

SM Sailing
Monthly Meeting Minutes
May 6, 2009

Meeting called to order at 19:30 by Nick Peirson

Present on call: Nick Peirson, Cotuit Mosquito YC, Rob Hurd, Tabor Academy, Doug Calnan, Scituate Harbor YC, Peter Johns, Wianno YC, Joel Hanneman, Beverly YC, Rick Shulz, Falmouth YC, Sarah Wilsterman, Stage Harbor YC, Andy Herlihy, New Bedford YC, Tim Bryant, Edgartown YC, Sonja Stevens, Vineyard Haven YC, John Fields, Hyannis YC, Phyllis Partrdige, Beverly YC, Alex Howland, DBMS, Liz Patten, Stage Harbor YC

Nick Peirson welcomed all. He proceeded immediately into updating club representatives on the call with the ongoing development of the 2009 summer skills clinics.

1. Optimist Fleet Racing Skills Clinics

Gold: June 29-30 at Wianno YC. This is for top tier Opti racers. It has the same requirements as last year's clinic which generally sailors who have top 20 finishes in final standings of major Opti / Junior regattas they've competed in.

Silver: July 1-2 at Cotuit Mosquito YC. This is for the next tier of Opti racers. This is not a clinic for beginners or Green Fleet level sailors.

Sturgis Boat Works will sponsor both clinics.

2. 420 Fleet Racing Skills Clinics

SM Sailing is all set for date/host location of the two clinics:

Hyannis YC: June 13-14

Falmouth YC: July 13. Girl only.

Rob Hurd said that online registration should be active on June 1. Interested sailors can register online via Regatta Networks. Rob said the SM Sailing website will have a link to Regatta Networks online registration too.

3. 420 Team Racing Skills Clinics

Joel Hanneman reported that several clubs have stepped forward to possibly host each respective A Level clinic. He was still looking for a host for the B Level clinic.

A Level: July 2 at Wianno YC.

B Level: July 9 – Scituate expressed an interest in hosting this clinic and will report back to Joel.

A Level: July 23 – Both Stone Horse YC and Chatham YC were mentioned as possible interested hosts.

Joel mentioned that he's experiencing some good interest level among sailors and coaches for all clinics. There's also good level of interest in the team racing championship to be conducted in August at Beverly YC. Joel mentioned that he intends to close online registration for all clinics by mid-June. Did not mention a specific date. Stay tuned. Joel would like to close registration for team racing championship by the end of July.

There was also some discussion on what the entry fee should be for each clinic. It was generally agreed that SM Sailing needs to cover the cost of bringing in these premier coaches. We should recognize this is a value-added event for all SM Sailing member clubs and their junior sailors. The fee needs to be nominal so we cover if not all, then at least most of the cost of conducting each clinic.

Whether it be Opti or 420, it was generally agreed that the charge for each sailor should be around \$25; \$50 for each 420 tandem. Further information is required on the cost of hiring coaches before we derive at a final fee.

4. Program Directors Call and Coaches Call

Nick mentioned that the call last year was on May 27 with a follow-up call approx. two weeks later. He reported that he is scheduling in this year's call as follows:

Weds, May 27 @ 7:30 p.m. Program Directors and Coaches Conference Call

Weds, June 10 @ 7:30 p.m. Follow-up call to above.

At this time, all respective Club Reps for SM Sailing should contact their Program Director's and Coaches and notify them of these upcoming calls. Some basic agenda items that were referred to as being covered by the call were skills clinics, ladder events, grand prix, team racing championship, etc. As a complement to the information contained on the SM Sailing website, all monthly conference call minutes are posted for all Program Directors and Coaches to use as additional reference.

Nick asked if everyone felt another monthly meeting would be required after the next scheduled May 18 conference call. Rob Hurd felt there would not be a need. If needed, Club Reps could jump on the Program Directors call in late May and mid-June. Nick stated that we will resume these Club Rep meetings in September to debrief ourselves of 2009 summer SM Sailing.

Edgartown then asked if other clubs are promoting other boats or new boats besides the Optimist, Club 420 and Laser. Vineyard Haven mentioned that they would be expanding their fleet of Bics. They would be racing them this summer too. The Bic has been a benefit to those junior sailors that the Optimist has been not optimal for.

Meeting adjourned at 20:00

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Calnan