

June 10, 2008

Jim Capron, President
United States Sailing Association

Subject: Proposed Rule 46 Prescription

Dear Mr Capron,

The Malletts Bay Boat Afterguard (Board of Directors) has decided that we will not support a US Sailing prescription to the Racing Rules of Sailing that would require US Sailing membership for any person helming a boat.

Malletts Bay Boat Club (MBBC) was founded in 1936 to provide facilities and programs to encourage and promote sailing, boating, and other recreational activities on Lake Champlain. MBBC offers a full schedule of local races. Our Club does not currently charge any fees for our local races, or for PHRF ratings.

MBBC works very hard to remove obstacles that keep people from racing and feel that a mandated US Sailing membership is not consistent with our Club's purpose. We have no interest in enforcing a membership requirement that is clearly nothing more than a US Sailing mandated fee for racing.

MBBC supports US Sailing and will continue to encourage its members to join. Mandating membership doesn't feel like the proper solution to the problem of declining membership and hope that US Sailing chooses to address the real issues rather than attempting to legislate membership.

Sincerely,

William Rogers, Master, MBBC

Cc: MBBC Afterguard, US Sailing Board of Directors