The following message is from 9th WR Commodore:

With the advent of COVID-19 still restricting us from in-person meetings, the National legal council and BSX has instituted the policy for holding online elections.

So far, I have been involved in 1 online election that was hosted by the national bridge.

This Friday, there will be a Zoom meeting with an individual from 9CR that is well versed in Election Buddy and Election Runner. Based on the limited experience of Election Runner, I am establishing Election Buddy as the program to use for the District Elections during the board meeting on Friday, October 23rd.

As it is written in the attached document, National is not dictating what program we use for elections, just that it meets the rules in the ⸻ Auxman and BSX/legal's guidance.

After the Zoom meeting September 18 ⸻ and a subsequent practice ballot and voting session, each ⸻ division will follow suite with a practice run and practice ballot ⸻ / online vote. The same should hold true for Flotillas.

It will be up to the Divisions ⸻ to support their Flotillas during their ⸻ elections. As national has stated in the ⸻ attached document, if there is a cost associated ⸻ with running the software for their election ⸻ (based on the number of voters), it will ⸻ be up to the flotilla to cover that cost. From ⸻ the feedback that I have received from ⸻ national calls, the cost is minimal (usually ⸻ around $20.00). All, as the AlCoast stated, ⸻ there will be no nominations from the floor ⸻ during this period of COVID-19. To offset that, ⸻ nominations will be accepted until 14 days prior to ⸻ the election. After that, no nominations will be ⸻ accepted. If only 1 member is running for an ⸻ elected position, no electronic voting is necessary There ⸻ will be 1 unanimous vote cast for the winner; therefore eliminating the need ⸻ for a online ballot.

FSO-PE Jay Samstag led an online boating safety seminar on August 1. Suddenly in Command highlights response to boating emergencies.
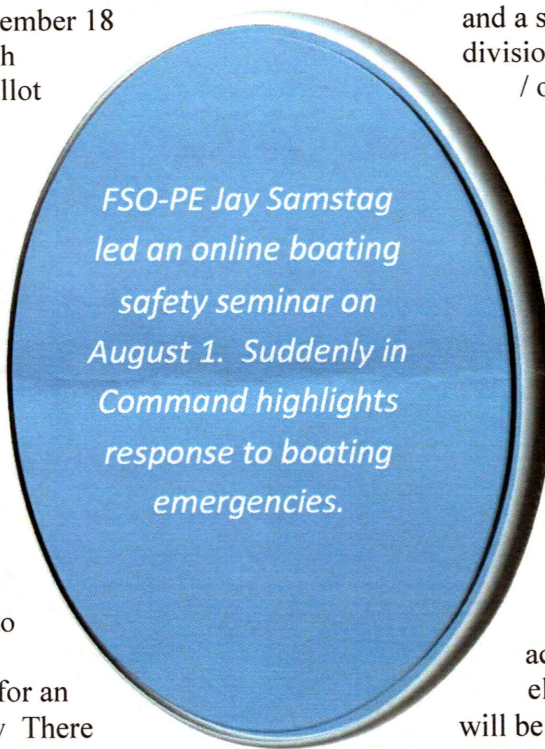
If a Division and/or Flotilla finds that 2 or more members are running for an elected position, I would highly recommend that the FSO-MT, VFC, FC or the SO-MT training their members how to have 2 online windows open. This can be done with 2 tabs in Internet Explorer / Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome or FireFox. (I'm not an Apple guy so I defer to anyone with Safari experience to provide guidance). Another alternative is one window in 1 browser and another window in a different browser. Lastly, you can have 2 computers running or 1 computer and 1 cell phone application.

One window would be the online meeting and one window will be the election ballot at a different web site.

Tom Mullally
DCO
Ninth Western