

# **CONSTITUTION OF THE HOBCAW YACHT CLUB**

*1/2017*

## **ARTICLE I. NAME, PURPOSE, AND LOCATION**

SECTION 1. The name of the club shall be the Hobcaw Yacht Club.

SECTION 2. The purpose of the club shall be to promote sailing, seamanship, aquatics and other recreational activities among the members; to associate with similar organizations in such promotion; to provide general welfare, fellowship, and congeniality among the members through social and recreational activities; to establish, maintain, and conduct a Club for the accommodation of members; to hold title to property, both real and personal; to mortgage or otherwise hypothecate property; to provide yachting facilities, Club houses, Club rooms, and other conveniences; and to afford to members the usual privileges, advantages, conveniences, and accommodations of a Club and non-profit organization.

SECTION 3. The location of the Club shall be 180 Hobcaw Drive, Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, 29464-2545.

## **ARTICLE II. QUALIFICATION OF MEMBERS**

SECTION 1. RESIDENT MEMBERS: Any individual twenty-one years of age or older who is of good moral character, who is acceptable to the membership, and lives within the Hobcaw Point Subdivision.

SECTION 2. NON-RESIDENT MEMBERS: Any individual twenty-one years of age or older who is of good moral character, who is acceptable to the membership and lives outside of the Hobcaw Point Subdivision. Non-residents elected after July 12, 1993 will be classified as non-resident associates.

SECTION 3. Resident, Non-resident and Non-resident associates will be referred to as regular members as opposed to special category members.

SECTION 4. JUNIOR MEMBERS: Any individual eighteen to twenty-one years of age who meets the general requirements for regular membership and is the child of a regular or out-of-town member. Junior members shall not be included in the membership limitation.

SECTION 5. OUT-OF-TOWN MEMBERS: Any individual who meets the general requirement for membership and resides outside the Tri-County area (Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester Counties). Out-of-town members shall not be included in the membership limitation.

SECTION 6. LIFE MEMBERS: Any member who attains age sixty-five and has been a member in good standing for at least twenty years may advise or be nominated for election by the Board of Directors to life membership. Life members shall not be included in the membership limitation. Life members shall have the same rights as they enjoyed prior to becoming a life member.

SECTION 7. HONORARY MEMBERS: Any individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the Club of community may be elected to honorary membership by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors. Honorary members shall not be included in the membership limitation. There shall not be more than five Honorary Members of the Club at any one time and membership shall extend for a period of twelve months and be subject to re-designation as Honorary Member by future Boards.

SECTION 8. SPOUSAL MEMBERS: The spouse of a member who dies while in good standing may assume spousal membership. Also, the spouse of a member will have the all the rights and benefits as the member, but there will only be one vote between the two.

### **ARTICLE III. ORGANIZATION**

SECTION 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Commodore who shall serve as chairman, the Vice-Commodore, the Rear-Commodore, the Treasurer, the Secretary, and eight Members-at-Large.

SECTION 2. The Commodore shall name members of the Club as chairman of the standing committees and shall establish and name other such committees as may be necessary to the operation of the Club with the Board of Directors' approval. The Commodore shall be responsible for the actions of the Club's committees.

### **ARTICLE IV. MEETINGS**

SECTION 1. Annual Meetings of the Club shall be held not later than the 30th of November of each year. The Annual Meeting shall be held in such a place as the Board of Directors may designate in the call of the said meeting. Notice of the Annual Meeting shall be given by electronic format (e-mail and HYC Website) and/or mail to the members individually; and/or by publication in the daily newspaper in the City of Charleston, S.C.; at least fifteen days before the date of the meeting. At the Annual Meeting the Board of Directors shall be elected as hereinafter provided, and such other business shall be transacted as may properly come before the meeting.

SECTION 2. Special meeting of the general membership may be called by the Commodore at his/her discretion or upon the receipt by the Board of Directors of a request for a special meeting signed by not less than twenty-five percent of the voting membership. The request for a special meeting must state the object of the meeting and, no business other than that stated in the request shall be conducted. The membership shall be notified at least fifteen days prior to a special meeting *by* electronic format (e-mail and HYC Website) and/or mail to the member individually; and/or by publication in the daily newspaper in the City of Charleston, S.C.

