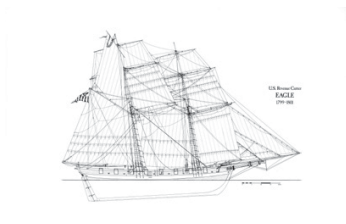


THE CODE



A Pyrate Book

THE CODE

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INTRODUCTION

This code constitutes the code of rules adopted by the BLACKWATER PYRATE CREW, INC. for the regulation and management of its affairs. Pirates are instructed to read this code carefully because sooner or later you are going to be held to it and the plank is now in fine working order. The CODE is passed each time a new captain is brought on board. The CODE is changed by Pirate vote with one exception. A captain who relinquishes command may rewrite any portion of the code (without vote) based on the knowledge he has obtained during his term as captain. It should be noted that captain's re-writes can ONLY be accomplished in the last month before the captain passes the flag. All other revisions must be done by vote. Once the code is passed between captains it once again is subject to vote and revisions are thus made in the new term. Re-writes can be called for by any Pirate at any general meeting. Quorum rules apply. Changes should be dated and relevant notes made for the sake of history. Significant changes should also be listed under "Changes/Deletions/Re-Writes" as a matter of history.

Purpose of the Blackwater Pyrate Crew

The purpose of the Blackwater Pyrates is to serve and pillage the community through; ***River Clean-Ups, Boater Safety & Maritime Preservation*** while having fun in the process. This adult fraternity supports numerous initiatives in the area of Milton and Bagdad. Founded in 2006, the Blackwater Pyrate Crew has become an integral part of our community, the City of Milton and the Blackwater River Basin.

The Legend of the Blackwater Pyrate Crew

It was the year of 1994 that a weary pirate name of Bones first set foot on the shores of Mill Town, a small village on the shores of the Blackwater River. But as he did so he declared that someday he would revisit this pristine location not only to test its fine population, but also to reclaim the treasure that he buried along the riverbanks. So it came to pass that Bones did return in the year 2006 and could not locate the treasure he had deposited. In anger, he attacked the city of Mill Town with a band of cutthroats as no one had ever seen before. It was a short battle with the locals and before the dust settled Bones had a local Commissioner Bob Cole walk the plank. It was then that he declared he be renamed Blackwater Bones and his band of pirates be known as the feared Blackwater Pyrates! To this day ye can hear the rousing voices of the Blackwater Pyrates as they echo through the trees that line the river as the pyrates search for their gold. For it's here that the legend lies, in wait, for eternity. So if you be on the river at night and you see a moving flame, or a rasping voice, its Blackwater and his men, in search of booty.

SHIP'S OFFICERS

The slate of officers shall have a Captain, Quartermaster and Coxswain (Safety Officer).

- **Captain Nomination Process:** The acting Captain, prior to an election, will appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of three members and a chair who will be provided with a copy of this nomination process. The nomination process takes place in ONE general meeting and should not be spread out beyond that meeting to preserve the integrity of the nominations. The nomination process is CLOSED BALLOT. To preserve the integrity of the nomination process. A Pyrate may nominate their self or a member. If a Pyrate nominates a member, the member will be contacted by the nominating committee to accept or decline. All accepted nominations will be on a slate for vote at a general membership meeting. The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of candidates from which the members may fill the captain vacancy. The members may either fill such vacancies from this slate of candidates or they may make additional nominations from the floor of the membership meeting just prior to the election. Any Pyrate who falls face-first in his grog during this process will not get another chance to nominate.

- **Captain (Murky):** The Captain will perform all duties incident to such office and such other duties as may be provided in this code or as may be prescribed by the board. The Captain shall preside at all board meetings and shall exercise parliamentary control in accordance with Black Beard's Rules of Order (nay Roberts Rules of Order), not to be superseded by any provisions of this code. In 2015 it was written that the Captain is responsible for passing items of importance to the Keeper of the Code, the Historian and the Newsletter captain forthwith most of our history is recorded. This change deleted the position of Secretary. (See changes and re-writes)

The Captain and his powers:

The Captain possess *unlimited power*, however, his ability to be replaced is *equally unlimited*. A Captain has a two year term limit, but can run unlimited times after serving a term. A Captain can request to step down. His request must occur during a regular meeting and cannot be denied. The captain will be limited to spending \$250.00 per month for crew interests without Financial Committee approval. The Captain will recommend budgets for his event Captains. When large projects are expected to exceed the Captains financial power, he will go before the Financial Committee and give them an estimate of what is required. If the Financial Committee approves, the Finance Chair will bring a vote to the General Membership.

The Captain can arbitrarily order changes, make decisions that affect all crew business and control spending. It is the duty of the Finance Chair to monitor his spending and submits a report of spending and a treasure balance at each monthly meeting. (See Financial Committee) Like all Pyrate Crews, the Captain's decisions should always favor his crew. If he does not show true favor towards the crew as a whole in his actions he is simply "replaced by dissention" (See replacement by dissention - Mutiny). It is within the Captains powers to revise the CODE (without vote) ONLY during the last month prior to the passing of the flag.

