

To clarify and improve the process for Club elections, the Bylaws are amended by the Council to read:

## ARTICLE X: ELECTIONS

### X.1 Elections.

X.1.1 The Commodore will appoint a past Commodore as Chair of the Nominating Committee no later than 1 May.

X.1.2. The Chair will appoint at least two members to serve on the committee.

X.1.3. The Committee will present nominations for the positions of Commodore, Vice Commodore, Rear Commodore and at least six Council members to the current Council for approval at their June meeting. The Nominating Committee may nominate more than one person to serve jointly for Flag Officer positions if they so wish. They will invite nominations from the general membership by posting notices by electronic mail, in the "Porthole", and on the Club bulletin boards identifying the Nominating Committee members and how they can be contacted with recommendations.

X.2. In addition to those named by the Nominating Committee, any member who meets the above criteria wishing to be nominated for any position can do so by submitting a petition with at least ten signatures from Active Duty, Government, or Regular members to the Council by 31 July. The names of the members nominated by this process will be added to the election ballot.

X.3. If no petitions are received, the ballot will be presented for voice vote at the October General Meeting.

X.4. If petitions are received, an election will be held.

X.4.1. The Commodore will appoint an Election Committee consisting of at least three members who are not members of the Nominating Committee. Their job is to create, mail, receive, store, and count the votes.

X.4.1. The ballots will be mailed to all voting members in September. All nominees on the ballot may submit an autobiography no later than 31 August for publication with the ballot.

X.4.2. The instructions mailed with the ballots will instruct members on how to submit their vote and will list those candidates that were nominated by the Nominating Committee and those added by right of petition.

X.4.3. The ballot itself will be a document separate from the instructions and submitted biographies.

X.4.3.1. The ballot will list each candidate for the Council in alphabetical order with a selection box beside their name plus one or more spaces for right-in candidates. Members may select none, one, some, or all of the candidates for the Council.

X.4.3.2. The ballot will list each candidate for each Flag Officer position in alphabetical order with a selection box beside their name plus one or more spaces for right-in candidates. Members may select none or one candidate for each Flag Officer position.

X.4.X. The instructions with biographies and the ballot will be mailed to the members with two envelopes, one of which will have the Club's mailing address. The members will put there filled in ballot inside the envelope without any markings. This is to make their vote anonymous. The ballot envelope will then be put into the envelope with the Club's address with the member printing his name and signing on the back. This is so the committee can validate the vote is by a member. These steps will be included in the instructions. Once validated, the the signed envelopes will be disposed of before the inner anonymous envelopes are opened and counted.

X.4.6. The election ballots must be sent to the Club attention "Election Committee" either by mail, hand delivered, or deposited in the ballot box during the October workday no later than noon. The Election Committee will not open the mailed or hand-delivered ballots prior to the official ballot counting.

X.4.7. The Election Committee will count the votes after closure of the poll. They will provide the results to the Commodore who will announce them at the conclusion of the workday dinner. The results

will also be published in the next issue of the "Porthole".

X.4.8. In order to be elected to the Council, a candidate must receive a simple majority of the valid ballots received. For example, if 100 valid ballots are received, the candidate must have been selected on at least 51 of those ballots to be elected. In order to be elected to a Flag Officer position, a candidate must receive a simple majority of the total selections for that position. For example, if 100 valid ballots are received and 90 selections are made for one position, the candidate must have been selected on at least 46 of those ballots to be elected.

X.5. In addition to the Bridge and Council positions, the Nominating Committee will also select the Yachtsman of the Year. The Phifer Trophy was donated to the Club by Mrs. Heloise Phifer to honor her husband, Rear Admiral Thomas Phifer who was a long time club member and avid boatsman. This annually awarded trophy is to honor the person who contributed most to the goals and ideals of the Club.

X.5.1. The Nominating Committee will solicit nominations from the members in time to make a selection based on the above criteria. The selection for Yachtsman of the Year must be presented to the Council for approval no later than October. The Yachtsman of the Year will be announced at the Change of Watch.

X.5.2. A plaque with the awardee's name will be affixed to the Phifer Trophy on display in the club lounge.