SECTION 3. The Board of Directors shall meet monthly. Special meetings as identified in Article III Section 2 may be called by the Commodore upon sufficient notification of members of the Board.

### **ARTICLE V. DISSOLUTION**

SECTION 1. The Hobcaw Yacht Club may be dissolved only by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors and by vote of the membership present at a special meeting called to discuss dissolution. The business pertaining to dissolution shall be handled by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. Upon dissolution of the Club or the winding down of its activities, assets shall be, distributed exclusively to charitable, religious, scientific, or educational organizations which qualify under the provisions of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and its regulations as they now exist or may be amended.

## **ARTICLE VI. AMENDMENTS**

SECTION 1. Amendments and revisions to the Constitution of the Hobcaw Yacht Club shall be proposed in writing to the Board of Directors, read at the next meeting of the general membership, and laid over until the next regularly or special scheduled meeting of the general membership, at which time a vote shall be taken on their adoption. A notice setting forth the proposed amendment or revision shall be sent by the Secretary to the members at least fifteen days prior to the meeting at which the amendment or revision is to be considered. Notification shall be by electronic format (e-mail and HYC Website) and/or mail to the member individually; and/or by publication in the daily newspaper in the City of Charleston, S.C.

SECTION 2. A seventy-five percent vote of members present at the meeting designated for consideration of an amendment or revision to the Constitution shall be required for its adoption.

**BYLAWS  
OF  
THE HOBCAW YACHT CLUB**

**ARTICLE 1. MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION 1. Membership in the Club shall be invitation only. All members shall be furnished copies of the Constitution and Bylaws by the Secretary and must abide thereby. Qualifications for membership shall be in accordance with the Constitution.

SECTION 2. Any regular member in good standing may propose the name of an individual for membership.

SECTION 3. An application for membership may be submitted to the Membership Committee on an approved form. The application must list all requested information and be signed by the nominee, the sponsor, and one endorser. The sponsor and endorser must be regular members in good standing who are acquainted with the nominee and who can vouch for the nominee's character. The application must be accompanied by the required initiation fee (see Article V, Section 2) that is in effect at the time of application. Upon receipt of an application, the Membership Committee shall approve or disapprove the application. In the event that an application is disapproved, the nominee and sponsor shall be notified and the paid fees returned to the nominee. In event that an application is approved, one of the following procedures shall be followed:

- a. If the number of members is below the stipulated limitation (open membership), the Membership Committee shall submit the application to the Board of Directors for vote at their next regular meeting. Nominees approved by the directors shall be notified within ten days of approval.
- b. If the number of members is at or above (see Article I, Section 4b) the stipulated limitation (closed membership), the Membership Committee shall post the name of the nominee on the stand-by list and shall submit the application to the Board of Directors for vote at their next regular meeting. Nominees whose applications are disapproved by the Board of Directors shall have their names removed from the Stand-by list and their paid fees returned. Nominees whose applications are approved by the Board of Directors shall have their names held on the stand-by list in sequence of the date and time of receipt of the application until a vacancy in membership exists. Names shall be placed on the stand-by list only by the Membership Committee and shall be taken for vote in the order of placement. The sequence for payment of dues and fees under closed membership shall be the same as that for open membership, except the initiation fee shall be that in effect at the time of acceptance to membership.
- c. A nominee not approved for membership may reapply only after a waiting period of one year from the original date of application. The Membership Committee shall inform the Board of Directors that a nominee was denied membership in the past when resubmitting the application.
- d. Hobcaw Point subdivision residents will not be subject to the restriction of Article I, Section 3, paragraph b.

SECTION 4. Membership in the Club shall be limited to 500 individuals.

- a. The membership limitation may be increased by a vote of the Board of Directors and the membership. Each increase may be accompanied by an increase in the initiation fee to be stipulated by the Board of Directors.

- b. Exceptions to the membership limitation shall be made for junior and out-of-town members who meet the stipulations for changing their status to that of regular membership (Section 5). When the number of members exceeds the limitation through such exceptions, the number of members must regress to a number below the stipulated level before opening membership to nominees on the stand-by list.

