

BY-LAWS

*With amendments and revisions as of January 17, 1941.
All changes indicated in italic type.*

ARTICLE I — FLEET BUSINESS AND MEETINGS

1. The Annual Meeting of each Fleet shall be not later than December 1 of each year, and results of election of Fleet officers shall be filed with the Association.
2. The official language between Fleets and the Association shall be English.

ARTICLE II — DUES

The dues shall be:

1. For Active Members—Three Dollars annual dues to the Association.
2. For Isolated and Associate Members—One-half of Active dues but not in any event less than One Dollar.
3. Dues are payable in January, collected by the Fleet and forwarded to the Association.
4. Fleet dues are optional, and if any, are to be kept by the Fleet.

ARTICLE III — RENEWAL OF CHARTER

1. Each Fleet is required to file an annual report with the Association during January of each year in order to renew its rights and privileges under its charter.

ARTICLE IV — REPORTS AND RETURNS (PENALTIES)

1. If the annual report of fleet or annual dues and registrations of members has not been received by the Association on or before March 1st, they become automatically suspended. In the case of new fleets the same applies upon demand.
2. Suspended fleets, member and ineligible yachts may be posted by publication, and must be barred from all LIGHTNING races. They cannot be reinstated until all requirements of the Association have been fulfilled.

ARTICLE V — ELIGIBLE YACHTS

A yacht is eligible and considered in the LIGHTNING Class only if it conforms to measurement rules as certified by a class measurement certificate, has been properly registered, and is owned by a qualified active member recorded at the time as in good standing with the Association.

ARTICLE VI — YACHT'S NUMBER AND NAME

1. Official number, allotted to new yachts on application to the Secretary, shall be permanent, and affixed to sail and cut into side of centerboard trunk, with letters at least two inches in height. Name is optional but must be recorded and approved.

2. If alterations are made and affect more than one-half of the hull, or sufficiently extensive to so warrant, in the opinion of the measurement committee, a new number shall be awarded and boat be considered new as of such date. Such altered boat shall be remeasured and subject to the restrictions and governing measurements as then in force and registration must be obtained in the usual manner.

ARTICLE VII — MEASUREMENTS AND CERTIFICATES

1. No yacht shall be eligible to enter any sanctioned race for the LIGHTNING Class until measurement certificate has been granted for such yacht.

2. Qualified Certified Measurers will be appointed by the Measurement Committee. Their authority is restricted to actual measuring and filing a report of same. No certified measurer shall measure his own boat except under supervision of a disinterested person appointed by the Measurement Committee.

3. The Association's Certificate shall be binding upon all organizations conducting races for the LIGHTNING Class. A yacht holding such certificate shall not be subject to re-measurement or protest on measurements unless reasonable grounds can be shown to suspect subsequent alterations. A yacht is always subject to remeasurement by order of Governing Board, National Race Committee, or Measurement Committee.

4. Fleets shall be responsible for making suitable provisions to govern use of sails in local races.

5. Protest of measurements of a certified LIGHTNING yacht must include \$15 deposit plus measurement fee returnable only if sustained, except as to matters covered by paragraph 4 hereof.

ARTICLE VIII — APPEALS

(From decisions of other bodies to Association)

1. Appeal in triplicate, or notice of intention, must be filed with President and post-marked within ten days of publication

of decision from which appeal is taken and a certified check of \$5.00 as deposit, payable to the Association, must be attached thereto. It must be legible (see footnote), must state page, Article, and Section number of rules, alleged to be involved, and give the name and address of Race Committee Chairman and others implicated. The President shall issue instructions on procedure, jurisdiction, and fix time limits on filing answers, etc. (time determined by post marks), and those failing to comply with such instructions shall forfeit all right to be heard.

2. In deciding appeals, the Executive Committee shall consider the interpretation and proper application of rules and accept facts as established by bona fide Regatta Committee that conducted race, if available. If not, President may appoint a Committee to establish facts. Racing rules shall be decided under approved code, see Art. IX.

3. If appeal is sustained the deposit shall be refunded. If obviously out of order or unconstitutional, the President may so rule and return the deposit. If, however, it be demanded that the Executive Committee rule upon the appeal or any part thereof, then if not sustained or not granted a hearing for any reason whatsoever, the deposit shall be forfeited to the Association.

4. The following are subject to appeal: Fleet decisions, decisions of club or special LIGHTNING committees on class or racing rules in sanctioned LIGHTNING events recognized to be under auspices of Association, class rules or restrictions in any race held for LIGHTNINGS as a one-design class. The following cannot be appealed: Official decisions of National Race Committee, Club committee decisions on racing rules in open or invitation regattas, except as provided in Article XII, Paragraph 3 of the Constitution. If an open regatta is an elimination race as well, the Association's decision shall be binding in so far as the elimination score is concerned.

