



The Pennant

24 June 2020

Newsletter of the Cayuga Lake Cruising Fleet

Fleet Captain's Spring Meeting Notes

Can we just reset the clock – back to Spring? Back to the Spring meeting? It was the early days of Covid... A few days before New York went on lockdown, really. Uncertain, sure, and dangerous but it still felt safer in those days. Well, fine. I know we can't. We'll go on with what we have and we'll make the best of it that we can! And, under the rules that we expect to have in place Friday of this week, we'll actually have real, authentic and fully authorized racing this coming weekend! And if we can't I'll shoot you a last-minute correction...

The Masses Have Spoken! And Spoken and Spoken!

As with any good corrupt politician I grandiosely encouraged you all to vote often. I was making a political joke in this a week of primary elections and yet my people heard and my people answered the call! And so many of you voted so very many times! It did make things more interesting when it came to tallying the votes but the votes have been tallied and the rest of the year is now set in stone – WE SHALL RACE. And the schedule is attached (and clearer on actual dates). And totally set in stone bar all of the caveats that Covid brings.

And the masses voted overwhelmingly for a summer series composed of a combination of styles of racing. What it will be is 6 days of racing with half of the days in the Memory Map Summer Virtual Mark Series [MMSVMS] and half of the days as buoy racing. This will make for one grand summer series of a total of 9 races (there are 2 buoy races a day when they happen).

Memory Map Summer Virtual Mark Series [MMSVMS]

Now, the MMSVMS sailing instructions are very much like the Latitude Series sailing instructions with one very important difference. That difference is that each boat will sail around a virtual mark in the center of the lake instead of sailing to a latitude.

Practically... The Race Committee will decide if we are racing to point A, B, C, D or E. The reference boat, a J/24, will sail 2 miles for point A – one mile up and one mile back. Each additional letter further on the list adds another 2 miles to the distance sailed by the reference boat. Now... The distance that a given boat sails is a function of their own handicap relative to the handicap of the J/24. Boats with a lower PHRF will sail further up the lake and those with a higher PHRF will have less distance to cover.

The attached spreadsheet gives a complete listing of the virtual marks that need to be rounded for each handicap and each of the letter distances. If you have questions or concerns or need a handicap please do not hesitate to reach out! We have more

documentation, GPX files and examples that we can share with anyone and, of course, we can answer your questions and concerns!

Basically, I advise that you print out your two handicap lines from the spreadsheet - the one with your normal rating and the one with 12 additional points for when you declare, before the race, that you will not be flying a spinnaker.

Summer Buoy Racing

The rules for this summer's buoy racing will resemble, very strongly, our normal Spring and Fall sailing instructions. Those will change a tiny bit to explicitly state that the "non-spinnaker" handicap bonus is 12 points. Other than that things will be largely the same.

So I have attached Latitude sailing instructions (SIs), Spring Series SIs and MMSVMS virtual marks. We'll get some SIs for this series finalized before the weekend so that you can know what to expect!

But how will it really work?

Well... You'll have to show up to find out! At the skippers' meeting the Race Committee will decide if the day will be MMSVMS or buoy based on weather conditions, who shows up and if there are still any days left to race of one type or of the other (reminder! It's 50/50 so 3 days will be MMSVMS and 3 days will be buoys!). This brings the series to a total of 9 races. There will be 2 throwouts in the series - your two highest point scores will be discarded. This means that you can miss 1 or perhaps even 2 days out of the 6 day series without much of a penalty. In the schedule I'm calling all of this the Summer Thing Series just to keep it ambiguous!

Oh, and we sailed for Sailstice

This past weekend was Father's Day, the solstice and the annual Sailstice event. We had some really pleasantly sunny skies and decent winds on Sunday and plenty of boats were seen out and about. And when we were celebrating Sailstice, on Saturday, it was freaking hot and awfully quiet on the water. Still, I think there must have been 10 boats out (including kayaks) to celebrate with us. In the few hours boats were out most of us managed to drift all of the way across the lake and back for a whopping average VMG of something like a knot. Still, *Phoenix* did pop her chute (racing is getting real again!) and made it up to Myers looking like they were sailing the whole way. Although I am quite sure that they motored back!

And, again, Sunday there were a number of boats out just celebrating sailing informally and it sure looked like *Slippery Fish* (reminder: that's how you'll be known until you tell me otherwise!) got their rigging sorted and popped their chute, too! It's looking like there's going to be some exciting races this year!!!

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