SECTION 5. The following members may convert from one membership category to another as stipulated below.

- a. Junior members may petition for resident or associate membership upon reaching twenty-one years of age provided that the individuals have been members for at least two years. Such petition shall be made in writing to the Board of Directors who may approve or disapprove the petition. A junior member who reaches twenty-one years of age may also petition for extension of junior membership, if occupied as a full time student in a College, University, or other institution of higher education, or is a member of the armed forces of The United States of America. Junior membership extension shall not be extended past the member's twenty-sixth birthday.
- b. Regular members may request conversion to out-of-town membership when all qualifications for out-of-town status are met. Such members may subsequently request conversion to previous membership status if they re-establish residence in the Tri-County area. If out-of-town members have not paid the full initiation fee, they may convert to regular status only upon payment of the remainder of the full initiation fee in effect at the time of such request. Out-of-town members who were not previously regular members may request a change to regular membership only after being an out-of-town member for at least two years. Out-of-town members who establish residence in the In-County area within a two year waiting period must apply for regular membership. If such application necessitates placement on the stand-by list, the applicant shall be placed in line according to the date of acceptance to out-of-town membership.
- c. Members who were previously dropped from membership for nonpayment of quarterly dues may reapply for regular membership subject to payment of past-due dues in effect for the year(s) in which dues were not paid. Board of Director approval is required in such cases.

SECTION 6. A member may resign in good standing from membership by 1) notifying the Secretary of intent to do so; 2) returning Club property, current membership card, and Club keys; and 3) settling all debts to the Club. The member may list the circumstances for resignation in the letter if future consideration may be desired for reinstatement.

SECTION 7. The Board of Directors may terminate the membership of any member if 1) the member does not pay quarterly dues by the stipulated deadline or 2) the member does not pay other indebtedness to the Club within thirty days of demand for payment. In disputes between members, the Ethics Committee shall investigate the matter and take action in accordance with Article XI of these Bylaws. In cases of misconduct by members or members of their families, the Board of Directors shall proceed in accordance with Article XI of these Bylaws.

SECTION 8. An application for reinstatement shall be processed in the same manner and subject to the same requirements as an application for membership with the exception that initiation fees may be waived or adjusted if the Board of Directors decides that the circumstances of resignation justify such action.

SECTION 9. Upon enactment of these Bylaws, all members in good standing shall continue their membership in their current membership status.

## **ARTICLE II. OFFICERS**

SECTION 1. The officers of the Club shall be a Commodore, Vice-Commodore, Rear-Commodore, Treasurer, and Secretary.

SECTION 2. The Commodore shall be the chief officer of the Club and the Chairman of the Board of Directors. The Commodore shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and of the general membership, and shall appoint the chairman of the standing committees with the Board of Directors' approval. The Commodore shall name such ad hoc committees as deemed necessary for the operation of the Club and specify the duties and tenure of the committees. The Commodore is an ex-officio member of all committees of the Club.

SECTION 3. The Vice-Commodore shall assist the Commodore in the discharge of the Commodore's duties and shall be the presiding officer in the absence of the Commodore or in the event that the Commodore is unable to fulfill his duties. The Vice-Commodore shall be the Chairman of the Regatta Committee.

SECTION 4. The Rear-Commodore (immediate past Commodore) shall assist the Commodore and Vice-Commodore in the discharge of their duties and shall serve on the ethics committee.

SECTION 5. The Treasurer shall:

- a. Keep all accounts, financial records, records of property, and records of transactions pertaining to the establishment, operation, and, dissolution of the Club.
- b. Receive and disburse funds of the Club in accordance with the policies and procedures prescribed by the Board of Directors.
- c. Prepare financial statements and operating reports for submission and approval at the meetings of the Board of Directors and distribution to the general membership.
- d. Be empowered to execute contracts in the name of the Club with the specific approval of the Board of Directors.
- e. Hold in escrow all initiation fees received from nominees until the membership has voted on their application.