Past Captains: Past Captains are our heritage. They will always be addressed as *Captain*. A Past Captain cannot

be tasked, but he/she can volunteer. Past Captains are considered LIFE MEMBERS and no longer pay dues AFTER the flag is passed. (A past captain must serve at least one term to be entitled LIFE MEMBER). A captain removed by mutiny will not be considered a LIFE MEMBER/Past Captain). The number of years a captain serves is denoted by shipwreck symbols on the lapel of his coat. Past captains should always attend significant events when possible and the current captain should always recognize them when speaking as a show of unity.

The Captain's Flag: The Captain's Flag is of pendant-styled flag, red in color, with gold lettering. It is awarded at the end of each Captain's term. The flag depicts year (s) served. The number of years served is also shown by the number of "Blackwater Captain" Insignia that appear on the flag. As each year is added the flag gets longer (See how to create...)

AWARDING THE CAPTAIN'S FLAG

The Captain's flag is awarded by the previous Captain. (Thus, the captain that is *departing* is responsible for all the flags presented to the captain that *follows* him). The most appropriate setting for the presentation is a general meeting, however, the departing Captain can choose a more appropriate setting if it comes available. The ceremony should include some highlights of the new Captain's year and a toast called for. It is recommended that all former Captains be present

if possible. Timing for this event is also chosen by the departing Captain, at or after the end of the year but no later than the end of January of the following year. It should be noted that the departing captain can delegate this duty (up the chain of command) if the need arises. This process is repeated at the end of each one-year term. It should be noted that these one-year terms DO NOT have to be in succession. A departed captain can be re-selected by the crew to serve and his flag will reflect his full one-year terms.

HOW TO CREATE THE CAPTAIN'S FLAG:

Height: 12 inches

Grommets: 2

Leading Edge: Red Webbing (1")

Body: Red Nylon (1 year = 14", 2 year = 23.5", 3 year= 34", 4 year = 47", 5 year = 56" etc.)

Construction: The insignia are placed side- by- side, thus the flag gets longer each year. The length of the flag should allow for approximately 1" of clearance over/under the last insignia. It is recommended that the Captain's years (i.e. 2011, 2012, 2013-14 etc. be placed on the tail of the flag). NOTE: Earlier Captains that did not have this done can request re-issue).

Sources:

Webbing Material	Hall's Hardware
Nylon Material	JoAnn's Fabrics
Insignia (Holder of Digital Pattern)	Paradise Screen Printing
Head Web Strap Sewing/ Grommets	Penton's Upholstery (Milton Location)
Nylon Flag body sewing	Seamstress of choice

NOTE: The master design for the flags is a drawn pattern that is used for each assembly point. It should be held by the departing captain (otherwise known as the previous captain, aka mentoring captain, aka presenting captain) When a captain ends his term the pattern is passed by the previous captain to the captain who is stepping down.

FLYING THE CAPTAIN'S FLAG:

The Captain's Flag will be flown directly below the Blackwater Pyrate Flag (small or large BWP Flag). Neither flag will be flown above the American Flag. When these flags are flown in concert it is recommended the American Flag be flown alone and that both flags oppose each other on the stern of the boat (i.e. Pyrate flags on port/starboard and American Flag on the opposite. This is recommended so when more than one Pyrate boat approaches harbor it is evident from

a distance that they are indeed one-in-the-same (crew). It is also a way for new pirates to easily identify captains and past captains when on the water.

Senior Board Member (Capt. Boot): The senior Past Captain is the only Senior Board Member and is a direct *advisor* to the current captain. The *mentor* to the Captain is the former Captain.

Quartermaster (Two Socks): The Quartermaster shall be appointed by the Captain and shall act in place of the Captain in the event of the Captain's absence, or inability to lead, and he/she shall exercise and discharge such other duties as may be required by the board. If the quartermaster refuses to act on an issue there is always that Replacement by Dissention thing.

Coxswain (Maltese): This is a unique position. The safety officer works directly for the Captain and is appointed by the Captain. In the name of safety and so as to not hamper his effectiveness this officer has the power to remove any individual from pirate activities at will. Reporting his actions to the Captain in relation to safety is secondary in these cases.

Treasurer: Financial Chair "Coin Counter" (Devil Rae): This person will handle all of the finances that pertain to the BWP's. They will approve budgets to events, deal with the bank that maintains the treasure, assign a pirate to maintain a computerized accounting program, maintain

the check book, employ an accountant and pass tax information to the accountant, Maintains receipts from events, maintains receipts from the buyer, pays quarterly sales tax, files tangible tax and processes paperwork involving insurance or finances and tracks the debit card charges. This chair will report, as a minimum the current balance and monthly expenses at each monthly meeting. The Financial Chair will monitor the fiscal affairs of the crew, will render reports to the ship's officers, and will perform, in general all duties, which may be assigned from time to time by the captain.

SHIP POSITIONS

Financial Committee (Devil Rae, Slim Shady, Sea Ray and Ribs):

The board will form a financial committee of at least 5 pirates who will meet a minimum of once per quarter and a maximum of once per month. Financial requests over the captain's budget must be approved by the Financial Committee before the request is submitted to the general membership. A quorum of at least 3 financial members must be present to complete a vote. The captain votes only in the case of a tie breaker.

