



Alexandra Cup Charter

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Whereas:

- A. In 1907, THE HONOURABLE JAMES DUNSMUIR, by an undated Deed of Gift, presented to the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club a racing trophy, designated as the Alexandra Cup;
- B. In 2008, a representative of the estate of the late, THE HONOURABLE JAMES DUNSMUIR, re-gifted the Alexandra Cup to the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, absolutely;
- C. The Alexandra Cup has on opposite sides figures representing “Britannia” and “Columbia” to symbolize that it is to be competed for by Canada and the United States. In 1907 and again in 1908, the Alexandra Cup was raced for by the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club and the Seattle Yacht Club, with each club winning one event. In 1909, the Alexandra Cup competition was interrupted by a dispute. After a delay of one hundred years, and in a spirit of renewed cooperation, the Alexandra Cup was again contested in 2008, with the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club winning the event.
- D. The Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, represented by its Executive Committee, owns and reserves all rights to the Alexandra Cup and to competitions for the Alexandra Cup.

Therefore, the Executive Committee of the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club has established this Alexandra Cup Charter to govern competition for the Alexandra Cup.

Three levels of organization are provided:

- Charter Terms
- Competition Regulations
- Match Conditions

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Charter Terms

- 1) Canada vs. the United States of America: The competition will be a match race challenge between a yacht representing a Canadian yacht club and Canada and a yacht representing an American yacht club and the United States of America.
- 2) Charter Yacht Clubs: The charter yacht clubs shall be the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club and the Seattle Yacht Club. The Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, having won the Alexandra Cup in the most recent competition, held in 2008, shall be responsible for selecting the defender for the next Alexandra Cup competition; subsequently, the winning country's charter yacht club shall be responsible for selecting the defender. The Seattle Yacht Club shall be responsible for selecting the challenger for the next Alexandra Cup competition; subsequently, the losing country's charter yacht club shall be responsible for selecting the challenger.
- 3) Yacht Clubs and Crew Members: Participating yacht clubs must be located in Canada or the United States, without further geographic restrictions, and be affiliated with their respective ISAF member national authorities. Each sailing crew member must be a member of the club that they represent for a period of not less than two years prior to the date that the challenge is conveyed.
- 4) The Yachts: The yachts must in the opinion of the Trustees be appropriate for match racing and be mono-hulled fixed keel sloops between 24 and 65 feet LOA. Yachts with lift keels will be eligible as long as their keels remain fixed while racing.
- 5) The Trophy: The Trophy shall be known as the "Alexandra Cup" and the fact of its donation and re-dedication by the Estate of THE HONOURABLE JAMES DUNSMUIR shall be permanently indicated on the Alexandra Cup. The Alexandra Cup is a perpetual trophy and shall at all times remain the unencumbered property of the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club. Winning yacht clubs, upon executing any reasonably required undertaking with the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, may hold the Alexandra Cup in trust and shall return it to the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club within five years after winning the competition or not less than sixty days before the scheduled commencement of the next competition, whichever comes first.

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- 6) Challenge and Defense:
 - a) Challenges must be in writing, contain such customary information as required by the current Alexandra Cup Competition Regulations and be approved by the Trustees to be considered valid.
 - b) Competitions may be held no more frequently than annually. It is desired that competitions do occur on an ongoing basis. If no competition has been held for a period of five years, then the Trustees may decide upon such extraordinary course of action that they deem most appropriate under the circumstances, with the objective of stimulating a suitable challenge and reviving the competition.
 - c) A defender must defend against an approved challenge. If a defender does not defend against an approved challenge, the Trustees may determine that the defender has forfeited and award the Alexandra Cup to the challenger, or they may decide upon some other course of action that they deem most appropriate under the circumstances.
 - d) Challenger and defender selections shall be conducted in accordance with the principles of this charter; selection processes, competition regulations and match conditions shall require approval in advance by the Trustees.
 - e) A Notice of Race will be distributed by the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club not less than sixty days before the date of the scheduled competition, providing details of the frequency of and venue for the competition; the number, size and class of the yachts permitted to compete for the Alexandra Cup; and the racing rules under which such yachts will compete.

- 7) Charter Authority
 - a) Changes to this Charter require the approval of the Executive Committee of the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club. Except in extraordinary circumstances, changes shall not take effect while an approved challenge is pending.
 - b) The Executive Committee of the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club are the final arbiters of any dispute with regard to this Charter or any matter pertaining to the Alexandra Cup, save those for which specific arbiter authority is delegated in accordance with this Charter.
 - c) Decisions by the Executive Committee of the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club shall be made in the best interests of the event and shall be final.

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- 8) Alexandra Cup Trustees:
 - a) Three Trustees shall be appointed by the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club and three Trustees shall be appointed by the Seattle Yacht Club.
 - b) Trustees shall be appointed to four year terms ending on December 31 of the applicable year. Terms shall be staggered to provide continuity. As an initial transition measure, one Trustee from each club shall be appointed to a two year term and the other Trustee(s) from each club shall be appointed to four year terms.
 - c) In extraordinary circumstances, a Trustee may be removed from office by written agreement of both Charter Yacht Clubs, acting in the best interests of the event.
 - d) The Trustees shall select a Chair from among the Trustees appointed by the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club. The Chair shall have an extra vote to resolve ties and shall serve as Chair for a two year term ending on December 31 of the applicable year.
 - e) A Trustee or Chair who resigns or is otherwise unable to fulfill his or her duties may be replaced by a Trustee or Chair, duly appointed in the same manner as the person they are replacing, to serve for the remainder of the term.
 - f) A quorum for a properly constituted meeting of the Trustees shall be four.

- 9) Responsibilities of the Alexandra Cup Trustees:
 - a) The Trustees shall at all times act in the best interests of the event.
 - b) The Trustees shall be responsible for determining the Competition Regulations. Competition Regulations may be changed from time to time, but not when there is an accepted challenge pending for the cup, unless the challenger and the defender mutually agree to such changes.
 - c) The Trustees shall receive each challenge and determine its validity according the current Charter and Competition Regulations.
 - d) The Trustees shall be responsible for approving the Match Conditions proposed by the challenger, the defender and the Match Organizers.
 - e) The Trustees will be the final arbiters of any dispute with regard to the Competition Regulations and Match Conditions. Such decisions by the Trustees shall be made in the best interests of the event and shall be final.

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Competition Regulations

The Competition Regulations will be determined by the Trustees and shall deal with such matters as:

- a) The required form of challenge,
- b) The procedure for submitting a challenge,
- c) Matters relating to the approval of a challenge by the Trustees,
- d) Setting out the roles of the Trustees and the Match Organizing Authority with respect to the organization and conduct of each match,
- e) Setting out a draft form of Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions for the guidance of the Match Organizing Authority.

Match Conditions

The Match Conditions will be determined and administered by the Match Organizing Authority, and will be subject to approval by the Trustees. The Match Organizing Authority shall deal with such matters as:

- a) The Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions,
- b) The format for the event,
- c) The schedule for the event,
- d) The schedule for the challenger and defender selection trials, if any,
- e) The type of boat to be used in competition, and
- f) All other conditions relating directly to the conduct of a match which are not covered by the Charter or the Competition Regulations.

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We certify that this document supersedes the prior document dated October 20, 2008 and that this document is an authentic Alexandra Cup Charter in the form approved by resolution of the Executive Committee of the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club on December 16, 2008.

Commodore Jim Burns

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Honorary Secretary Guy Walters