the racing skipper list should be given priority until all crew has been given a chance to race.
4. For the safety of all, the racing skipper must choose someone as a first mate who is a cruising boat skipper and therefore capable of handling the boat if the skipper for whatever reason becomes unable to do so.
5. A Racing Skipper may change crew during a series if any crew becomes unreliable.

### **Other SCOW sanctioned races.**

If during the course of the year SCOW's racing skippers wish to race in another local race that is not already sanctioned by the board then they may:

1. Submit a request to the racing director before the requested race. (The further in advance, the better.)
2. The racing director may submit this request to the board if he/she feels that this race will not intrude on the club's other members and maintain a fair balance in the use of SCOW boats between those who wish to use them for racing and those who wish to use them for other purposes.
3. If approved by the board then another lottery will take place (as described above) for that race. The racing skipper may be required to pay for that race.

### **Leukemia Cup**

1. The Leukemia Cup (all club boats) and the President's Cup (Flying Scots only) are designated by the Board as sanctioned races under the club race policy. SCOW also will offer its assistance to the local chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society to promote the Leukemia Cup in the sailing community as a sponsoring club. Expenditure of any club funds for this purpose is subject to annual approval by the Board.
2. To maximize charitable fundraising through entry of the club's boats in the Leukemia Cup, members will be encouraged to form skipper/crew teams to raise donations for the Leukemia Society. The top fundraising skipper/crew one month before the event will be given first pick of all boats; the second will be given next pick of the remaining boats, and so on, until all boats are awarded. Contributions of cash and in-kind donations (valued at fair market value) will be considered in the boat award process. Uncollected pledges will not be counted. The Race Director will make the final determination as to the value of each team's donations. Skippers may choose their own crews from any available sources.

3. Flying Scots will be reserved for the Leukemia Cup and for the President's Cup, i.e., for both Saturday and Sunday of the Leukemia Cup weekend, with the same Flying Scot to be raced on both days by the skipper/crew awarded that boat through the fundraising competition. The cruising boats will only be reserved for Saturday's Leukemia Cup. These reservations will be announced in the club's annual calendar and entered into the Marina reservation logs as early as possible in the year.
4. Skippers for the cruising boats must be qualified as race skippers prior to the Leukemia Cup. Each skipper/crew team that is awarded use of a club boat will be personally responsible for paying the entry fee for that boat, which must be paid separately from the donated funds (unless the club has opted to pay entry fees). Each competing skipper/crew team also is responsible for conveying its total donation amount to the Leukemia Society at race registration.
5. The Race Director should announce the fundraising competition for the club boats in the July Channels (or before) and encourage the formation of skipper/crew fundraising teams. Teams may be announced by the Race Director at a summer membership meeting, in the August Channels and in emails to the membership. As soon as a skipper/crew team has announced to the Race Director that it intends to compete for a club boat, that team may begin to solicit donations from members at membership meetings, social sails, or other events. The competition will end one month before the Leukemia Cup. At that time, the Race Director will determine each team's contribution totals and allow winning teams to select their boats for the race. If a team is unsuccessful in securing a club boat, its donations must still be given to the Leukemia Society.
6. Members who have their own boats are invited to enter the Leukemia Cup as part of SCOW's participation and to contribute their fundraising efforts to the overall club total. Those skippers/boat owners who choose to do so should notify the Race Director of their intention and then inform him or her as to the amount of funds they have raised. In return, these skippers also would be announced in Channels and get to solicit Leukemia Cup donations from members at meetings, social sails and other club events.