

Race Commander Report

Jan 24, 2019

Racing is already underway, with the Keel Fleet Redeye Regatta in the books. Unfortunately, the first Frostbite Series race cancelled. It was very windy and gusty last Saturday, cold but warming up. Most of the members who showed up were OK, since they apparently believe the code flags "N over A" stands for "meet at Infamous Brewery".

The race calendar is full this year, I have proposed 31 Series Races, and we have 3 club regattas, and multiple other fleet-organized regattas, and one-day events as well. There will be plenty of opportunities for members to volunteer their time on RC, and to race.

We have some changes on PRC, some new members, as well as some very experienced folks to provide continuity. We have met several times already, to plan the RC training seminar on Jan 12th, and to publish NOR & S.I.s for Frostbite. I am communicating frequently with the Fleet Captains, and continue to solicit their input on race formats, issues, and how to improve.

The PRC planned and delivered the RC Training event on Jan 12th, using the 2019 edition of our RC Handbook. About 37 folks showed up for RC Training, and we worked through many of the scenarios that are experienced when your fleet provides RC for the Series races. This is the 3rd time I have "presented" a portion of the content. We continue to refine the "curriculum", and as follow-up we will be offering hands-on training as needed. Examples of ad hoc sessions we are willing to provide include motorboat driving, setting marks, iPad/scoring (Call Ed Pierce) and also for "teams" from fleets, we can provide time on the Signal Boat for practice on timing & flags. We have reviewed and updated our equipment checklists, and have chase boat "shutdown" procedures documented on laminated cards on each boat. We will have another RC Seminar later in the year, probably just before Fall Series.

We continue to work to improve post-race Scoring – not just in the promptness after the race, but we hope to make it easier for scoring Committee to deliver accurate results promptly. We have a new iPad with a cellular plan, enabling email of results directly from the iPad, to the scoring room. During the RC training on Jan 12th, it seemed to me that among the members who were attending, there was renewed interest in making the iPad work for us, and maybe less struggling against it. We need a new desktop PC in the office for Scoring committee, the existing one is too old & slow, and only has 2010 free (i.e. limited & not every compatible) software.

We have many goals for the PRC this year, but I need to mention one goal for myself that I did not complete last year. I still want to do this, but I need help. I want to race on a boat, in each of the different fleets we have, throughout the year, as a way of improving my understanding of the needs of each of the fleets.

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