

Sail Fleet Captain Turnover

12-12-2012

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BUDGET:

Usually requested by December. The previous year's expenses serve as a good guide.

RACE SCHEDULE:

Need to formulate schedule during the December/January timeframe. Contact Morro Bay Yacht Club to coordinate dates with them (specifically the lake races, which they like to attend,) although they also attended most of the ocean races in 2012. You might also contact the sailing club at Cal Poly and the Central Coast Hobie Class Association (see <http://www.hobiefleet259.com> for current contact info).

Lake Races:

- Typically held the 2nd Sunday in **February** at Lopez, **March** at Santa Margarita and a Saturday and Sunday in **April** at Lopez, including camp-over Saturday night. You may want to move the race dates around for the April race in order to receive substantial discount on the campsite rates. (Winter versus Spring rates.) Also, you should try to avoid days when fishing tournaments are scheduled (see <https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FishingContests/default.aspx> for the most current contest schedule.
- You'll need to apply for **day use permits** for the races at Lopez and Margarita, as well as **reservation for campground** at Lopez (Escondido in past years) if doing a camp-over weekend (there is a fee for these permits). Do this as soon as race schedule is established. Your contacts are:
 - Lopez permit contact number is 788-2381
 - Santa Margarita Lake contact number is 788-2397
- Need to provide a Certificate of Liability Insurance to Lopez and Margarita. Contact Susan Stinson (Clark Marine Insurance Services) at 800-695-1995 for a copy. Ask her to send a copy to both locations. I would ask your contact at Lopez and Santa Margarita for current addresses where the proof of insurance will be mailed.

Ocean Races:

- Generally held **first Sunday of May, June, July, August, September, & October**. (In 2012 we moved the race day to the Sunday after Labor Day because Labor Day weekend races have not been well attended.)
 - An additional race day was held in mid-July in 2012, resulting in two race days in July.
 - You'll need to get Marine Event Permits from the Coast Guard for each ocean race (no cost for these permits). My contact in 2012 was Guy.W.Langman@uscg.mil (310-521-3867).

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You can apply for all permits at the beginning of the season, but you need to apply at least 30 days before each race.

- Although not required, to ensure that the Harbor Patrol is aware of our races, deliver a copy of the Marine Event Permit (or application) to the PSL Harbor District office, along with a copy of the Notice of Race and PHRF course chart.
- Zongo Yachting Cup: Beginning in 2009 the calypso band, *Zongo All-Stars* (Paul Irving, 441-3344, of the MBYC), has sponsored a Race/Cruise from Morro Bay to Avila Beach typically on the 3rd Friday of August. The SLYC has been hosting the group during the normal Friday Social Hour. Trophies are handled by the *Zongo All-Stars*.

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TROPHIES

- Assume that there will be two 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place trophies for each race. (This includes Monohull and multihull at the lakes) and the larger PHRF boats and the smaller ‘centerboard’ boats on the ocean.
 - Assuming 4 races on the lakes, and 7 races on the ocean, the totals would be:
 $4 + 7 = 11$ races, @ two awards each race day = 22 each 1st, 2nd & 3rd place awards (total of 66).
- We have had our trophies engraved at **Trophy Hunters** in SLO. I attempted to get blank mugs (find at Dollar Store sometimes, or department stores who have Libby stuff on sale) to take into the trophy store to have them engraved (typically \$7.50 each). Or, you can buy the trophies and have them engraved there. Or go somewhere else...
- Also plan for a trophy and plaque to be made up for the winner of the Lake series (Monohull and Multihull) that are placed on the side of the Lopez Cup. Take the entire Lopez Cup to Trophy Hunters and they will take care of engraving and replacing the plaque on the Cup.
- Similarly, a trophy and plaque needs to be made up for the ocean races, for the larger PHRF boats (for the Avila Cup) and another for the PSL Small Boat Cup. (Same process as for Lopez Cup.)
- These ‘plaques’, would be placed on the respective Cups prior to Opening Day the following year. During Opening Day, the overall winners of the Lake and Ocean series would be presented with the trophies, and made aware that a plaque has been placed on the respective Cups (in the trophy case).

