



SPONSORSHIP OF NEW MEMBER

Background and Procedure for Sponsoring a New Member

Membership Eligibility

Any person wishing to foster the purpose of the Club is eligible for membership, subject to the following criteria and the successful completion of the application process. There are four categories of membership, Regular, Associate, Junior and Honorary Life. *Regular Membership* is limited to persons whose *principal residence* is on Salt Spring Island. A second person sharing the same residence, in a spousal relationship, may be named as sharing the same membership. Each Regular Membership, whether an individual or a couple, has a right to one vote and to hold one office in the Club at any one time. Regular Members have mooring privileges, subject to availability. *Associate Membership* may be granted to applicants who wish to participate in Club activities without having voting or mooring privileges. Associate Members may not hold office.

Applicants for Regular or Associate Membership need two Sponsors, who must have held a Regular Membership for a period of at least three (3) years, are currently in good standing, and have met Work Contribution expectations according to Club regulations.

Responsibilities of Sponsors

As a Sponsor who is proposing candidates for membership you should have a good understanding of Club culture and values, gained via active involvement in various volunteer activities, and you should be in a position to vouch for the people that you are co-sponsoring. The expectation of you as a sponsor is that you become familiar with the applicants(s), and agree to maintain an ongoing relationship and shared responsibility for their introduction into the Club and their sustained engagement in Club activities over the first few years of their membership. Sponsors should be prepared to:

1. Verify that the applicant(s) are residents of Salt Spring Island as stipulated in the Club's By-laws (if application is for Regular Membership).
2. Learn about the applicants' interests and background in sailing and boating.
3. Brief the applicants on the Club's history, organizational structure, volunteer culture and expectations of members, as well as key annual events and activities.
4. Determine what skills and expertise the applicants would be prepared to volunteer to the administration and operations of the Club. This can be done, in part, by assisting them to complete the Volunteer Commitment.
5. Be prepared to mentor the applicants for an extended period in order to introduce them to other members and Club programs, and encourage them to take part in the Club's activities.
6. Complete and sign this Sponsorship form, and sign the Sponsorship Declaration on the Membership Application form. Please forward Sponsorship form in a *sealed envelope* to:

Secretary
Salt Spring Island Sailing Club
152 Douglas Rd
Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2J2