Finance Meeting Quorum: The attendance of three (3) finance committee members constitute a quorum for the conducting of business. All votes during a Finance Committee meeting by only be counted by Finance Committee members. In the event of a tie the captain may vote.

Keeper of the Code (Slim Shady): The Pirate designated as the Keeper of the CODE (KC) will receive, review, create and present items to the Captain that would revise, add, or delete any portions of the CODE. The Captain will in turn advise his officers of any CODE adjustments as listed and recommend which items will be taken to vote by the general membership (the crew). Approved revisions/additions/deletions will then be posted to the CODE with minor changes noted at the end of the text and major changes noted in the back of the CODE for the purpose of clearer understanding and quick reference. The KC will advise the Captain of his power to change the code and interpret the CODE when

required. The KC is appointed and dismissed by the Captain. *(Added June 2014 by vote)*

Membership Captain (Full Throttle): This captain will be in charge of recruiting new members through direct contact, delegation or simple coercion. He/she will make sure that ALL pyrate events have a membership function within them. In addition this chair will be in control of the set up and distribution of the Membership Brochures/Rack Cards which is generated by the public relations chair. The ship's captain must approve all printed material before budget requests are approved and publication begins.

Merchandising Committee (Nauti Cole): Basic Function: One Pyrate will hold the lead position in this committee. The committee should try to achieve a group of three pyrates. This committee will maintain the inventory, control pricing and determine overages and limits within the inventory. This committee shall establish give- away items and budget those items at the first of each year. Through coordination with the Store Captains this committee will begin at least two months prior to an event to establish which items are to be sold at the upcoming event. After the event, this committee will gather the remaining merchandise, perform an inventory, determine profitability of the event and prepare for the next event. Store Captains will no longer hold merchandise, instead they will predict their need for their event and request that be provided in advance of their event. The MC will in turn keep the

captain advised as to shortages/overages and recommend actions to both the Captain and the Booty Council.

MC STRUCTURE: The MC should ideally have 2 members that balance funds and inventory. It should have at least two members that are the design and acquisition element for new products to be brought before the planning council and general membership. In addition All creation and input should go through the MC Leading member and then through the planning counsel to eventually be presented for vote at the general meeting.

GOALS: The goal of the committee should be to produce a minimum of one new and unique product per year, continuously review the inventory to eliminate slow-moving or dated products. Their ultimate goal will be to create an inventory of sought-after inventory with a strong resale level.

CREATIVE INPUT: Crew Members who would like to contribute to this effort may submit artwork and recommendations in writing, pencil drawings etc. Casual mention at meetings will not be regarded as sincere creative effort.

So that all pyrates can be a contributing part of this committee the MC meetings will be an open meeting and attendees can request to be placed on the agenda to insure their inputs are recognized and acted upon.

Public Relations Captain (Leatherneck): This person is responsible for the content of pyrate media, creating written materials and contact with the media to inform

the community of BWP events and accomplishments. All printed material must be approved by the captain before publication begins, including the Pyrate News Letter, PSA's, media comments in writing and promotional materials.

Newsletter Captain (Vacant): Collects, creates, publishes and revises the pyrate newsletter as directed by the captain. Final copy of the newsletter is sent to the captain for distribution.

Historian (Jay Hawk): This person will collect and archive any and all things that relate to the pyrates such as newspaper articles, trophies and memorabilia. This collection will also include a written log that keeps up with attacks, support activities in the community and other activities the pyrates participate in. When this position rotates to a new pyrate historian it is the responsibility of the new pyrate historian to recover all of the old items from the outgoing History Captain.

Technical Crew (Rum Front): These individuals will assist all chairs with development and feasibility of new projects and advice on logistical endeavors. They will create designs, build and assemble props, aid set-up and break-down crews and handle most logistical plans. They set up and tear down before and after events and solve problems with displays and storage of same.

Iron Horse Captain (Vacant): This person is responsible for reporting and organizing events involving a combination of BWP's and motorcycles.

Facebook Captain (Nauti Cole): This person is responsible for the management of the Blackwater Pyrate Facebook to include keeping an active Facebook account and admin login. Responding to friend request and replying to comments in a timely manner and adding current BWP events and photos. And actively seek new friends to join the BWP Face book.

Web-Site Captain (Jermuggle): This person is responsible for the management of the Blackwater Pyrate Web-site. This person should insure there is an active BWP web domain along with current accurate information posted on the web-site. This person will work directly with the BWP Captain, web-master and financial chair.

MISSION CAPTAINS

Boater Safety Captain (Fishbone): Pyrate Boater Safety education is one of the missions of the Blackwater Pyrates. This captain will seek out educational opportunities that can be shared with the pyrates and the general public. This effort will center on water recreation, safety and boating skills. This position also requires the lead to partner with the USCG Flotilla 01-08 for the annual National Safe Boating Week event and Blessing of the Fleet. This person will also be responsible to take the lead for the annual check give away to the USCG Auxiliary 01-08 for the Navigator “Wall of Honor” sponsorship.

