

# The Pennant

6 Sep 2009

## Newsletter of the Cayuga Lake Cruising Fleet

### First Race Day of the Fall Series, Sunday, September 6

This was one of those days when we were grateful that the weather forecast was wrong. That forecast had called for East winds of 0-5 knots. Instead we got a pretty steady North-easterly breeze of 5-10 knots.

Seven boats congregated to compete, among them for the first time the Cornell Sailing Team's J-24, SERENDIPITY.

For the first race, the fleet captain sent us north to the near Maplewood mark, then south to the West Shore mark, next back up to the Maplewood mark, and from there to the finish line at the Yacht Club. For the second race, we sailed essentially the same course, except that the first windward mark was the far Maplewood mark, about 3/4 of a mile further north than the near Maplewood one.

Both races were easily won by the J-24, MEHITABEI. Congratulations to Clare Fewtrell and crew! The complete race results and early Fall Series Standings are on the following page.

During the second race, there was a small ruckus at the start, when the Tanzer 25, FANTASY, got wedged in between the J-24, SNITCH, and the Catalina 30, INVICTUS, and FANTASY not only wound up going over the line early but also bumped INVICTUS. As a result, FANTASY had to turn around and re-cross the starting line and to perform two 360 degree penalty turns for colliding with another boat.

We decided to do the penalty turns after the second windward mark and were later told by the fleet captain that this was illegal since **the Racing Rules of Sailing specify that penalty turns have to be taken at the first possible opportunity**. Fortunately, we were not disqualified because the skipper of the INVICTUS did not protest us for bumping his boat. Thanks, Tim. We appreciate your kindness.

### Second Race Day of the Fall Series, Sunday, September 13

The skippers' meeting will be, as usual, at 12:45 at the South Pavilion of the Yacht Club. We again plan to sail two races. The start for the first race will be at 1:30, wind permitting.

See you at the South Pavilion!

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