SECTION 6. The Secretary shall:

- a. Keep such records as prescribed by the Commodore.
- b. Record the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors and indicate the names of the members of the Board of Directors present at the meetings.
- c. Record the minutes of the meetings of the general membership and note the number of members in attendance at the meetings.
- d. Post the minutes of meetings on the Club bulletin board monthly.
- e. Hold and distribute in accordance with Club policy copies of the Constitution and Bylaws, house rules, other rules and regulations of the Club, and annual membership cards.
- f. Cause to be published and distribute the Club's monthly newsletter.
- g. Receive from other officers and parties and hold for the archives of the Club copies of all correspondence and records pertaining to the Club.
- h. Prepare and maintain a membership roster.

SECTION 7. The succession of officer shall be Commodore, Vice-Commodore, Rear-Commodore, Treasurer, and Secretary. In absence of the officers or in the event of their inability to fulfill their duties, the line of succession shall be from the most senior to the most junior Member-at-Large of the Board of Directors with consecutive years of service on the Board determining seniority.

SECTION 8. At the September meeting, the Commodore shall appoint a nominating committee of at least three members from past board members. The nominating committee shall present a slate of officers to the members for vote at the annual meeting. The slate may be augmented by new nominations from the floor.

SECTION 9. Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting of the membership and shall assume their duties on 1 January through 31 December of the new year.

SECTION 10. The term of officers shall be one year. Officers may succeed themselves for an additional term, but no officer except the Treasurer and Secretary may serve in a given office for more than two consecutive years.

SECTION 11. Vacancies on the Board of Directors shall be filled by appointment of the Commodore with the approval of the Board of Directors to serve until the next annual meeting of the Club for the election of officers at which time his successor shall be elected.

SECTION 12. BONDING OF OFFICERS. The Commodore, Treasurer, and House Committee chairman shall be bonded at levels deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.

### **ARTICLE III. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

SECTION 1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Commodore, Vice-Commodore, Rear-Commodore, Treasurer, Secretary, and eight Members-at-Large.

SECTION 2. At each annual meeting, the flag officers and four Members-at-Large shall be elected. The Members-at-Large shall serve a two-year term.

SECTION 3. The duties of the Board of Directors shall be to:

- a. Prescribe the activities, functions, and rules and regulations of the Club.
- b. Prescribe the Policy for use of the Club's facilities by members and non-members.
- c. Ascertain that all revenues are received and accounted for and that all obligations of the Club are met. The Board shall be authorized to approve single expenditures up to \$20,000.00. The Board may exceed the \$20,000.00 limit only to preserve Club property, prevent potential injury, or in the event of an emergency situation.
- d. Approve the functions and tenure of ad hoc committees named by the Commodore.
- e. Ensure that no officer, employee, or other person acting in the name of the Club receives or accepts any gift, privilege, or perquisite from the Club or other source without prior approval of the Board of Directors.
- f. Approve mortgages, deeds of trust, notes, and other such instruments that are entered into or executed in the name of the Club by the authorized

officers. The Board of Directors shall not purchase, sell, or mortgage real property without the vote of the members.

- g. Be responsible for all assets and property of the Club through the appropriate officers and committees.
- h. Act on all matters presented by the membership.

SECTION 4. Any member of the board who is absent from three consecutive meetings of the board without a reasonable excuse shall forfeit his office.

#### **ARTICLE IV. STANDING COMMITTEES**

SECTION 1. Standing committees of the Club shall be: House, Entertainment, Grounds, Waterfront, Sailing, Membership, Pool, Ethics, Finance and Planning. Chairmen of the committees shall be appointed by and be responsible to the Commodore. The chairmen shall choose committee members in consultation with the Commodore.