River Clean-Up Captain (Big AD): River Clean-up is a year- long effort for the Blackwater Pyrates. This person will be responsible for an annual Pyrate Day River Clean-Up which coincides with “Earth Day” when possible. This person will also oversee the Adopt-A-Spot program.

Salvage Captain (Vacant): The salvage captain will be responsible for scouting the river basin for trash and salvageable boats. The captain must obtain written permission from FWC to remove vacant vessels and follow county procedures to destroy/remove the vessel. By agreement, the pyrates have the right to haul and salvage for profit any vessel we are permitted to haul. In coordination with FWC, Santa Rosa County has consented to pick up and dispose of vessels that we get to either the B-dub landing or the Shell Pile Landing. This Captain should secure a POC (Point of Contact) for the Florida Wildlife Commission (FWC) and a POC for Santa Rosa County (SRC). Due to the sensitivity of this pillaging it is advised that you do not go outside of these POCs. (2015).

Maritime History Captain (Surge): This captain is responsible for an annual “Shipwrecks of the Blackwater’s” Lecture. This effort will center on maritime history and naval archaeological education opportunities pertaining to the Blackwater’s for both public and BWP members.

EVENT CAPTAINS

The Great Mill-Town Duck Race Captain (Maltese):

The Great Mill-Town Duck Race Captain is normally overseen by the BWP Captain. This individual will coordinate with all Captains involved (Duck King, Technical, Sales, PR etc), attend enough pre-meetings to understand what is required of the BWP's. This position requires a captain to oversee all aspects of the race. Some items can be delegated and some are best handled by the Duck Captain; confirm duck judges, confirm front-end loader, driver and logistics from the City of Milton, confirm with the City of Milton police captain to stop street traffic, confirm with Sheriff's Dept to control water traffic, confirm an MC, Duck swimmer, boat to deliver duck swimmer, VIP Yacht, winning checks, delivery & return of the Blackwater Pearl, crowd throws, noodle delivery, duck shoot, no wake signs, rubber ducks, noodles strung, tent set up and tear down, setup and take down of no wake signs, fans. Track set up, boats to set up track, signal to drop the ducks. There will be a Clipboard with duck sign in person on the VIP boat and someone to take the winning duck numbers back to the river bank to be documented. Crew to collect ducks after the race, get ducks to shore, dry ducks, load ducks in boxes, return ducks to warehouse. Collect the track. Be on the boardwalk for announcement of the winners, prize giveaways and photo ops. The next day all items are returned neatly to the warehouses. Post sponsors in

News Papers. Contact winners not present. Post winners in the *Santa Rosa Press Gazette*. Have sponsor decals printed, send thank you notes to sponsors.

Specific Duck King Duties:

The Duck King will determine how the ducks are to be sold for the annual Great Milltown Duck Race. If the total of 3000 ducks cannot be sold the Duck King will remove unsold Ducks from the storage facility – the “take” for this event will simply decrease if the BWP’s are unable to produce total sales of 3000. Each of the Duck King’s team members will be solely responsible for selling 500 ducks through delegation, endless promises, coercion, bribery or abstract force. The words “I can’t” are not acceptable in this exercise. This is our only fundraiser during the year, we depend on everyone to do their part. It is recommended that the forms for this are recreated by February so everyone can get started. It’s best to have each team member’s portion complete by mid-June. Signup sheets are 20 to a sheet. Each team member will turn in sheets as they complete them so deposits can be made and tracking our progress is simpler. Sheets without money, money without sheets, or incomplete sheets **are not acceptable and should not be processed.**

Riverfest Sales Booth Captain (Vacant):

Individual will submit required paperwork, request entrance fee from the financial committee, coordinate with all Captains involved (Sales/Technical, Finance, etc), attend enough pre-meetings to understand what is

required of the BWP's, secure a setup space far enough in advance that the display personnel can plan, coordinate with financial chair on money handling, assign personnel to shifts to cover event. This person works closely with the Merchandising Committee for handling, logistic and inventory counts of merchandise (See Merchandising Committee).

Mardi Gras Captain (Vacant):

The person who holds this position can be partially insane. It's a given. The pirates participate in two Mardi Gras events as of 2012. These are the Milton Mardi Gras street parade and *the Pirates of Lost Treasure Mardi Gras Flotilla* in Perdido (pirates participate on individual basis – our event captain simply determines who is participating). Individual will submit required paperwork, determine if Pirate support is available to stage the event, request entrance fee from the finance committee, assign workers to prepare and tear down (clean) the ship before and after the parade, assign a driver, assign walkers, insure all decorations are neatly returned to the warehouse, insure that all positions are filled. Attend Drivers Meetings. Insure General Liability Insurance is current. Generate emails to the crew for event information. *Note: General Liability Insurance and adequate amount of walkers are required for the BWP's to participate in the street event.*

Riverwalk Arts Festival Sales Booth Captain (Two Noodles):

Individual will submit required paperwork, request entrance fee from the financial committee, coordinate with all chairs involved (Sales/Technical, Finance, etc), attend enough pre-meetings to understand what is required of the BWP's, secure a setup space far enough in advance that the display personnel can plan, coordinate with financial chair on money handling (establish a change bag), assign personnel for shift coverage. Individual works closely with the Sales Purveyor for handling, logistic and inventory counts of merchandise.

