

## **BYLAWS OF SEA SCOUT SHIP 6**

As of January 2010

### **ARTICLE I - PURPOSE**

The purpose of Ship 6 shall be to:

1. Learn and practice the art of seamanship.
2. Learn and practice the rules of safety at sea, and to encourage others to do the same.
3. To promote and encourage a fun atmosphere while learning.

### **ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVE**

The objectives of this unit shall be:

1. To apply the Scout Motto: "Be Prepared" in our experience at sea and on land as well.
2. To apply the Scout Law in developing into trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent people.

### **ARTICLE III - REQUIREMENTS**

In recognition that preparedness can be only obtained through perseverance, it is resolved:

1. That attendance at all Ship functions, Bridge of Honors, racing or other awards ceremonies, work parties and fundraisers is required. In addition, the only acceptable reason for missing work parties or scheduled Ship functions shall be illness or participation in a special family activity or other similar reason beyond personal control; and that in the case of the latter, the reason shall be examined by the Crew for its validity, and their ruling shall stand.
2. That penalties, in the form of reduced sail time and/or special activities, shall be applied to Crewmembers missing meetings, behind in dues, or failing to attend work parties,

fundraisers, or other required events, or any other reason that the leaders feel appropriate to impose.

3. It is understood that Ship 6 is an active sailing unit. As much time as possible will be spent on the water. Therefore, it is understood that not all members will be able to attend all sail outings. However, weekly meetings, work parties, formal functions, and fundraisers are excluded from this understanding -- attendance is required. Participation in the yearly swim test is required.
4. That failure to attend four (4) consecutive meetings without sufficient reason shall result in transfer of any Crewmember from "good standing" to "poor standing" and suspension of privileges as outlined in Appendix I.

### **ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS**

1. Officers shall be elected each calendar year in the month of January.
2. The elected officers of the unit shall be:
  - a. Boatswain, who shall act as President
  - b. Boatswain's Mate, who shall act as Vice President
  - c. Yeoman, who shall act as Secretary
  - d. Purser, who shall act as Treasurer
  - e. Crew Leaders and Asst. Crew Leaders as needed
3. The term of office for all officers shall be one (1) year. With the exception of Boatswain an officer can be elected for a second term. The Maximum term limit is two (2) years for all officers except Boatswain. Term limit for Boatswain is one (1) year.

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4. The minimum requirement for position of Boatswain is rank of Ordinary and having previously held another officer position such as Purser or Yeoman.

### **ARTICLE V – FINANCE**

1. Registration fees shall be payable upon first registration with Ship 6 in the amount specified by the Ship. This amount includes registration/insurance fees for Boy Scout of America CT Yankee Council. Re-registration of active Crewmembers thereafter shall be automatic, provided however, that any Crewmember seeking re-registration while in "poor standing" must pay all past debts to the Ship before being considered for re-admission.
2. Dues shall be charged to all crew members in the amount of \$3.00 per week from the first week in January to the last week of December regardless of attendance.
3. Failure to pay dues for more than (1) calendar month or for a total of Five (5) weeks shall result in degrading to "poor standing." Privileges of "good standing" shall not be regained until all dues owed are paid up to date.
4. When dues are in arrears and a Crewmember has been suspended from Active Status, credit for attendance at meetings shall not be granted and demerits will also not be acquired as stated in Article III, Section 2.
5. The funds collected in dues shall be applied to offset maintenance and upkeep expenses of the Ship and it's boat/gear, and such other expenses as may be voted upon from time to time by the majority of the unit membership, except that such other expenses will be limited to those which will benefit directly all members of the unit equally

6. A ledger shall be kept by the Pursuer, in which shall be recorded receipt of registration fees and dues of each Crewmember. The Purser will also track other funds received by the unit for its use, for example fundraising, and expenditures made from the treasury.
7. The funds of the unit shall be deposited in a bank account by the Skipper, at the Skipper's discretion. The Purser will notify the Skipper when more than \$150 dollars in collected in the dues pouch.
8. Withdrawal of funds from the treasury must be approved and endorsed by the Skipper.

### **ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP**

1. The membership of Ship 6 shall be unlimited.
2. Age requirements for registration shall be those established by the National Sea Scout Program.
  - a. Anyone 14 years of age may become a member of Ship 6 and must be registered with the Boy Scouts of America. At the sole discretion of the Skipper a particularly interested and dedicated 13 year old may be allowed to join the Ship with a probation period of one (1) year. Until a Crewmember reaches the age of 14, they will not be allowed to participate on long trips or overnight sails.
  - b. All members age 14 and older must take a United States Power Squadron, or Coast Guard Auxiliary approved Basic Boating Course will the goal of receiving a CT Boaters License, at the first possible opportunity and before participating in any long trips or overnight sails.

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- c. Prospective members 14 and older will have a probationary period of four (4) weeks.
  - d. Regardless of age, all members are governed by these Bylaws; this includes probationary members.
  - e. Any probationary member may be asked to leave the Ship for just cause or maturative incompatibility (in the case of maturative incompatibility the crewmember can rejoin once they are older and more mature). The Crew will make this decision after full Crew discussion and vote.
3. A Crewmember may be asked to leave the Ship for just cause. The Crew will make this decision after full Crew discussion and vote.

