

Wendolyn & Zadoc White
285 Grove Road
Rye NH 03870

July 28, 2020

Portsmouth Yacht Club
PO Box 189
New Castle NH 03854

Dear Commodore Dowey and Board of Directors

In response to your email dated July 23 2020. It is our desire to let the record show that no “ due process” according to the bylaws, article III Section 2 was followed by you or the board. Your letter concerning our son Zadoc’s, year long suspension from the club was the first and only awareness of a problem or a complaint had been brought to the boards attention . In the bylaws it states that a member accused of a violation be notified within 10 days in writing and have a chance to address the situation personally. This was not the case.

Some time in mid July, Freida made a phone call to us informing us someone had complained that a questionable non member, being our son Zadoc was using our family boat. She stated she had no problem with him using the boat in-fact she was encouraged that a younger generation was engaging in boating. She stated the family membership guidelines are unclear and that she would allow Zadoc to continue. In response we as a family looked into the “family membership rules and found the definition of a family membership to be; representing a married couple living at the same address including their children under the age of 21. This being true for our family, we were in compliance.

Not given the chance to learn of a complaint puts us at a disadvantage to defend or explain any actions. Nor does it allow for us to litigate the situation as a family. Make certain that if a phone call from PYC was made to us upon complaint we would have immediately and effectively dealt with the situation, rest assured end of story.

Are you aware that the allege individual conducting the act of urinating was not our son but a guest of his. Yes he is responsible for guests while at the club but by no means does he have the ability to stop another’s persons choice to relieve himself. Secondly the club was locked due to COVID -19 protocols, this is not an excuse but a circumstance. At this time the club was locked and instructions on bathroom use were to use your key, we did not furnish Zadoc a key. Thirdly the alleged act was carried out

behind a truck door so a degree of desecration was involved. That said we do agree that the alleged outdoor urination was a poor judgement call. Many members who's conduct has resulted in a violation of PYC conduct or bylaws have resulted in no disciplinary actions taken or members have been given multiple warnings not a years suspension. Really does the act at hand fit the punishment? Maybe a months suspension or a seasons, or privileges only with a parent member present, but a full year suspension for a member who has had no opportunity to defend themselves or had any past infractions?

Our family has been members since 2008 During this 12 year period we have never been in violation of any club rule. Have been very courteous and respectful of the Club. Last year when the kitchen was constantly a disgrace and most likely at a health code violation level, we took hours out of our numerous visits to empty overflowing, fly infested trash, wash dishes left by others with no regard to their own responsibility. On one of these visits we spent 3 hours just washing and straightening out the kitchen. At last at the end of the season we simply stopped using the club house, it obviously had no leadership and was an embarrassment. We bring this up simply because we are responsible and abiding members who obviously take pride in the club and are invest to its betterment. To be better we must communicate effectively, if we had the chance to address this situation at hand we are confident we could have come to a fair resolution.

Zadoc understands the consequences of inappropriate behavior and has spoken to his friends, understands his part played as a responsible member. He has also expressed the enjoyment of meeting a few PYC members who in turn have given him nautical advice and new friendships. We as parents have in return heard from these members with admiration for Zadoc.

In conclusion to this letter it feels as though we have been unduly targeted, punished to the extreme. It is our hope that the board find its way to run the club as a non bias social entity and able to master its way through the numerous member infractions that will consistently arise.

Sincerely,

Wendy and Zed White