Ghostwalk Captain (Vacant):

Individual will organize planning group to create skit (make multiple changes), organize and display props, assign parts, hold practice sessions, oversee event and coordinate with technical crew. Attend SRHS Ghostwalk meetings and walk troughs. Submit budget to the financial committee.

Christmas Street Parade Captain (Vacant):

Individual will submit required paperwork, determine if Pyrate support is available to stage the event, request entrance fee from the finance committee, assign workers to prepare and tear down (clean) the ship before and after the parade, assign a driver, assign walkers, insure that all positions are filled. *Note: General Liability Insurance and adequate amount of walkers are required for the BWP's to participate in this event.*

Caroling with Pyrates Captain (Fin's Up):

This is a Pyrate event that has few or no rules. Historically, this event has not even required the ability to sing. That said, the organizers have free reign as to how they would like to set it up. This chair needs to make sure the event has adequate publicity (newsletter, web site, etc), provides for a conveyance (such as a hayride-type trailer), sets gathering time, ensures safety is a primary concern, provides a limited number of song sheets, works with setup and tear down to decorate conveyance, plans route, notifies senior citizens that may enjoy carolers. History has shown that to make this event a success it would be advised that you invite choir members from churches who will not only sing well but will also help with sheet music and the addresses of seniors to stop at.

Lighted Boat Parades Captain (Tara):

This individual will make every effort to extend this activity to the general public. Boat parades usually form just before sunset during the summer season and are held on Saturdays that are the closest to full-moon nights. This is done once a month and sometimes caters to special events on the river if the pyrates vote to participate. The summer season schedule for the entire summer is usually posted in the newsletter and on the web site *prior to the summer season*. Other boat parades (local or non-local) are to be submitted to the pyrates for a vote of participation. The Santa Rosa County Chamber of Commerce Holiday Lighted Boat Parade is one of these when admission fees

are required. This captain should always plan his events with “appearance of the fleet” in mind (Signage. Dress, crew briefings prior to start).

Change of Command Captain (Vacant): This person is appointed by the outgoing captain to facilitate and organize the Change of Command Ceremony. This person works closely with the out-going captain. The purpose of this ceremony is to recognize the contribution of the outgoing captain and celebrate the new post of the incoming captain.

MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES

Members: Any individual 21 years of age or older paying annual dues as described below is eligible for membership in the Blackwater Pyrate Crew. Furthermore, anyone under the age of 21 is not eligible to be a member of the Crew or participate in any Pyrate function or events.

Membership Dues: The crew recognizes the following schedule of membership dues and membership levels: Membership dues and levels may be changed in accordance with the procedures for amending this code:

Pyrate: \$50.00/yr per member.

Offshore Pyrate: \$35.00/yr per member.

* Voted January 2009

Procedures

The process of voting

Any Pyrate can propose a vote. The Captain is the sole source to decide what will be voted and what will not be voted. The act of voting should be based solely on the outcome of pyrates “in attendance” at a “called” meeting. To vote, 25% of the membership must be present.

Conducting the Vote

1. **Define the Vote:** The Pyrate (overseen by the Captain) will give the definition of the vote to the attending Pyrates. No additions to the definition can be made after this. If additions are required the standing vote will be invalidated and a new vote will be conducted. The invalidation of the original vote must be validated by all present.
2. **Discussion:** Once the content of the vote is on the table there will be a discussion with all present. Each Pyrate should be given 3 minutes to make their point relative to the item at hand.
3. **Summary:** The person presenting the vote shall summarize all the remarks and RESTATE the vote if necessary to insure each attending member understands what the final outcome will be. If the changes to the original vote are changed substantially (more than 50%) the floor should be reopened for discussion with member input

limited to 1 minute. This procedure will continue until clarity of the vote is achieved.

4. **The Vote:** Once it is made clear that the discussion is final then it will be announced; **“The discussion is closed and we will now be going to vote”**.

How the vote is done

(yea/Nay/Ballot/Open/Closed etc.) is at the discretion of the Captain.

IMPORTANT: If any of the above steps are conducted out of sequence, the vote becomes null and void and the process begins again.

PYRATE LEVELS & DEFINITIONS

Captain: The guy in charge, numro uno, always to blame.

Pyrate: It is these fine crew members who work on occasion to gain favor and participate in events throughout the year at their leisure while enjoying pirate activities and the monthly newsletter. These naves can be seen fighting on shore during pirate attacks, participating in parades, walking around dead during the ghost walk, participating in committees, educational events, or just being representative of the Pyrate philosophy in the community. (I.e. The Civil War re-enactors are “pyrates” because they may choose to shoot at the Pyrate Crew when they attack something, thus if the boat sinks, they won’t be on it).