SECTION 2. Duties of the committees shall be constructed as responsibilities of the committee chairman. The prescribed duties of the committees shall be:

- a. The House Committee shall be responsible for operation of the bar and maintenance of the Clubhouse and equipment therein. The Committee shall coordinate and schedule use of the Clubhouse and property, supervise employees, perform routine maintenance, and recommend major maintenance and improvements to the Board of Directors.
- b. The Entertainment Committee shall plan, schedule, and regularly provide social events for the membership.
- c. The Grounds Committee shall be responsible for routine grounds maintenance and beautification. The Committee shall recommend and supervise major improvements to the grounds and shall maintain perimeter security and auxiliary buildings.
- d. The Waterfront Committee shall be responsible for the docks, floats, ramps, quay wall, beach, and anchorage of the Club. The Committee shall recommend major maintenance and improvements to the Board of Directors, maintain safety signs on the waterfront, and promulgate safety policies.
- e. The Sailing Committee shall promote sailing and conduct races, seminars, cruises, and programs to enhance sailing activities. The Committee shall be the liaison between the Club and other sailing Clubs and enthusiasts. The Committee shall also coordinate Junior sailing activities. Note: The annual regatta is the responsibility of the Vice-Commodore.
- f. The Membership Committee shall receive applications for membership, screen applicants, and recommend actions on applications to the Board of Directors. The Committee shall also maintain a standby application list as needed. The Committee shall consist of at least three members, one of who must be a past Commodore.
- g. The Pool Committee shall promote swimming and be responsible for maintenance of pool facilities. The Committee shall schedule and conduct all pool events and be the liaison to the swim team board.
- h. The Ethics Committee shall review matters of conduct that are brought before it and shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors. The Committee shall consist of the immediate past three Commodores.
- i. The Finance Committee shall consist of the Treasurer (Chairman), the Vice-Commodore, the House Committee Chairman and six other members appointed by the Commodore, at least 3 shall be Past Commodores who



are members in good standing and that have an interest in being part of the committee. The Committee shall oversee all financial operations of the Club, including formulation of an annual budget and review of financial status for purposes of recommending assessments and dues increases. The Committee shall prepare an annual financial statement that includes a balance sheet and income statement, and shall at its discretion audit the Club's accounts.

- j. The Planning Committee shall be responsible for planning all improvements to the Club property and other duties as assigned by the Commodore. The Committee shall consist of all interested members of the Hobcaw Yacht Club Past Commodores who are members in good standing and the currently serving Commodore and the Rear-Commodore of the Hobcaw Yacht Club.

## **ARTICLE V. FINANCES**

SECTION 1. The fiscal year of the Club shall be from January 1st to December 31st.

SECTION 2. The schedule for initiation fees shall be:

- a. Regular membership shall require an initiation fee of three times the effective annual dues and made it point to Article V section 4 to include any assessments in the initiation fees. One third of the initiation fee will be set aside for debt reduction and/or future capital needs. One quarter's dues will also be collected when the new member is admitted into the club. If the fee is paid after the second month of the quarter, the quarterly dues payment will apply to the following quarter and no dues will be collected for the quarter that the fee is paid.
- b. Out-of-town membership shall require an initiation fee equal to Fifty percent of the regular fee.
- c. The Junior membership shall require no initiation fee. However, Junior members with less than three-years membership who petition for regular membership shall be required to pay a prorated initiation fee computed on a three-year basis. The amount of the fee shall be the current regular member fee less one-third the current regular fee for each year as a junior member.
- d. Members who have previously dropped their membership and subsequently seek reinstatement shall require an initiation fee equal to the sum of one-fourth the current regular initiation fee for each year (or pro-rated portion thereof) of their absence, not to exceed four years.
- e. Active Duty Military personnel who have a Permanent Change of Station (PCS) within 4 years of becoming a member will have the option of (1) moving membership to out-of-town membership category or (2) an initiation fee refund pro-rated equal to the sum of one-fourth of each year left on their 4-year window. No pro-rated refund will be given once they reach their 4-year membership anniversary date.

SECTION 3. Annual dues may be paid quarterly. Quarterly payments are due in full on the first day of each Quarter-January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1. Thirty days after each due date, unpaid dues are delinquent, and that member's account is assessed a late fee as determined by the Board of Directors. If delinquent dues and any assessments remain unpaid 60 days from the first day of each quarter, membership will be terminated and all club privileges revoked. Any subsequent request for reinstatement of membership must be accompanied by full payment of dues for that fiscal year and any other outstanding debts to the Club. Any former member who owes the Club money cannot use or enter the Club as a guest.

