



# The Pennant

2 July, 2019

Newsletter of the Cayuga Lake Cruising Fleet

## You know you want to race in the Red Jacket Regatta

Even the people who aren't going to be in town want to race in the Red Jacket Regatta! This race has happened for more years than I've been around! It goes from the Ithaca Yacht Club to the Red Jacket Yacht Club every Summer! There are a lot of different elements and pieces to this that might encourage you to go:

- The action, adventure and drama of the high seas of Cayuga Lake
- Sailing
- Camaraderie
- Maintaining tradition
- Fun
- Camping
- Having something to do
- The cheap drinks
- Your own personal reasons for wanting to do a distance race (or course) on a boat followed by good/fun times on shore
- Your own personal reasons for wanting to drive (gasp!) 30 miles to come up and hang out with any of those with any of the aforementioned motivations
- D: Other
- E: All of the above

So, without further ado, I give you the formal race announcement!

### Red Jacket Regatta - July 27!

Please register and pay for meals now (address just below)!

Join us for our annual race to the Red Jacket Yacht Club on July 27. A mooring field and dock are available. Spend the night on your boat or camp on the beautiful grounds (bring your own tent). They have a wonderful saltwater pool & shower facilities.

There is a cash bar (with very reasonable prices!) and a chicken BBQ (\$14 each). **RJYC requests that dinners be paid in advance:**

**Send a check to Susan Witherup (Vice Commodore of IYC) by July 10.**  
587 E Miller Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850; [Switherup@ithaca.edu](mailto:Switherup@ithaca.edu); 607-592-6117

**If you miss the July 10 deadline, send your check (by July 13) to:**

Paul Kolb (RJYC Fleet Captain) [pkolb41@gmail.com](mailto:pkolb41@gmail.com) or 585-732-3024 (you have to figure it all out this way. I suggest using the previous method – it sounds simpler and more reliable!)

**If you plan to race to RJYC, please contact:** Rick Bray (CLCF Fleet Captain) by text/phone at +1 (607) 222-5350 or at [CayugaLakeCruisingFleet@gmail.com](mailto:CayugaLakeCruisingFleet@gmail.com)

## 50 Mile Night race next week!

The next important thing to discuss is the 50 mile night race. That's happening in a bit over a week. Now... Tim and I discussed things at length and came to the conclusion that it should start Friday, July 12, between the Flagpole and the A mark off of IYC at 6PM. All you have to do is to sail up the lake, around the buoy at 51A and back to that starting line. Please make a note of your GPS finish time!

Tim and I came to this conclusion because right now we are helming the only 2 boats that I know are sailing and (wait for it) I have (apparently) been named RC for the race so what I say (with input from those actually going only really whatever I feel like in the end) goes. So, ahem, 6PM start. July 12. IYC. I'll post the Sailing Instructions (the previous paragraph plus a little bit) before 5PM, July 12, at the IYC South Pavilion and will try to hold a skippers' meeting at 5:22PM (no promises). Carry a VHF and tune to channel 80A for a while around the start of the race because maybe something will change although... The distance races tend to be pretty much set in stone – you do it or you don't do it. It takes 10 hours or it takes 36 hours (or more). Ah well. Anyway, I'll get you Sailing Instructions with the next Pennant.

## Latitude 2 this week!

Sunday we'll have the second Latitude race! This will have a skippers' meeting at 1 and a race at 2. It might be more exciting than previous Latitude races in that we might sail distances based on PHRF instead of latitude based on PHRF. That is to say that we had some kind of oral agreement at Latitude 1 that would allow Richard to make some kind of courses for different distances that would have each boat sail around a virtual mark based on both the major distance (A, B, C, D, E) of the traditional Latitude races plus some factor for PHRF. Thus, to repeat myself, we'll sail around some latitude \_and\_ longitude that would make the distance sailed relative to our handicaps. Thus, again and as always in the Latitude series, the scoring would be directly determined by the order in which boats cross the finish line.

## Latitude 1 – last week!

Well, ha! This was the part that you cared about the most, no? Tough. I had to convey the other bits. They're important and require your action! Now! Please!

Right... Latitude 1. Well, that was this past Sunday. And a Sunday it was! As was noted elsewhere, the forecast called for 64F, overcast and 13kts NW [or whatever I saw. 15kts max] (gusting 20). As Tim would say, the weather liars got that a bit wrong. It was more like 75F, partly cloudy and 18kts NW gusting 27kts. Well, 18 is more than 15. In fact, while that looks like a 20% difference, as it happens the power of the wind goes up by cube of the wind speed so 18 is approximately 8,000 times more wind power than 15. OK, there is more than one math problem with that last equation, but, trust me when I tell you that it was much windier than forecast.

The start of the race was interesting and difficult with the strong NW wind blowing. *Quetzal III* (Q3) had planned on starting outside the pin (non-Fleet boats can do that) on starboard (strategic skippers will decide to do that) – to pin all of the other boats close to shore. Well, as it happened, we were mostly either on the early side (*Snitch*, Q3) or late side (*Trevelyan*,

*Mehitabel* among others) to the line and thus Q3 left first across the line – a bit on the pin side and on starboard – well before the others came across. (Although, again, Q3's strategy had actually been to cross much higher... The error in line position was born out across the Fleet with most being too high/far back and Q3/*Snitch* being too low/close in.)

But you'll be happy to know that we did, in fact, all start to race! And race we did – up and across and back and such for some time. “For some time” as the RC had set the latitude standard distance to D – 4 NM of latitude change (with adjustments for handicap) up and, of course, the same back.

Four of the six boats racing, indeed, the first four of the six boats to cross the finish line, flew chutes on the way back as it was no longer 18 gusting 27 but rather a more sedate 15 gusting 20.

Thus we have it that *Trevelyan* passed by *Snitch* near *Far Maplewood* – and went on to finish first. In the next group of boats we had Q3 – staying towards the middle of the lake – catching up on (although never overtaking) *Mehitabel* – who hugged the West shore. Finally we had *Fantasy* running wing-on-wing ahead of *Ripple*.

I do hope that all who came out enjoyed the day – I found it to be some pretty spectacular sailing weather, myself!

### Latitude changes?

Clare would like to see the races be “more interesting”. Richard proposed the previously-mentioned “distance for PHRF” (vs. existing latitude for PHRF) and we agreed to try that out another time. Given that the Latitude series clearly draws more boats into the racing series it does not seem prudent to change it to an “around-the-buoys” series unless there is some other change. Charles (that's me) notes that on no wind days it's impossible to be more interesting and the races will lose boats in bringing in around-the-buoys races on our least competitive days. We'll all observe and comment and perhaps change things more in the future but for now a latitude/distance-based as decided upon at the Spring meeting is what we're going to do – with small potential modifications for distances sailed.

More importantly and directly relating to this season, we do have the change that says that we get 1 (ONE) throwout after 5 (FIVE) races instead of the previous 2 throwouts after 6 races. This gives a little more incentive to show up to race, I suppose! And, hey, I'm cool with that. I like sailing/racing.

### Latitude Standings

Oh, well, we raced. Boats crossed, etc. Results are always available online! This series is up at <http://www.cruisingfleet.org/Results/2019Latitude.html> but there's only been this one race so the standings are pretty clear: *Trevelyan*, *Snitch*, *Mehitabel*, Q3, *Fantasy*, *Ripple*. Any Questions???

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<http://www.CruisingFleet.org>