Offshore Pyrate: These Pyrates are limited by distance, dis-interest, limited funds and above all, work. Since they are “limited” it is noted that they enjoy and receive the monthly newsletter, can join any Pyrate function, and can ride on the ship, and even more work on it. So for these “limited” Pyrates we salute you for your dedication and fortitude. So send in your coins, sit back and enjoy your newsletter.

Honorary Pyrate: From time to time the crew will take notice of an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to either the pyrates or our community. These select and oh-most-fortunate individuals are not extended any special privilege other than to be associated with our crew during the course of our pillaging and held in favor should they decide to join.

CREW ORGANIZATION

Rights of Paid Members: Pyrates are members of the crew. Each member ship of the crew shall be entitled to one General Membership vote on each matter submitted to a vote at a meeting of the members, except to the extent that the voting rights are limited or denied by the Articles of Incorporation or this code. No member shall be entitled to any dividend or any part of the income of the corporation or to share in the distribution of the corporate assets upon dissolution. (*See Dissolution*)

How the Membership can Legally Act: The membership may act only at a properly called meeting of the membership where a quorum (See quorum) is present.

At such a meeting, a vote of a majority of the members in attendance shall be an act of the membership.

Special Meetings: Any member may request a special meeting via notification to the captain. The Captain will decide if a meeting is required or make a decision if required. (*See Captain's Power*).

- **Notice of Special Meetings:** Notice of special meetings will be done by electronic means, can and string, marine radio, or telephone (landline) if certain members do not have Internet.

General Membership Meetings: Meetings are held once-a-month (*exception of December, no meetings are scheduled*), called by the Captain, postponed by the captain, Cancelled by the Captain and delegated by the Captain.

Quorum: The attendance of three (3) pirates (non-board) and a minimum of one board member constitute a quorum for the conducting of business at either a monthly, annual or special meeting of the membership. Non-attendance at a meeting will be construed *as if you agree with the outcome as we see it*.

Enrollment of Members: The board shall adopt a membership application form. The application form shall require the name, address, and telephone number of each applicant. All persons wishing to become members shall fill out an application form. The Membership Captain shall keep an up to date membership list and make it available at any meeting of the crew.

Replacement by Dissent: Mutiny (The Captain): To replace a Captain, a single member will request that the Captain be “Replaced by Dissent”. “A reason” for the request is not required. This request is made at a regularly scheduled meeting and must be agreed to by a quorum of three. It’s that simple, if the: Captain is a putz, he gets canned. *Replacement by dissent approved 20 March. 2008. by crew vote.*

Expulsion of Members: (Any member below the grade of Captain) A member who faces expulsion will be notified first that they are being considered for expulsion and provided with the reason why. If the pyrate feels that the charge is unwarranted, he will then submit (in writing) why feels that he is not eligible for expulsion. Expulsion is handled at the level of captain.

Reasons for expulsion: (1) Disgracing the membership as a whole through words, actions or insinuations (2) Receipt of a complaint against Pyrate for making sexual remarks, telling off-color jokes, lewd gestures insulting remarks of any kind at a Pyrate function that is made accessible the general public (3) any complaint generated within the Pyrate crew of dishonest, or generally unacceptable act that degrades or alienates any or all of the pyrates. (4) Any act, utterance or insinuation that the board presented with that they consider reason for expulsion.

The Board

Board of Directors (Hereby referred to as *The Board*)

The board is that group of pirates vested with the management of the business and affairs of this crew subject the law, the Articles of Incorporation, and this code. **It should be remembered that the Articles of Incorporation and the CODE are two separate items as is the Board and the Crew.** All decisions of policy reside with the board based on the proposals of the voting members of the crew. The board, if it so chooses, can appoint other persons to serve on the board. The Captain shall act as chairperson of the board (P). The board will also have a senior board member or advisor (S). The board will have a treasurer (T). The board will also have a number of board members and past captains will serve as members of the board (M). Finally, the board will have a vice president (VP). *The board is an invisible body within the Pirate crew that acts in an **advisory capacity**.*

Removal of Board Members

Any officer elected or appointed to the board may be removed by the board whenever in their judgment the best interests of this Crew will be served. Such removal, however, will be without prejudice to any contract rights of the Officer so removed.

Board Meetings:

Meetings of the board may be called by:

A. Captain

B. Any Board Member

- **Notice of Board Meetings:** Notice of all board meetings shall be given to each board member no less than one (1) hour nor more than ten (10) days prior to the meeting. If you're a board member, be on your toes.

Quorum:

Board Meeting: The attendance of three (3) board members constitute a quorum for the conducting of business at a board meeting.

Self-Dealing: No director pyrate shall use confidential information gained by reason of being a member of the board for personal gain to the detriment of the crew. Any board who so abuses confidential information shall be removed from the board by a vote of the board at a meeting wherein prior notice of the nature of the proposed removal has been given to each board member in writing.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS (Corporate)

Appointment of Committees: The board may from time to time designate and appoint one or more standing committees and committee chairs as it sees fit. Such committees shall have and exercise such prescribed authority as is designated by the board.

