



# Gulfport Yacht Club

## *Procedures for club owned boats.*



1. Certification: All members in good standing of the Gulfport Yacht Club and their dependent children who have club privileges by virtue of membership are eligible to skipper GYC owned sailboats. In order to be authorized to skipper, a person must be certified by the Sailing Director or the Sailing Chairman or his designated representative. *Application for certification* may be obtained from the bar.

2. Non-members shall not be allowed to use the club boats, except as the guest crew of a club member who is a certified skipper and is acting in that capacity.

3. Using Club Boats. The certified skipper or team captain for a regatta shall complete the form titled *Request to use GYC Boat* prior to using. Whether for pleasure sailing, practice for a regatta, or racing at a regatta. The forms are available at the club bar. A form shall be completed for each use. It is imperative that the condition of the boat, rigging, sails, equipment etc. be reported on the form after each use and turned in the bar.

#### 4. Races:

a. The Sailing Chairman or his designated representative shall determine who may enter regattas and which boats may be used.

b. Skippers shall observe the rules of the regatta, and shall be responsible for the conduct of their crew at the regatta.

c. Skippers are urged to use other certified skippers as crew.

#### 5. Unsupervised pleasure sailing:

##### a. Sail Lockers:

(1) Members shall not use the sails that are designated for racing except with the permission of the Sailing Director or his designated representative. These are normally reserved for use during regattas.

(2) Keys to the sail locker are available at the bar.

(3) Equipment in the sail locker. Skipper and crew under 18 years of age shall wear life jackets at all times on GYC owned boats

##### b. Specific Rules:

(1) At least one certified skipper must be aboard a club boat.

(2) The number of people sailing aboard a Flying Scot shall not be more than six (6), 420 (3), optimist (2), & Sunfish (3).

(3) A minimum age of FIFTEEN (14) years shall be required for certification of a skipper for the use of a club boat for racing or for unsupervised pleasure sailing.

(4) The club boat(s) shall not be sailed more than two (2) miles from the Gulfport Small Craft harbor without approval from the Fleet Sailing Director or his designated representative.

(5) Club Boats shall not be sailed in winds exceeding fifteen (15) knots, in threatening or inclement weather, or when Small Craft Warnings are in effect

(6) Flying Scot(s) checked out for sailing shall be returned to club not later than one-half (½) hour before sunset.

(7) No person shall fish or swim from a club boat.

(8) Except in case of an emergency, club boats(s) shall not be anchored or moored.

(10) Club Boats shall not be used for PLEASURE sailing during scheduled sailing lessons or races or regattas.

c. The certified skipper who signs out a club boat shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

(1) To ensure that all rules are observed by crew members.

(2) To ensure that his conduct and the conduct of his crew are courteous.

(3) To see that the boat, equipment, gear, sails, etc. are properly cared for and neatly stored after use. Club boats shall be properly secured on trailers, properly parked and tilted to ensure drainage.

6. Penalties:

a. Certified skippers who violate these rules shall be subject to reprimand or suspension of use club boats for not more than one year by the Sailing Committee. For serious or repeated violations, the Sailing Committee may recommend to the Governing Board of the Gulfport Yacht Club that more severe penalties be imposed.

Members are responsible for maintaining a seamanlike regard for the weather and for returning to the Yacht Club or another safe harbor of refuge with threatened by storms or squalls. Should refuge be sought away from the club, the skipper shall notify the Yacht Club as soon as possible to avoid unnecessary search and rescue operations.

All free sailing is at the member's own risk. Non-members aboard are the responsibility of the member.