

September 8, 2026

To: BLYC Members

From: BLYC Board of Directors

Re: Proposed New BLYC Bylaws

Dear BLYC Members:

The Beaver Lake Yacht Club Board of Directors is proposing an update to the bylaws approved in September 2016. The proposed draft is intended to align the governing document with how our Club operates today, clarify member rights and voting procedures, strengthen financial oversight, and preserve flexibility for future activities. The principal differences and their rationale are summarized below:

- **Membership structure.** The 2016 bylaws provide three membership classes—General, Social, and Sailing Participation—and divide General membership into Household and Individual memberships. The 2026 proposal simplifies the structure to two classes, General and Social, while allowing the Board to grant defined special status to Chenequa Country Club and to tenants on a case-by-case basis. General membership would be tied to ownership of lakefront property; Social membership would generally serve former General Members and their adult children. The rationale is to reflect the Club's current membership base, eliminate obsolete categories, and give the Board practical flexibility for limited special circumstances.
- **Voting rights.** Under the 2016 bylaws, a household membership may cast two votes and an individual membership one vote, while Social and Sailing Participation voting eligibility is reviewed annually. The 2026 proposal provides one vote per dues-paid General or Special membership and expressly withholds voting rights from Social Members and tenants. The rationale is to establish a simpler, more consistent rule in which each eligible membership has an equal voice.
- **Ballots and meeting procedures.** The 2026 proposal permits ballots to be delivered personally or by regular or electronic mail by the time of an Annual or Special Meeting, rather than requiring mailed annual-meeting ballots to arrive 24 hours in advance. It also clarifies that the Annual Meeting date must be set at least 30 days beforehand and broadens the meeting's stated purposes to include communication of priorities, budgets, dues, and fees. The rationale is to accommodate modern communication, improve participation, and make the annual governance process more transparent.
- **Sailing governance.** The 2016 bylaws contain a Sailing Participation membership class and separate provisions for race, regatta, sailing-school, appeals, trophy, and association-appointed functions. The 2026 proposal removes those standing structures and replaces them with an optional Sailing, Regatta & Watercraft Committee that the Board may activate when needed. The rationale is to remove requirements for programs no longer routinely conducted while preserving the ability to support future sailing or on-water events.

- **Launch-site administration.** The Board would continue to set rules annually, but the 2026 bylaws proposal expressly covers vendor use and requires the rules to be shared by email and on the website. The rationale is to clarify responsibility and improve notice to members and vendors; the Board's basic authority over the launch site is unchanged.
- **Officers and responsibilities.** The 2026 proposal identifies Communications Director and Social Director as officers in addition to the five positions listed in 2016. It removes outdated sailing- and trophy-specific duties from the Vice Commodore and Rear Commodore. The rationale is to recognize functions important to current Club operations and remove duties tied to inactive programs.
- **Financial oversight.** The Treasurer's role would expand from collecting funds and administering a fixed-dollar purchase approval rule to preparing annual financial results and the proposed budget, maintaining detailed financial statements, and obtaining approval from the Commodore and another Board member for expenses outside the approved budget. The rationale is to shift oversight toward current budgeting, reporting, and dual approval rather than an outdated dollar threshold.
- **Dues and discipline.** Instead of fixing relationships among Household, Individual, Social, and Sailing dues in the bylaws, the proposal authorizes the Board to establish dues, benefits, initiation fees, service charges, and other necessary charges annually. It also changes expulsion approval from six of seven directors to two-thirds of the Board and makes suspension for dues delinquency after July 1 discretionary rather than automatic. The rationale is to provide operating flexibility and use consistent governance standards.
- **Fiscal year.** The fiscal year would begin November 1 rather than September 1. The 2026 draft describes this as a correction intended to match the Club's actual financial cycle.
- **Future amendments.** The 2016 amendment provision is brief. The 2026 proposal retains the two-thirds approval requirement but adds electronic notice, publication of proposed language at least 30 days before the meeting, an in-person quorum of 25 voting members, and compliance with the voting and meeting provisions. The rationale is to ensure advance disclosure, meaningful attendance, and a clear, repeatable process for future changes.

Overall, the 2026 proposal preserves the Club's seven-member Board, staggered director terms, quorum requirement, nomination process, and broad Board authority, while making the bylaws shorter, more current, and easier to administer.

We encourage every homeowner to review the full proposal and participate in the membership meeting. Questions may be directed to the Board of Directors before the vote.

Sincerely,
The Beaver Lake Yacht Club Board of Directors