

# PHRF OF E. L. I.

THE PERFORMANCE HANDICAP RACING FLEET OF EASTERN LONG ISLAND  
POST OFFICE BOX 82, NEW SUFFOLK, NEW YORK 11956

April, 2008

Dear Fellow Sailor,

Enclosed with this letter you will find an application form to renew your membership in the Performance Handicap Racing Fleet of Eastern Long Island and receive your 2008 PHRF of ELI handicap rating. Most handicap racing at the club level as well as the handicap racing program coordinated by the Eastern Long Island Yachting Association utilize these ratings. So if you wish to compete this year, please review the enclosed material, fill out the application blank and return it with your fee as soon as possible. Remember that all rating certificates are only valid for one year and automatically expire on April 30 of the following year. Even if you held a certificate last year, it must be renewed to have a valid rating for the upcoming season.

In addition to a renewal application form, this letter also contains general information regarding how ratings are generated, the rating appeal process, and the extent of your responsibilities as an owner or master. A summary of definitions used in the rating process as well as the Rating Adjustment Tables are included on a separate sheet attached to the Rating Application Form. The full contents of this package will once again be available online and can be downloaded from the ELIYA website, [elisail.org](http://elisail.org).

Over the past winter, the Council has begun work on a multi-year project that will ultimately enable the entire application process to be completed online. As our initial step, this year it is possible for you to access a Rating Application Form online and enter information directly onto it prior to downloading. Although it will still be necessary to download and mail your application, handicappers do now have the capability, if requested, to return copies of completed certificates via e-mail. When fully implemented, it will be possible to complete and submit your application online, receive your completed certificate by return e-mail, and subsequently view any current rating certificate on the ELIYA website.

## PHRF OF ELI

PHRF of ELI is administered by a Handicap Council composed of local sailors whose names are listed on the back of the Rating Application Form. The Council meets at 7:30 pm on the second Monday of each month at Peconic Greenhouses, 22425 Route 48 in Cutchogue to hear appeals and review general regulations and individual ratings. Our goal is to increase the overall effectiveness and fairness of the performance handicapping system. All meetings are open to the public and we encourage your attendance and active participation.

The Council is firmly committed to establishing handicap ratings that are as fair and objective as possible. Ratings are based upon demonstrated performance or, in the absence of adequate local race data, the projected performance of a properly equipped, expertly sailed boat sailing a circular random course (i.e. all points of sail) in 8 to 10 knots of true wind speed. It must be remembered, however, that **all** handicapping systems have limits of applicability and, when applied beyond those limits, will begin to yield race results of questionable validity. By itself, no single rating system can ever compensate for inequitable or inappropriate course selections or division assignments.

## **PHRF OF ELI RATING BASIS**

In order to qualify for a handicap rating from PHRF of ELI, boats must be self-righting monohulls sailed without the use of a trapeze, hiking straps, hiking boards, or any other equipment specifically intended to aid hiking. For purposes of handicapping, our ratings assume all boats are fully prepared and equipped for competitive racing (i.e. good sail inventory, clean bottom, etc.) Rating credits are not given for inadequate race preparation or equipment nor are credits extended for the carrying of excessive or oversized cruising equipment or gear. Furthermore a boat's rating does not include a factor to account for the experience level of either skipper or crew. We handicap only the boat, assuming it to be expertly sailed.

Base boat ratings have been developed for most popular production models. For purposes of establishing these ratings, we define a "base boat" as being a standard (unmodified) hull equipped to the degree intended by its manufacturer, including all appointments and equipment supplied or intended by the manufacturer (such as joiner work, cushions, galley equipment, etc). A "base boat" is also assumed to carry a specific rig, sail plan and engine/propeller installation. To the extent an individual boat varies from the "base" assumptions, specific rating adjustments are then applied to the base boat rating. One Design Ratings (ODR) are a refinement of base boat ratings and are established for boats of an organized one design class with published class rules. Boats that hold ODR ratings must carry only class legal sails and equipment. The one design ratings then incorporate any credits or penalties that arise from adherence to the class rules.

Production boats with modifications to the standard hull, rig or interior as well as custom designed boats are evaluated by the Handicap Council on an individual basis. It is the obligation of the owner or master of any modified boat to provide details of all changes made to the boat on the rating application. Examples of such changes would include any of the following:

Keel Modifications (depth, shape, section, material, weight)

Weight Change (relocation or elimination of bulkheads and joinerwork, reduction of standard equipment, re-ballasting, etc.)

Rudder modifications (type, shape, depth, etc.)

Hull modifications (other than normal fairing)

Rig modifications (rig dimensions, mast material, spreader configuration, chainplate locations, backstays, etc.)

All PHRF handicaps are reviewed annually by the Handicap Council and adjusted where appropriate in light of new performance data and additional observation and experience. Additionally any PHRF member can appeal the current rating of any boat (including his own) to have it raised or lowered. Please contact the handicapper serving your local area to guide you through the simple appeals process. A list of handicappers is provided on the back of the Application Form.

### COMPLETING YOUR APPLICATION

Whether you choose to fill out the enclosed application by hand or utilize the new online form, please mail a hard copy together with the correct fee to your local Handicapper. In an effort to promote racing by lowering the cost of participation, this year the Council has adopted two major changes to the fee structure. Please study the table below to determine the correct fee. If you ever held a PHRF/ELI rating for your current boat you can now renew your rating for just \$15.00. For current individual members of ELIYA, there is now a \$5.00 discount, dropping the net cost to \$10.00

Boat not previously rated by PHRF/ELI	\$20.00
Renewal for a boat which previously held a rating certificate from PHRF/ELI (no matter what year)	\$15.00
Discount for current (2008) ELIYA members	-\$ 5.00
Revision to a current certificate (discount does not apply)	\$ 7.50

The rating you receive will be based directly upon the accuracy and completeness of the information you supply. Please make every effort to provide all the requested data. The greatest single source of rating errors is missing information or inaccurate measurements. If you have a question or don't understand something requested on the form, please make an effort to contact one of the Handicappers or simply speak with an experienced sailor in your local fleet. In the absence of specific, owner supplied data, the Handicap Council will assume a condition that results in the harshest rating. The more complete and accurate your application, therefore, the more equitable your rating will be.

Best wishes for a successful and enjoyable season.

THE HANDICAP COUNCIL  
PHRF of EASTERN LONG ISLAND