

GATBOAT OWNERS HAVE CONFERENCE

Organize Interbay Association,
Adopt Rules.

Perpetual Challenge Cup Will be
Offered for Championship.

PROVIDENCE, Jan 15.—The Atlantic coast catboat conference, with delegates from Massachusetts bay, Narragansett bay, Great South bay and Barnegat bay in attendance, met at the Edgewood yacht club this afternoon and evening. Thomas Fleming Day represented as a member the New Bedford Y. C. A set of rules and specifications to govern the matches of interbay catboat races was adopted. Mr Day announced that a perpetual challenge cup would be given this year for the catboat championship of the bays.

The races are to be held here this year and probably boats will be sent from Massachusetts bay, Barnegat bay and from the New Bedford Y. C., representing Buzzards bay.

The most important of the rules adopted are:

Definition—A cabin catboat belonging to this association shall be a seaworthy cruising and racing yacht, of center-board type, strongly constructed, properly ballasted with fixed ballast, having good freeseboard and substantial cabin trunk with suitable cabin accommodations for cruising.

The intention of the restriction is to produce types of catboats substantially constructed free from freak features, such as sharpies, crows, catamarans, double hulls or other unusual types, or any yacht fitted with bilge fins, bilge boats or other similar contrivances.

Making length—Boats shall race on overall length. The overall shall not be less than 22 feet or more than 27 feet; existing boats of 28 feet may race.

The freeseboard, headroom, cabin floor, fixtures and fittings and general scantling restrictions of the Massachusetts cape catboat were adopted.

Crew—The crew shall consist of not more than one person to every five feet of length. The full number of crew the owner elects to carry in any race shall be on board and afloat when the boat is measured.

Allowances—Seven seconds per mile per foot or fraction thereof.

Existing boats—Any boat built prior to the adoption of these rules may race, provided she conforms to the spirit of the rules in the judgment of the measurer and executive committee.

In regard to the races for the trophy it was decided that not less than three nor more than five shall be sailed each year, championship to be decided on percentage tables of the N. B. Y. R. A. In each race all boats entered for the match shall be considered as starting.

Any association may enter one or two boats for a match. The conference voted for the name of the Interbay cabin catboat association.

The following were the delegates in attendance: Narragansett Bay, William J. Rooke, R. L. Y. C., and James Foster, Edgewood Y. C.; Barnegat Bay, John C. McAvoy and Guy A. Luburg, Island Heights Y. C., and R. H. Crowell, Seattle Park Y. C.; Great South bay, Foster Crampton and William B. Groulard, Center Moriches Y. C.; Massachusetts bay, H. M. Robbins and P. F. Crane, Quincy Y. C.; delegate-at-large, Thomas Fleming Day of the Yacht Club, T. R. Goodwin, president of the N. B. Y. R. A., presided and W. L. Frost, secretary of the same association, acted as secretary.