2019 BOARD MEMBERS

(P) Murky	Captain “President”
(S) Rumfront	Senior Advisor
(T) Devil Rae	Board Member “Treasurer”
(M) Bones	Senior Board Member/Past Captain
(M) Slimshady	Board Member
(M) Hook’em Dano	Board Member/Past Captain
(M) Fins Up	Board Member/Past Captain
(M) Captain White Beard	Board Member/Past Captain
(M) Dragon	Board Member/Past Captain
(M) Boot	Board Member/Past Captain
(VP) Two Socks	Quartermaster

OPERATIONS (Corporate)

Fiscal Year: The fiscal year for this Crew will be calendar year.

Inspection of Books and Records: All books and records of this Crew may be inspected by any Director for any purpose at any reasonable time on written demand to the Captain or Secretary.

Loans to Management: This Crew will make no loans to any of its Directors or Officers.

Execution of Documents: Except as otherwise provided by law, checks, drafts, and orders for the payment of money of this Crew shall be signed by the treasurer and at least one other elected officer of the Crew. Contracts, promissory notes, leases, or other instruments executed in the name of and on behalf of the Crew shall be signed by an elected officer or director who has been authorized and directed to do so by the Director Pyrates.

AMENDMENTS (Corporate)

The board may adopt Articles of Amendment (amending the Articles of Incorporation or this code). Articles of Amendment must be adopted in accordance with Florida Law. The bylaws may be amended at a general meeting of the membership by a vote of the majority of members at a general meeting where a quorum is present.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS (Corporate)

Authority to make Public Statements. No person, except for the Captain shall be authorized to make any public statements, whether written or oral, purporting to represent the official policy, position, or opinion of this Crew, without first having obtained the approval of the BOARD.

Limitation on Statements: Any person who is authorized by the Captain to make any public statement, whether written or oral, purporting to represent the official policy, position, recommendation or opinion of the Crew, shall first make it clear that he or she is representing the Crew. Thereafter, throughout the entire presentation, he or she shall confine his/her presentation only to those matters that have been properly approved by the Crew. He or she shall not at the same time present any statement purporting to represent any other firm, group, or organization or purporting to represent his or her own personal views.

INDEMNIFICATION (Corporate)

Any person (and the heirs, executors and administrators of such person) made or threatened to be made a party to any action, suit or proceeding by reason of the fact that he is or was a Director or Officer of the Crew shall be indemnified by the Crew against any and all liability and the reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees and disbursements, incurred by him (or by his heirs, executors or administrators) in connection with the defense or settlement of such action,

suit or proceeding, or in connection with any appearance therein, except in relation to matters as to which it shall be adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding that such Director or Officer is liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of his duties. Such right of indemnified shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which such Director or Officer (or such heirs, executors of administrators) may be entitled apart from this Article. And besides, we know where you dock your boat.

DISSOLUTION (Corporate)

If, by war, catastrophic instances of biblical proportions or simply unhappy pyrates should arise and dictate the dissolution of the Blackwater Pyrate Crew, Inc. all assets will be liquidated and donated to a charity or more than one charity as specified by the board. Any refunds, late receivables or returned property will also be donated to an accredited charity (501 non-profit status). To assure that the action taken is permanent and allow for liquidation and return on items sold, the final dissolution will take place no sooner than 6 months after the decision to dissolve. No splinter group or group of like cause will be awarded any portion or the whole of the corporation. The corporation will be pronounced “dissolved”.

Summary

The Blackwater Pyrates Crew began to group together in 2005. This same group of misfits managed to become incorporated in 2007. In 2011 Captain Blackwater Bones passed the flag to Hook 'em Dano (*1st captain by election in Blackwater Pirate history*). In 2012 Captain Hook 'em Dano passed the flag to Fins Up. In 2014 Captain Fins up passed the flag to White Beard. In 2015 Captain White Beard passed the flag to Dragon. In 2017 Captain Dragon passed the flag to Boot. In 2019 Captain Boot passed the flag to Murky.

Since inception, the pyrates have organized numerous social events, performed river clean-up, participated in early summer boating safety equipment reminders and to increase their visibility, they attack the city of Milton once a year on the Fourth of July and attempt to steal all of the town's candy. Problem is, the candy somehow always ends up back in the hands of the children so the pyrates must once again return the following year in an effort to gain ownership of the candy. Their newest efforts, the Shipwreck Lectures, are both entertaining and provide information to both visitors and the local community while supporting our Maritime Preservation efforts. These relentless pursuits have endeared the pyrates to Mill Town and ensured future growth in their city. Today, the pyrates are one of the most successful and recognizable organizations in Mill Town. They appear at numerous events throughout the year and are most noticeable on summer moonlit nights cruising down the river in their lighted ships. Hail to the pyrates!

CORPORATE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this code was adopted by the crew of the BLACKWATER PYRATES CREW, INC. at their general meeting held in 2008.

Revised by Captain Blackwater Bones Dec 31, 2010

Revised by Captain Hook'em Dano Dec 31, 2011.

