

By-Laws of

The North Lake Yacht Club

Amended: September 25, 2022

Article I Name

The name of this association shall be the North Lake Yacht Club and its location and principal office shall be in Waukesha County, Wisconsin. It shall maintain a local post office box number as its official address.

Article II Membership

The North Lake Yacht Club is constituted as a private social and sailing club. Membership acceptance will not be determined on the basis of race, religion, sex or country of origin. Membership is open to individuals or family units who take an active interest in the activities of The North Lake Yacht Club.

- A. There shall be three (3) categories of membership in this association.
1. Active members shall be defined as those members (individuals, couples, or family units) approved by the Board of Directors. (A family unit is defined as the head of the family, significant other, and all children less than 26 years of age). A child reaching age 26 by January 31 must apply for individual membership. A 2-year grace period with no initiation fee is provided for young adults of family units to transition to their own membership. Active members shall have the privilege of participating in social and sailing functions; have the right to vote and hold office; and have access to the NLYC boat launch, in accordance with the Town of Merton conditional use permit. They shall pay appropriate dues.
 2. Honorary members shall be defined as those former active members who the Board of Directors wishes to honor. They shall have all the rights and privileges of active members, except for the right to vote and hold office. They shall pay no dues.
 3. Junior membership shall consist of any unmarried person less than 18 years of age as of the beginning of the membership year, and who does not otherwise qualify under a family membership. A junior member must be sponsored in writing by an active member in good standing. Junior members are approved for membership on a year to year basis by the Board of Directors. A junior member is entitled to skipper in club sanctioned races, and to launch club sanctioned sailboats from club property. These privileges extend only to the person named in the membership, and no voting rights. They have no guest privileges. Dues and other privileges of junior membership shall be established by the Board of Directors.
- B. All membership applications shall be signed by the applicant with two (2) members of the club, in good standing named as sponsors, and shall be submitted to either the Commodore or the Secretary for proper presentation to the Membership Committee.

- C. An applicant shall become an active member upon approval by the Commodore and the Membership Committee Chairman.
- D. Only members in good standing shall participate in club functions except that guest privileges may be extended on such occasions as the Board of Directors shall direct.
- E. The dues for membership shall be as follows:
 - 1. Active membership dues shall be established by the Board of Directors annually prior to the annual meeting.
 - 2. New members admitted to membership after August 1 of any year shall pay the regular annual membership dues of their class of membership, but have their membership extend through the following year.
- F. Dues shall be payable by January 31 of each year. A late fee will be imposed starting Feb 1. Annual membership expires March 31 if not renewed by that date.
- G. Any member of this club may be suspended or expelled for cause upon the affirmative vote of three-fourths of the members of the Board of Directors.

Article III Voting

- A. Each active couple or family membership shall be entitled up to two (2) votes: adult members voting personally at any membership meeting or two (2) ballots for the election at the annual meeting, proposed bylaw amendment, or motion specified in the meeting notice.
- B. Each active individual membership shall be entitled to one (1) vote at any membership meeting or one (1) ballot for the election at the annual meeting, proposed bylaw amendment, or motion specified in the meeting notice.
- C. Ballots cast by mail are to be sealed, with the signature on the outside of the sealed envelope, or cast electronically, and must be received by the Secretary, personally, twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time of the membership meeting. The Secretary will hold all sealed ballots as received until the time of voting. The sealed ballots will be opened and counted or returned to the member whose signature appears on the envelope or cast electronically if they personally present them self at the time of voting. There shall be no other proxy vote privilege at the membership meeting.
- D. Members may register for their primary address to be electronic for meeting notifications and ballots in lieu of mailed meeting notifications and ballots.
- E. Ballots will be issued to all active members in good standing by electronic means, or as a mailed ballot upon request. Ballots are to be gathered and counted by a Tellers Committee of four (4) members in good standing, not directors or nominees, appointed by the Commodore. All ballots, including mail and electronic ballots, tally sheets, etc. are to be kept by the Secretary for no less than thirty (30) days after the date of balloting and they shall be available for examination by any member in good standing.

Article IV Meetings

A. Members meeting

1. The annual meeting of the members of the association shall be held on the last day of the sailing season or upon the date set by the Commodore or the Board of Directors.
2. Special meetings of the members may be called by the Commodore or any ten (10) members who shall notify the Secretary of their desire to call such a meeting and the purpose thereof. Notice of such meeting shall be sent to the primary address of each member at least fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the meeting.
3. Ballots shall be sent to all active members with a notice of the meeting.
4. Twenty (20) percent of the membership attending in person or represented by absentee ballot, shall constitute a quorum.

