

BECOMING A MEMBER

Becoming an HYC member is really very simple but requires both the Prospective Member and Sponsoring HYC Members to fulfill certain responsibilities for the process to be completed in a smooth and timely manner.

It all begins with the invitation for a fellow boater to attend an HYC event. A member may wish to invite an acquaintance who has expressed interest in the Club or, in the case of an outside individual who has corresponded with the Membership Chair and Staff through info@horizonyc.com one of the officers may make the invitation.

After the first event, if the Guest indicates further interest in joining the Club and the Initial Sponsoring Member feels that he would be a good addition to the membership, the formal membership process can begin.

First the Initial Sponsor obtains a New Member Package from the Membership Chair. It is the Initial Sponsor's responsibility to guide the Guest through the application process.

The New Member Package contains the following: a copy of this Procedure and *Application for Membership Parts A & B*. The Guest becomes a Prospective Member after he completes *Part A* and submits it to the Membership Chair or an HYC Officer. In completing *Part A*, the Guest needs to obtain the signature of two HYC Members, who will become his Official Sponsors, and provide proof of \$300,000 liability insurance on his or her vessel.

Next, the Applicant's information is posted in the Prospective Member listing on the Website. This posting includes name, address, phone number, email address, type of boat, a brief description of previous boating experience, reasons for wanting to join the Club and the Sponsors' Names. This alerts the general membership that a Guest has officially become a

Prospective Member.

HYC Bylaws require that a Prospective Member attend three cruises aboard his or her vessel within one year before an election can be held. Cruises qualify after the completed *Application for Membership Part A* is received.

The Sponsoring Members are responsible for the Applicant they are bringing forth and serve as the primary club contact, informing their Prospective Member about activities, tradition and protocol. In addition, the Prospective Member may also receive access to the Website Activities Area, but will not receive access to the Roster until being voted in.

The Prospective Member must accept responsibility to behave in a manner that brings respect to HYC and the boating community.

HYC is a vital, active and fun yacht club because of the hard work of its members who sponsor cruises and pitch in to help other cruise sponsors. The goal during the Prospective Member's qualifying cruises is to meet as many members as possible and demonstrate his or her enthusiasm for the Club. Therefore, Prospective Members are urged to take an active role by helping cruise sponsors whenever possible.

After attending three qualifying cruises, the Prospective Member completes *Application for Membership Part B* in which the three qualifying cruises are listed, the Sponsors' sign it, and it is submitted to the Membership Chair or an HYC Officer.

Membership is not a guarantee following completion of the above procedures. At this point, the Sponsoring Members request the Commodore to hold an election.

The Membership Chair will canvas the membership by mail-in secret ballot with a deadline/return date. If the Prospective Member is voted in, a Burgee Presentation is scheduled for the next cruise attended by the new HYC Flag Member.