



Frequently Asked Questions



PHRF Certificates

Q: How do I renew my last year's rating?

A: You should have received renewal by e-mail. Simply print out the form, review it, mark it if there are changes, then mail it to the address shown on the renewal form (or bring to the Annual Meeting) along with \$30 payable to FCSA.



PHRF Certificates

Q: What if I didn't receive a renewal or I have a boat new to the area or expired rating and I wish to obtain a new rating?

A: Download the form "Application for a PHRF Rating" from the FCSA website www.sailjax.com.

Fill out the form then mail it to the address shown on the application form along with fee payable to FCSA. You will receive a new rating certificate a few days later.



PHRF Certificate Fees

Following are the fees associated with various situations:

- Renewal of current certificate (by Feb 1): \$30
- Renewal of current certificate (after Feb 1): \$35
- Change fee for current certificate: \$5
- Temporary PHRF certificate, visiting boat: \$5



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Where do I find a list of current Certificate Holders?

A: Go to FCSA website front page and click on “PHRF Ratings” (red font). A current list that can be used by Race Committees will be shown.

Q: What if I just want to explore the ratings data base that we use?

A: Go to FCSA website front page and click on “YRALIS PHRF Ratings”. A searchable data base can be found at this link.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How do you raise issues, make suggestions or ask questions about policies, rules and ratings?

A: Inquiries should be made in writing, stating in clear terms the issue at hand and providing supporting data for the inquiry or request.

The written document can be e-mailed to any of the Points of Contact shown on the FCSA website.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can one-design centerboard classes like Flying Scots and Thistles participate in FCSA PHRF races?

A: No. The FCSA bylaws for PHRF racing prohibit this.

Q: Can cruising multi-hull boats meeting FCSA criteria race with single-hull boats?

A: Yes, but should race in a separate class.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Who receives the FCSA Annual Series Trophies?

A: The Annual Series Trophies are awarded to the Boat (by name) and the Certificate Holder, unless Certificate Holder specifies otherwise.

Q: Can a boat race using an expired certificate?

A: FCSA does not recognize race scores from invalid PHRF Certificates. Accepting these scores would not be fair to those who maintain current PHRF certificates.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can a Performance Class Non-Spinnaker boat fly a spinnaker?

A: No. The Non-Spinnaker Class is by definition a class that cannot fly a spinnaker and is restricted to using a headsail for all points of sail.

Q: Can a boat fly two headsails while racing?

A: No. The only time that two headsails may be flown is while changing headsails.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why are there two ratings on my certificate?

A1: The number on your PHRF certificate denoted “Rating” (the number in bold font) is the rating used by a boat registered in any class to fly a spinnaker, whether it flies it or not.

A2: The rating denoted “Non-Spinnaker Rating” applies only to boats sailing in a class that is restricted to using a headsail for all points of sail (Non-Spinnaker Class) or a Cruiser Class boat that does not intend to fly a spinnaker.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can a Cruiser Class boat fly a spinnaker?

A: Yes, but there are some rules:

1. The boat must declare whether it intends to use the spinnaker at registration, not on the course.
2. A boat may not change its rating once it is registered for an event and shall not use a spinnaker if it is registered as a Non-Spinnaker Cruiser Class boat.
3. The declaration (Spinnaker or Non-Spinnaker) must apply for the entire Regatta or race series.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can a Cruiser Class boat race one race with a spinnaker and not in another? How is this handled in the overall FCSA Series Trophies?

A1: Yes, a Cruiser Class boat may race in one event, either a Race or a Regatta with a spinnaker in one event and not in another.

A2: The Cruiser Class corrected times take into account whether a boat has a spinnaker or not. The corrected times determine the finishing position in the Race or Regatta. The cumulative points determine the FCSA Series Annual Trophy winners.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: On a given race day, what if there is at least one Non-Spinnaker boat registered and one Cruiser Class boat registered but not enough boats to have a separate Cruiser Class and a separate Non-Spinnaker Class?

A: It will be at the discretion of the club Race Committee to combine the boats into a single class. Boats will be scored by FCSA toward the Annual Series Trophies according to which class they are registered for the event.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What are the restrictions under FCSA rules on use of a whisker pole?

1. The whisker pole overall length must not exceed the LP dimension.
2. The whisker pole must be attached to the mast. It cannot be held out by hand or attached to the rail, for example.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: If there is a dispute regarding the classification of a boat as Cruiser Class boat, how is it resolved?

A: FCSA provides guidelines and rules so clubs may conduct races fairly and consistently. The FCSA Rating Committee will resolve disputes brought to its attention and will ultimately decide whether a boat is included in the results for the FCSA Annual Series Cruising Class trophies.