- a. Regular membership shall require annual dues that are determined by the Board of Directors. Any changes must be voted on at the annual membership meeting.
- b. Out-of-town memberships shall require annual dues of one-half the regular dues.
- c. Life membership shall require annual dues of one-third the regular dues.
- d. Junior membership shall require annual dues of one-fourth the regular dues.
- e. Other categories of membership require no dues.
- f. A change in membership category shall be effective on the first day of the next quarter, and appropriate dues will become effective at that time.

SECTION 4. Assessments may be levied on the membership by vote of the Board of Directors and the membership. A written statement of the motion for an assessment must be circulated to the members at least fifteen days prior to the meeting of which it is to be made. Assessment shall be levied in proportion to initiation fees; i.e., out-of-town members shall pay half as much as regular members and junior members shall not be obligated to assessments. Life members will pay one-third of the assessment as in proportion to their dues. Any assessment levied by the Club on its current members will also be levied on new members coming into the Club.

SECTION 5. Funds of the Club shall be accounted in the manner prescribed in Article II, Section 5 of these by-laws. Funds shall be held in the following accounts.

- a. An Operating Fund. All monies received from initiation fees, dues, and Club activities shall accrue to this fund which shall be used for the liquidation of debts incurred in ordinary operations of the Club.
- b. Other Funds. The Board of Directors may authorize the Treasurer to transfer surplus funds from the operating fund to other funds which may be used for the liquidation of debts incurred for building and purchasing equipment, furniture, and other major items. The Board of Directors may authorize transfer of money from one fund to another as deemed necessary.
- c. Committee Cash Funds. Small operating funds may be maintained by various committees with prior authorization by the Board of Directors and limited amounts set by the Board of Directors. Such funds must be closed at the end of each fiscal year with the money being transferred to the Operating Fund.
- d. Fund raising activities may be used to raise money for petty cash funds, but all such activities must be approved in advance by the Board.

SECTION 6. The property of the Club shall consist of real and personal property as properly comes into the possession of the Club.

## **ARTICLE VI. VOTING PRIVILEGES AND RULES**

SECTION 1. There shall be one vote per resident or nonresident member.

SECTION 2. Votes must be cast in person. There shall be no proxy votes.

SECTION 3. At meetings of the membership a majority of voting members present shall be required to approve a motion except on membership, capital improvements exceeding \$25,000 and amendments to the Constitution or By-Laws.

SECTION 4. At meetings of the Board, a simple majority vote of the Board members present shall be required to approve a motion except for motions for dissolution and

special membership which shall require a unanimous vote for approval. The Board of Directors may vote electronically, via e-mail, within its powers under the Constitution and By-Laws, as an aid to conduct the business of the Club. The results of such a vote shall be added to the minutes of the next meeting held by the Board.

SECTION 5. All votes may be by voice or by showing of hands, although a member may call for a written vote on a motion and may challenge a vote.

SECTION 6. The quorum for meetings of the membership shall be not less than fifty (50) voting members. The quorum for the meetings of the Board of Directors shall be 2/3 of the members of the Board.

SECTION 7. Motions on capital improvements of \$25,000 or more require 75% approval of the voting members present to carry.

SECTION 8. Roberts Rules of Order, current edition, shall govern this yacht club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws and any special rule of order this yacht club may adopt.

SECTION 9. Non-resident associate members will have all the same privileges as resident and non-resident members except that associate members can not vote.

## **ARTICLE VII. OTHER PRIVILEGES**

SECTION 1. The use of Club facilities shall be confined to members, their immediate families, and guests of members.

SECTION 2. An organized activity sponsored by a member and that requires use of parts of the Clubhouse or grounds must be approved in advance by the Board of Directors and shall be subject to applicable House Rules.

SECTION 3. Use of Club facilities by any non-member group must be approved in advance by the Board of Directors and is subject to applicable House rules.

SECTION 4. Any member of a Yacht Club having membership in the South Atlantic Yacht Racing Association shall be granted reciprocal privileges in the Hobcaw Yacht Club for a specified period to be set by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5. Guest privileges shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Guests shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the Club and must be accompanied by a member whenever using the Club's facilities.