5. There shall be no time limits on appeals over interfleet disputes or fleet rules or rulings claimed to be unconstitutional when same do not result from an actual protest in a race but the same deposit shall be required for hearing. Such appeals shall be heard by the Executive Committee.

In filing appeals, answers or statements, you must file three (3) legible typewritten copies in English and send by registered mail. If translated or transcribed, the exact wording, sense, and emphasis may not be given to the points that YOU considered most essential.

6. A member of the Executive Committee who sailed in the race involved in appeal shall have no vote. If a question of validity of race, this shall not apply.

ARTICLE IX — RACING RULES

The official code of Racing Rules which shall govern all LIGHTNING Class races held by Association unless otherwise specified in circular of invitation races, shall be that of "THE NORTH AMERICAN YACHT RACING UNION" except wherein they may conflict with Rules of the L. C. A., in which event the latter shall supersede. (*It is recommended that, in so far as practicable, the rules of the N. A. Y. R. U. and of the L. C. A. shall likewise govern all fleet races.*)

ARTICLE X — INSTRUCTIONS

Instructions contained in race circulars and local rules in fleet by-laws or published notice to its members, not conflicting with Class rules, must be observed but verbal instructions or unrecorded rules are not official. Fleet rules shall not obtain in intersectional or inter-fleet races.

ARTICLE XI — RACING RESTRICTIONS

1. Correct number must be displayed on both sides of main-sail, in letters not less than 10 inches high.
2. The number of persons allowed in one boat in race shall be (3), no more and no less.
3. All members of crews shall be corinthians.
4. No dead weight can be carried as stationary or shifting ballast.
5. No sails other than approved jib, mainsail, and spinnaker can be used.
6. A yacht must carry ground tackle of serviceable character for the locality as approved by the Race Committee, three approved life preservers, and a paddle or an oar.
7. Sculling with rudder is prohibited. Sweeping boat's head around to change course or fill away in one given direction is not considered sculling. No stopping of headway by any means except sail and rudder or anchoring, shall be allowed.
8. Skippers in Fleet series and open races must be members.
9. It is the policy of the Association that prizes and points be awarded to the eligible skipper, also that trophies of perpetual character be inscribed with name of fleet, yacht, skipper, and crew.

ARTICLE XII — DISQUALIFICATION

There is no lesser penalty than disqualification for any proven foul or violation of a published rule. It is not optional but obligatory. The responsibility for knowing rules rests with the member.

ARTICLE XIII — INTERPRETATION

In deciding any question the intended meaning of the rules shall be considered rather than any technical misconstruction that might be derived from the wording. Extenuating circumstances cannot be taken into consideration in so far as a racing rule is concerned, if there was an actual foul, but may be taken into consideration in Class rules or restrictions if the wording requires interpretation and no deliberate attempt to gain an unfair advantage has been practiced. Precedent and the established policy of the Association shall be taken into consideration in interpreting any rule or regulation of obscure meaning or not covered at all. The rulings of the Executive Committee, Governing Board, and National Race Committee shall be carefully preserved for reference.

ARTICLE XIV — OUTLAWED RACES

The enforcement of Class rules is essential to the protection of all owners in a one-design Class. Members are required to report to the Association any race held for the LIGHTNING Class as such, wherein Class rules are not respected and enforced by the organization conducting it or where entries of ineligible yachts are knowingly accepted. A member who makes himself a party to such a practice by knowingly, and after due warning, entering such outlawed events shall himself be subject to suspension.

ARTICLE XV — SANCTIONED EVENTS

1. All series for major LIGHTNING Championships territorially greater than one fleet, or events for perpetual, semi-perpetual or open trophies must be sanctioned by fleet in whose waters the event is held, if an intra-fleet event, and by the Association's Executive Committee if an inter-fleet event. The Executive Committee may outlaw any event for cause.

2. National or district teams or representatives may be chosen by a majority vote of fleet secretaries of the represented territory only if selection by elimination races is impracticable.

ARTICLE XVI — OBLIGATIONS

The Association shall not be liable for any debts contracted by its fleets or officers other than expenditure authorized by the budget or upon written order of the President and Secretary.

ARTICLE XVII — LIMITATION GOVERNING PURCHASE OF SAILS

The purchase of new suits of sails by Lightning owners shall be limited to one suit in any year, except that one additional suit may be purchased for any yacht during its first sailing season, unless the owner already has in his possession one or more suits of sails at the time of acquiring the yacht. This rule shall apply to both working sails and spinnakers.



On a Reach to the Mark at the First National Championships