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RUNNING THE RACES

The **power fleet captain** is responsible for arranging a **chase boat** coverage for both lake and ocean races. Typically, a **committee** boat and **chase** boat are needed for the lake races. The committee boat is a pontoon type boat (preferably) from which the race committee runs the races. Alternatively, the Race Committee could run the lake races from shore. The **chase** boat is very important, however. The **chase** boat helps with setting marks, and ‘rescuing’ people as needed during the races.

Lake Races

- Volunteers will be needed (recruited) to help on the race committee. Four people works great. The more the merrier.
- **Sandwiches and drinks** need to be provided for the race committee (including for the chase boat). Sandwiches can be ordered from Von’s or Albertsons the day before a race, with pickup at 8am the day of the race. They can also be picked up from Subway the morning of the race.

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- Bring the race paraphernalia, which includes:
 - Box with horn, placards, binoculars, etc
 - Flag poles and flags
 - Four orange buoys with weights
 - VHF to communicate with some of the boats
 - Record box with entry forms; Data Entry forms; etc...
 - Official Clock (a small Radio Shack atomic clock)
 - Course Number Holder
 - Computer to do the scoring. Since 2011, we have been utilizing SailWave (a free program) to score the races. Information about SailWave is available on their website at <http://www.sailwave.com/>. This can be done with hand calculations.
 - Trophies (2 each 1st, 2nd, and 3rd) Very important! (be prepared for multihulls, but none may show)
- We try to run 3 races, or finish up by 4pm
- Awards are given out in the parking lot, or wherever is convenient

Ocean Races

- These are easier since the races are run from the end of the Avila Pier.
- At least 30 days before each event, apply for a Marine Event Permit from the Coast Guard. This will notify mariners, local organizations and any others interested that you will be having an event. This will put marine rescue agencies on notice, which may help increase response in the event of an emergency. You can call 310-521-3867 to apply for the permit.
- Although not required, to ensure that the Harbor Patrol is aware of our races, deliver a copy of the Marine Event Permit (or application) to the PSL Harbor District office, along with a copy of the Notice of Race and PHRF course chart.
- A chase boat is needed – but not a committee boat because we run the races from the pier.
- Again, volunteers will be needed for the race committee. Similar numbers as for lake.
- Bring the race paraphernalia, similar to the lake, however,
 - Lunches are not essential, but a light lunch would be appreciated by Race Committee volunteers. Do bring snacks and drinks
 - Additional race marks are needed - and are set in place by the Chase Boat
- We try to finish up before 4pm (need to allow time for the racers to get back, water taxi, lift, etc.
- Return to the clubhouse to calculate the corrected times and hand out trophies.
- Open the bar – they are thirsty!!
- Pizza or other snacks at SLYC clubhouse are appreciated by the racers when they come back.
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SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS FROM HARBOR PATROL

Before Race

- Weather – consider Captain experience and skill level along with the vessels' capabilities with the expected conditions. Do not be apprehensive about canceling/postponing a trip or event.
- At least 30 days before each event, file a Marine Event Permit application with the Coast Guard. This will notify mariners, local organizations and any others interested that you will be having an event. This will put marine rescue agencies on notice, which may help increase response in the event of an

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emergency. While this is not required, it is strongly recommended. You can call 310-521-3867 to apply for the permit.

- Prior to getting underway or starting an event, do radio checks with all radios. You can hail the Harbor Patrol on marine channel 16. Ask to switch to channel 09 or 12 for a radio check. Do not do a radio check with the Coast Guard.
- Make sure that each boat has a VHF radio that remains turned on from the time the racer leaves the skipper's meeting until they arrive back at the Club.
- Make sure that all racers are wearing PFD at all times during the race.

