



The Pennant

20 May 2012

Newsletter of the Cayuga Lake Cruising Fleet

First Race Day of the Spring Series, Sunday May 20

The Spring Series started not with a bang but a whimper. Instead of the 7 knots of wind from the south that the forecast predicted, we got a zephyr that vacillated between 0 and perhaps 6 knots. But worst of all, the direction from which it came veered wildly from south to north and back again. As a result of these conditions, several boats occasionally traveled backward rather than forward. Also because there was so little wind, we were unable to sail two races and had to be content with one.

On the positive side, though, we had an unusually good turnout: It's been a long time since we had seven boats show up for the first race day of the season.

The competitors were Mel Richards with his C&C 30, LORELEI; Tim Bonniwell with his Catalina 30, INVICTUS; Richard Stephens with his Corsair 28, TREVELYAN; Eberhard Alsen with his Tanzer 25, FANTASY; Garth and Roger Dennis with their Melges 24, SMILING BULLDOG; and Clare Fewtrell and David Feavearyear with their J-24s MEHITABEL and SNITCH.

The fate of FANTASY illustrates what kind of frustrating day can be had on the water. As we were drifting around the windward mark and had just raised our spinnaker, a breeze suddenly sprung up from the south, blew the spinnaker against the mast, and pushed us back a couple of boat lengths behind the mark. By the time we had dropped the chute and run up the genoa, the wind had shifted to the north again, and we had to take evasive action to avoid hitting the mark. We finally made it around that buoy on our third try.

By contrast, the gods of the winds smiled on Richard Stephen's TREVELYAN, and the Dennis brothers' SMILING BULLDOG. TREVELYAN took line honors and BULLDOG finished 6 minutes later but won on corrected time.

Second Race Day of the Spring Series, Sunday May 27

Let's pray for more wind next Sunday so we can to get two races in. The skippers' meeting will be at 12:45 at the South Pavilion of the Ithaca Yacht Club. The first start will be at 1:30.

See you at the South Pavilion.

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Race Results, Sunday, May 20

Spring Series Race #1

Start: 13:30

Wind N/S 0-6-0

Course CA

<u>Boat</u>	<u>TonT</u>	<u>FT</u>	<u>ET</u>	<u>CT</u>
Smiling Bulldog	1.0015	15:14:00	1:44:00	1:44:10
Trevelyan	1.0980	15:08:20	1:38:20	1:47:58
Invictus	0.8978	15:35:47	2:05:47	1:52:56
Snitch	0.9053	15:35:42	2:05:42	1:53:48
Mehitabel	0.9053	15:42:20	2:12:00	1:59:30
Lorelei	0.9168	15:48:00	2:18:00	2:06:31
Fantasy	0.8868	16:23:37	2:53:37	2:33:57