SECTION 6. Only regular members may hold an office in the Club, serve on the Board of Directors, or be chairman of standing committees.

SECTION 7. Members and their spouses may serve on committees of the Club.

SECTION 8. Members and guest of members may attend regular meetings of the general membership.

## **ARTICLE VIII. RESPONSIBILITIES**

SECTION 1. Members must abide by the rules and regulations for the Club and are responsible for their families and guests abiding by the rules and regulations.

SECTION 2. Members shall be responsible for financial liabilities for their families and guests.

SECTION 3. Anyone using the Club's facilities may be asked to show ID for proof of membership.

SECTION 4. Failure to comply with the stipulations of this article shall be grounds for review by the Ethics Committee.

## **ARTICLE IX. PUBLICATIONS**

SECTION 1. The HYC website shall be the official communication source to the membership from the Club. The monthly newsletter shall be the official publication of the Club. It shall be published monthly and posted to the website and mailed (by written request) or E-mailed free of charge to all categories of members. Required announcements of special meetings, proposed amendments to the Constitution of Bylaws, or other such items shall be published in the newsletter.

SECTION 2. Rules and regulations of the house, grounds, pool, and waterfront shall be printed and supplied to members at the time of their acceptance into membership and after there have been sufficient changes in them to justify a mailing. Copies of the most current rules and regulations shall be kept in the Clubhouse office for the benefit of members.

SECTION 3. Circulars, announcements, and other published material may be prepared by the standing committees of the Club and mailed or E-mailed to the membership with the approval of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 4. A roster of Club members as approved by the Board of Directors shall be available to Club members in the Clubhouse office or from the Membership Chair.

SECTION 5. The Board of Directors may publish and distribute such other items as it deems necessary for operation of the Club and for information of the membership.

## **ARTICLE X. JUNIOR YACHT CLUB**

SECTION 1. There may be a Junior Yacht Club that may exist under a name chosen by the members or that may be affiliated with a larger organization such as the Sea Scouts or Sea Explorers. The Junior Yacht Club shall function according to its own Constitution and Bylaws subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. Membership in the Junior Yacht Club shall consist of individuals between the ages of ten and eighteen years. The members shall be sons and daughters of members of the Club.

## **ARTICLE XI. DISPUTES AND MISCONDUCT**

SECTION 1. A member may file a complaint about the conduct of another member with the Ethics Committee. The member who files a complaint may be granted anonymity provided -that there are corroborating witnesses.

SECTION 2. The Ethics Committee shall review all matters concerning disputes between members that are brought before it. If the Committee determines that the complaint is unjustified or can mediate a settlement between the members involved, the matter shall be closed. If the Committee determines that the Board of Directors must act on the complaint, it shall report its findings to the Board.

SECTION 3. The Board of Directors, upon hearing a case in dispute, may dismiss the case, may attempt to mediate a settlement between the members involved, or may terminate the membership. Termination must be by a 2/3 vote of the Board.

SECTION 4. Members who have been charged by another member in a dispute and penalized by the Board of Directors have the right to appeal to the general membership. If an appeal is made to the membership, a vote must be taken on acquittal or expulsion.

SECTION 5. In cases of misconduct by a member or members of his/her family, the Board of Directors is empowered to reprimand or censure the member, to suspend membership temporarily, or by 2/3 vote of the Board, to terminate the membership permanently. Any termination decision may be appealed to the general membership, as in Section 4 preceding.

## **ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENTS**

SECTION 1. Amendments and revision to the Bylaws of the Hobcaw Yacht Club shall be proposed in writing to the Board of Directors, read at the next meeting of the general membership, and laid over until the next regularly or special scheduled meeting of the general membership at which time a vote shall be taken on their adoption. Written notice setting forth the proposed amendment or revision shall be sent by the Secretary to members at least fifteen days prior to the meeting at which the amendment or revision is to be considered.

SECTION 2. A 75% majority vote of voting members present at the meeting designated for consideration of an amendment or revision to the Bylaws shall be required for its adoption.