Responding to Emergencies

- Identify nature of emergency, geographical position, number of people on board, description of vessel.
- Notify the Coast Guard via a "May Day" broadcast on marine channel 16. The Coast Guard has 24 hour per day radio watch in both Morro Bay and LA/Long Beach. If the Harbor Patrol is on duty they should also hear this transmission and respond.
- Do not transmit emergency traffic on other channels unless asked to switch to a different channel by the Coast Guard or Harbor Patrol. Continue on channel 16 until contact is made. If another person is available to call 911, have them do so, but continue to transmit on 16.
- There are many variables that can inhibit emergency communications. Radio dead spots are common on the Central Coast. Communications are often unreadable if the person on the radio is in windy conditions and the wind hits the microphone. Marine radios are "line of sight" which means that buildings, headlands, large swells, etc. between the transmitting radio and the receiving radio can have negative effects on radio communications. Having the volume turned too low on the transmitting radio will make the person transmitting feel as if nobody is hearing them. These are just some of the things to think about if having difficulties communicating.

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Checklist for **Lake Races** (Items to be taken to Lake)

- FLAGS / POLES / BOX OF RACE STUFF**
 - 1½ inch T shaped pole – or
 - ½ inch 6 foot wooden poles for raising and lowering flags by hand
 - 'D' class flag for Monohull; 'U' class flag for Multihull; 'I' flag (yellow with dark circle in center is Preparatory flag.
 - Misc Individual Recall, General Recall, Race Postponement, etc
 - Race Course number holders

- BUOYS** (Orange buoys with line and 10lb mushroom weights)
 - Three needed for Lopez and Margarita. Bring a fourth in case it is needed for a start line when no committee boat is available. Also useful if one of the existing lake buoys is missing.

- CLOCK (check batteries)**

- FORMS** (kept in plastic filing box)
 - Course Charts / Sailing Instructions
 - Entry Forms
 - Data Collection form
 - Timing sequence sheet

- AWARDS**
 - Need two each 1st, 2nd, and 3rd awards, one set for Monohull class and the other for multihull class. Awards are handed out after races, either in parking lot, marina store, or whatever works.

- LUNCHESES**
 - Need lunches and drinks for race committee (includes committee boat and safety boat). Can be ordered from Von's or Albertsons, for pickup at 8am Sunday, or picked up from Subway.

- VHF**
 - Charge battery before races (have non-rechargeable batteries on hand)
 - Used for communicating with safety boat and whoever may have one

- COMPUTER**
 - Needed to compute corrected times for races. Since 2011, a computer program called 'SailWave' has been used to score the races. A hand calculation sheet is available if a computer is not available.

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Checklist for **Ocean Races** (Most items to be taken to end of Pier)

- FLAGS / POLES / BOX OF RACE STUFF**
 - 1½ inch T shaped pole.
 - 'D' Class flag for PHRF; 'U' Class flag for PSL small boat; Yellow flag with dark circle in center is Preparatory flag.
 - Miscellaneous Individual Recall, General Recall, Race Postponement flags, etc
 - Race course number holders

- CLOCK (check batteries)**

- FORMS** (kept in plastic filing box)
 - Course Charts / Sailing Instructions
 - Entry Forms
 - Data Collection form
 - Timing sequence sheet

- AWARDS** (kept in clubhouse)
 - Need two each 1st, 2nd, and 3rd awards, one set for Avila Cup Series and the other for PSL Small Boat Cup Series. Awards are handed out after races, in the clubhouse.

- SNACKS / WATER**
 - Need munchies (trail mix bars, etc) and water for Race Committee (includes committee boat and safety boat). These are brought out to the end of the pier. Light lunch would be appreciated by committee volunteers
 - Snacks for racers (and race committee) after races – We have been getting a couple of pizzas from Costco to bake in oven after races. Scrounge around for leftovers from the brunch.
 - Open the bar, if a board member is available

- VHF**
 - Charge battery before races (have non-rechargeable batteries on hand)
 - Used for communicating with safety boat and PHRF boats, who usually have a radio. We have been using channel 9 (use channel 12 or 16 for contacting the Harbor Patrol for emergency assistance)

- COMPUTER**
 - Needed to compute corrected times for races. Since 2011, a computer program called 'SailWave' has been used to score the races. A hand calculation sheet is available if a computer is not available.

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