Revised by Captain Fins Up December 2013

Revised by Captain White Beard January 2015

Revised by Captain Murky January 2019

CHANGES/DELETIONS/RE-WRITES

OBSOLETE: Captains Crew: These are the Pirates who pay the most dues, enjoy all the privilege of the crew, and ride on the boat. There will be 30 slots available on this crew level based on who signs up first. Once full, a waiting list will be formed in anticipation of someone falling on their sword. If a Captain's Crew member forfeits their position, they will get first choosin' when returning, thus passed over if they do not step forward. In other words, only so many folks can get on this boat, and it has to be those most serious about Pirate'n. They are expected to participate in most community events, take on educational roles, organize and chair committees, and make a local nuisance of themselves when it comes to Pirate'n. (Captain's Crew was voted out due to majority in 2007, All of crew is to be known as "Pirates" with exception of Offshore Pirates)

OBSOLETE: Junior Pyrates: Due to liability issues and out of respect for the parents of our Junior Pyrates the crew voted to bring them on as “affiliates”. Our Junior Pyrates will be known as Blackwater Pyrates, can choose to organize their own crew, use the Captain’s crew as advisors, come before the Captain’s crew for help in the organization of a separate crew. Junior Pyrates can receive the newsletter, participate in all events that do not have an adult theme, receive Pirate Store discounts, and recruit other Junior Pyrates. Junior Pyrates are those under the age of 21 years (2008).

OBSOLETE: Pirate Dues: Captain’s Crew: \$200.00 first - year - couple) and - \$175.00 each consecutive year-thereafter. Children \$100.00 per individual. (21 yrs/older) are considered single.

OBSOLETE: Pirate Dues: \$100.00 per family with unlimited family members.

OBSOLETE: Pirate Dues: Junior Pirate: No Charge.

REMOVE: Meetings of the Director Pyrates may be called by: *The Secretary upon the written request of two or more directors.*

It was voted in 2007 that the position of Captain’s Crew would be eliminated and that the designation of Pirate would be given to all members except those who resided too far away to enjoy local events and benefits. Those distant pyrates would continue to be referred to as Offshore Pyrates and have a different dues schedule. The pyrates went on to request that all

dues be standardized.

It was voted in **2007** that the position of Junior Pyrate would be done away with due to liability issues.

It was voted in **January of 2009** that we reduce the Pyrate membership to \$50.00/person (\$100.00/couple) for all pyrates beginning with the July 2009 season. In addition, New members who want to come on board should be able to sign up for \$25.00 and then re-up for \$50.00/person in July.

The term Vice Captain no longer used – **December 2011.**

Captain Bones (SBM) determined the term board pyrates to be confusing. The elimination of this term and others like it leaves the code with only two clear entities, pyrates and the board. - **December 2011.**

REMOVED: Captain's Crew level from text. Added "Captain" to Pyrate Levels and Definitions. – **December 2011**

DELETED: Junior Pyrates and revised Honorary Pyrates. - **December 2011**

Captains spending limit changed from \$500.00 to \$250.00 due to the Captain's ability to budget event captains. This change makes it easier for financial group to track event expenses. - **December 2011**

ADDED: Past Captains under crew levels. - **December 2011**

ADDED: Captains Flag: Discussion: In 2012 Captain Bones introduced “Captain’s Flags”. The flags depict a captain’s service by displaying Blackwater captain insignia, one for each year served. A captain with less than one years’ service does not receive a flag. It is felt that these flags should be paid for from the general fund. It is felt that the code should affect procurement, requirements to obtain, flying instructions (in relation to other flags flown) replacement and reassignment at yearly intervals (i.e. 1-year captain, 2-year captain, etc.) - **February 2013**

OBSOLETE: Current ship positions. This section of the code is outdated, conflicts with the financial committee definition and is ever-changing. The fact that it changes often makes this portion of the code questionable. Deletion of this portion of the code does not affect the intent of the financial committee. - **February 2013**

ADDED: New position: Keeper of the CODE (KC) - **July 2014**

ADDED: Merchandising Committee (MC): Purpose of committee is to manage inventory, pricing and acquisition of pyrate ware. - **October 2014**

OBSOLETE: **Sales Purveyor:** This individual will assign all buying and head the review and acquisition of products. This includes creation of a price list for the booth sales. This person will oversee the operations of two

store locations; store #1 The Old Post Office Antiques and Store #2 The NAS Whiting Field Exchange. This person will work closely with the financial officer. This person will be responsible for a quarterly inventory report to the Financial Committee. This position became obsolete when the Merchandising Committee was added to the CODE. - **January 2015**

DELETED: Secretary: The secretary is the source of recall for actions taken by the pyrates at meetings... The position of secretary was deleted and the responsibility of passing historic votes, changes to procedure and important discussions is now handled by the Captain who is responsible for passing items of importance to the Keeper of the Code, the Historian and the Newsletter captain forthwith most of our history is recorded. – **January 2015**

ADDED: New content: Procedures -The process of voting. Conducting the vote. Page 30
June 2017

Want to learn more about the
Blackwater Pyrate Crew?

Blackwaterpyrates.com