B. Board of Directors meetings

1. The Board of Directors shall hold a meeting immediately following the annual meeting of the membership for the purpose of electing the officers. The Board of Directors shall hold its annual meeting at a time and place selected by the Commodore but in any event, before the first day of January.
2. Other meetings shall be held at such a time and place as shall be designated by the Commodore. Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held upon the written demand submitted to the Secretary of no less than three (3) members of the Board of Directors. Notice of such meetings, whether annual or special, shall be given at least seven (7) days prior to the date of the meeting.

Article V Directors

- A. The management and control of the club shall be by the Board of Directors consisting of nine (9) voting members. Directors shall be elected at the annual meeting to serve a three (3) year term. Terms of duty on the board will be staggered so that three new directors will be elected each year. Directors may be reelected for a second term. Should it become necessary to replace a director whose term has not expired, a new director shall be elected at the next annual meeting to serve the remaining part of the original three-year term. In the case of tie votes, the nominees shall draw lots to determine the successful nominee or nominees.
- B. The immediate Past-Commodore automatically becomes a non-voting member of the Board of Directors for one (1) full year if that individual's three-year term on the board has expired.
- C. The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of three (3) or more active members to the Board of Directors for the annual three vacancies. Additional

candidates to fill unexpired terms shall be added to the slate as needed. The slate of candidates for the Board of Directors shall be placed on a ballot and sent to all active members at least ten (10) days prior to the annual meeting of the membership. Members are to confirm the three (3) candidates or may write in an alternative candidate or candidates of their choice in the space provided on the ballot.

- D. Any director who shall miss two (2) successive meetings of the board or three (3) meetings in one fiscal year may be dropped from the Board of Directors and that individual's office declared vacant by a vote of the majority of the board unless said board deems this absence excusable.

Article VI Officers

- A. Officers of the club shall be:
- Commodore
 - Vice-Commodore
 - Rear-Commodore
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
- B. Such officers shall be elected by the Board of Directors immediately after the annual meeting of the membership and shall take office immediately thereafter. They shall hold office for one (1) year or until their successors are elected. Vacancies may be filled during the year by the Board of Directors. No Commodore shall hold that office for more than two (2) consecutive years. The Commodore and Vice-Commodore shall be selected from the membership of the board. The Rear-Commodore, Secretary and Treasurer may be selected from the membership of the board.
- C. The Commodore shall have general charge of the club. The Commodore shall preside at all meetings, appoint committees and generally conduct the affairs of the club except as here and otherwise provided.
- D. The Vice-Commodore shall assist the Commodore and shall perform the duties of the Commodore in their absence. The Vice-Commodore shall also direct all social activities.
- E. The Rear-Commodore shall be responsible for The North Lake Yacht Club building and grounds.
- F. The Secretary shall keep a record of all members of the club and shall keep accurate minutes of all meetings and be responsible for ballots.
- G. The Treasurer shall collect all dues and monies of the club and shall keep an accurate record thereof.
- H. The Board of Directors may provide for such other and additional special office as may be necessary in their judgment.

Article VII Committees

- A. Chief Judge: The Commodore shall appoint a Chief Judge. The Chief Judge shall be responsible to have available for all races, a starter, timekeeper, and sufficient judges to adequately judge each race. The courses for all races shall be set by the Chief Judge or their designate.
- B. Race Committee: The Commodore shall appoint a Race Committee consisting of the Chief Judge and at least two (2) other members. This committee shall rule on all questions involving or pertaining to the racing rules under which the races are held by the association. It shall rule on all protests, disqualifications and violations and its decision shall be final except that, if appropriate, a decision may be appealed to the appropriate committee of the ILYA.
- C. Schedule Committee: The Commodore shall appoint a Schedule Committee of which the Chief Judge shall be a member. The Schedule Committee shall arrange the schedule of races for the season and all sailing activities of the association.
- D. Membership Committee: The Commodore shall appoint a Membership Committee Chairman to review and approve member applications with the Commodore.
- E. Nominating Committee: The Commodore and Vice Commodore shall serve as the Nominating Committee. Members may submit names for nominees to the Nominating Committee.
- F. The Commodore may appoint other committees as may be necessary.
- G. The Board of Directors shall annually appoint delegates and alternate delegates to the ILYA and the WYA.

Article VIII Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the North Lake Yacht Club shall be October 1 to September 30.

Article IX Rules of Order

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the conduct of all meetings of this association.

Article X Amendments

These by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote (of the members present and voting and those represented by absentee ballot) at any duly constituted meeting of the members. No amendment shall be made unless a quorum of the members is represented at a meeting and unless notice of such proposed amendment is given in the notice calling the meeting.