

Sea Scout Ship 098 Bylaws

Bylaws of Sea Scout Ship 098

Article I: Name and Sponsorship

The name of this unit shall be Sea Scout Ship 098, hereafter referred to as "the Ship."

The Ship is chartered by American Legion Post 98 and operates under the authority of the Scouting America and the Sea Scouts program.

The Ship shall be registered with the local Scouting America council: South Florida Council.

Article II: Mission and Purpose

The mission of the Ship is to provide youth with opportunities for character development, citizenship training, leadership, and physical fitness through maritime and outdoor activities.

The Ship shall adhere to the Scout Oath and Law, the Sea Promise, and the Guide to Safe Scouting.

Article III: Membership

Membership is open to youth who meet Scouting America eligibility:

Are 14 years of age or 13 and completed the 8th grade, but not yet 21.

Agree to follow the Scout Oath, Law, Sea Promise, and all Ship rules.

Adults may apply to serve as volunteers subject to background checks and approval by the Chartered Organization and the Scouting America.

All members must be registered with Scouting America.

Article IV: Leadership

A. Youth Leadership (Quarterdeck)

Elections for Ship officers (Boatswain, Boatswain's Mate, Yeoman, Purser, and Storekeeper) shall be held biannually, September 1st, and March 1st

Youth leaders must be active members in good standing and demonstrate Scout spirit.

Responsibilities of each youth leadership position shall follow the Sea Scout Manual.

B. Adult Leadership

The Ship must have at least one Skipper and one or more Mates.

Adult leaders must be registered with Scouting America and complete Youth Protection and position-specific training.

The Skipper serves as the primary adult leader and mentor to the youth leadership.

The Committee Chair oversees the adult committee and ensures support for program and logistics.

Article V: Ship Meetings and Activities

The Ship shall meet biweekly at Shake A Leg, Coconut Grove, FL at 7:00pm.

Activities include sailing, boating, community service, advancement, and maritime skills.

Special events and outings shall be planned by the Quarterdeck with approval from the Skipper and Committee.

All activities will have a registration cut off date. If no date is published, the date will be 72 hours before the start of the event.

Bridge Of Honor will be held minimum twice a year, December and June. May also be held at the Committee's discretion as needed.

Landship ceremony will be held at all Bridge of Honor.

Article VI: Advancement

Members are encouraged to pursue Sea Scout ranks (Apprentice, Ordinary, Able, Quartermaster).

Advancement shall be tracked in accordance with Scouting America policies and verified by the Skipper or designated leader.

Quartermaster Boards of Review shall be conducted by the Council or Area Committee, not just the Ship.

Article VII: Code of Conduct

All members shall follow the Scout Oath and Law, Scouting America Youth Protection Guidelines, and the Sea Scout Code of Conduct.

Disciplinary actions may be taken for conduct unbecoming of a Scout, up to removal from the Ship.

Disciplinary decisions shall be made by the Skipper in consultation with the Committee.

Article VIII: Ship Committee

The Ship Committee shall support the program, fundraising, advancement, and health and safety.

Members include the Committee Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Advancement Chair, and other positions as needed.

Meetings shall be held monthly or as determined necessary by the Committee Chair.

Article IX: Finances

The Ship shall maintain a budget approved by the Committee.

Dues, fundraising, and donations shall be used for program costs, equipment, and activities.

A Treasurer shall keep accurate financial records and report regularly to the Committee.

Unit dues will be \$120/yr, one time payment due every year on September 1st.

Article X: Amendments

Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Ship Committee, following consultation with the Quarterdeck.

Amendments must align with Scouting America policies and the Sea Scout Manual.

2025/2026 School Year Committee

COR – Cristina Penna

Committee Chair – Mark Barros

Skipper – Will Serrano

Skipper's Mate – Program (Jon Johnson)

Skipper's Mate – Admin (Pinito Galvez and Maria Keel)

Treasurer – Maria Eugenia Chao

Consultant - Kristen Gasser

Consultant - Emily Kahn

Scout Positions to be voted on as per Article IV, section A:

Boatswain (pronounced: “ bow-sun”). Functions as president; reports to the Skipper.

Boatswain's Mate for Program Functions as a vice-president; reports to Boatswain. Is responsible for planning and execution of activities.

Boatswain's Mate for Administration Functions as a vice president; reports to Boatswain. Is responsible for recruitment, open houses, activities brainstorming, advancement, and ceremonies.

Yeoman Functions as the Ship secretary; reports to BM for Administration.

Purser Functions as the Ship youth treasurer; reports to BM for Administration.

Storekeeper Functions as the Ship officer in charge of equipment; reports to BM for Program.

Media Specialist Functions as the Ship webmaster and social media/public relations manager; reports to BM for Program.

Specialist A Ship officer with a specialized duty, in our case maintaining close communications with Shake A Leg and American Legion Post 98; reports to BM for Program.

Chaplain's Aide Maintains relations with the churches that let us use their facilities, organizes and directs all ceremonies (of any type).

Crew Chiefs (Patrol Leader) Supports the Boatswain, leads crews, gets RSVPs, collects fees with Purser.

Position that will be appointed by the Skipper:

Activity Chair Appointed by the Skipper as the Point of Contact for all activities.

Will work closely with Boatswain and Crew Chiefs

COR	Cristina Penna
Committee Chair	Mark Barros
Skipper	Will Serrano
Skipper' s Mate – Program	Jon Johnson
Skipper' s Mate – Admin	Pinito Galvez, Maria Keel
Treasurer	Maria Eugenia Chao
Consultant	Kristen Gasser
Consultant	Emily Kahn

Approved by Sea Scout Ship 098 on August 27, 2025.

Chartered by American Legion Post 98, CoralGables

Skipper: William Serrano

Committee Chair: Mark Barros