### **ARTICLE VII – ATTENDANCE AND MEETINGS**

1. Meetings shall be held regularly on Tuesday evenings from January through December except for weeks in which Norwalk Schools have scheduled holidays.
2. To remain in good standing a crew member must have a minimum meeting attendance of 75% (other requirements also apply).
3. Meetings shall commence at 1900 and secure at 2100, except during the summer months when meetings commence at 1830 and secure at 2100. On occasion a meeting may commence earlier if a special field trip or other activity has been planned. In this case the time will be communicated a minimum of one (1) week in advance whenever possible.

4. The meetings shall follow the established program outlined in the Sea Scout Manual for non-traditional Sea Scout Ships.
5. When a Crewmember wishes to remain a registered member of the unit, but for good reason cannot regularly attend meetings, they may request transfer to “Associated Status” (in good standing) and the Skipper will grant such a request upon the recommendation of the Boatswain. An “Associated” Crewmember in “good standing” will not be required to pay dues during the period of his or her “Associated” status; and will be permitted to participate in limited Ship’s activities in accordance with Appendix I.

### **ARTICLE VIII - CONDUCT**

1. The conduct of Crewmembers at regular meetings and special activities shall be such as to reflect positively upon themselves and Ship 6. Breach of discipline will result in a discussion/warning by the Skipper and/or penalty as may reasonably be prescribed by the Boatswain or in his or her absence, the Boatswain’s Mate or Skipper.
2. The conduct of the Crew in their association with the community shall be such as to reflect positively upon themselves and Ship 6. Conduct toward the community which is unbecoming will result in suspension or removal from the unit or such lesser penalty as may be prescribed by the Skipper.
3. Summary action by Crew officers or the Skipper may be appealed to the Ship Committee, and further to the Sea Scout Council in extreme cases.
4. All crewmembers will respect and appreciate the time of adult volunteers and guests.

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### **ARTICLE IX - REINSTATEMENT TO "ACTIVE STATUS"**

1. A Crewmember in "poor standing" because of demerits, and who desires reinstatement, may be reinstated by working off the demerits which caused suspension and by attending four (4) consecutive meetings after declaration of his or her intent.
2. A Crewmember in "poor or suspended status," because of being in arrears in dues will be reinstated when all dues in arrears have been paid up to date.
3. A Crewmember who has transferred to "associate status" at his or her request may transfer back to "active status" immediately upon declaration of his or her intention to attend meetings regularly, provided that s/he was in "good standing" in an "active" status before transfer to "associated status."

### **ARTICLE X – BINDING AGREEMENT**

By request for registration in this unit, each Crewmember holds him/herself to be bound by these Bylaws.

### **ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS**

Except for Articles II, VI, XI, and XIII, these Bylaws may be changed or amended by a 2/3 (two-thirds) majority vote of the "active" unit members.

### **ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENT REVIEWING BOARD**

1. The purpose of the Amendment Reviewing Board is to review all proposed amendments and to decide if these amendments comply with Articles XI and XIII.
2. The Amendment Reviewing Board shall consist of:

- a. The Boatswain, who shall act as chairman
- b. The Boatswain's Mate
- c. The Crewmember proposing the amendment
- d. Also the advice and counsel of the Skipper

### **ARTICLE XIII – ALIGNMENT WITH NATIONAL POLICIES**

Nothing in these Bylaws shall be contrary to the policies of the National Boy Scout organization, nor those of the Executive Council for Sea Scout Activities, or Connecticut Yankee Council; and where these Bylaws shall be in conflict with such policies as now exist or may in the future be established, these Bylaws shall be amended to conform to such policy.

### **ARTICLE XIV - UNIFORM**

The Ship's Uniform will consist of "Celebration" long sleeve shirts; long Khaki pants (short may be allowed for hot summertime activities such as the Sea Scout GAM) and suitable boating footwear. All active Crewmembers shall be required to purchase this shirt from the Ship. This uniform will be required at special functions -- bridges, regattas, awards ceremonies, field trips etc....

### **ACCEPTANCE OF BYLAWS**

Accepted and prescribed, as amended this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_.

For the Crew:

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Boatswain

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Skipper

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### **APPENDIX I**

Privileges of "Active Status" not accorded to "Associate" members (See Article 6, Section 5).

1. Cruising
2. Use of Celebration
3. Superactivities and field trips where participation is limited in number of Crewmembers.

*NOTE:* The following privileges are accorded to "Associated" members in "good" standing.

1. Attendance at meetings
2. Participation in social activities except cruises
3. Superactivities and field trips where participation is not limited in number of Crewmembers.

### **CRUISE REQUIREMENTS**

Overnight sails or mini cruise requirements:

1. Member in good standing
  - a. Dues fully paid
  - b. Work party and meeting attendance of 75%
  - c. Active sailing attendance
2. Possess a clear and obvious desire to develop the skill required as outlined in section 3 below.
3. Be able to demonstrate basic understanding, to the satisfaction of the Skipper, of the following areas:
  - a. All sailing maneuvers – as helmsman & Crew
  - b. Strong sailing skills in the execution of Item (a).
  - c. A precise knowledge of the eight (8) required knots

- d. A precise knowledge of the rules of the road – power & sail – including navigation lights
- e. A precise knowledge of charts and navigation aids
- f. Basic navigation ability – course plotting, T.S.D. & L.O.P. skills, etc...

### **WORK PARTIES**

Crewmembers are responsible for maintaining their boat and gear. As such:

1. Attendance at Work Parties is mandatory except as outline in Article III
2. Work parties missed for valid reasons must be "made up" in form of additional and/or special work parties or projects.
3. Failure to attend multiple work parties will result in loss of sailing time or possible exclusion from special events or cruising.