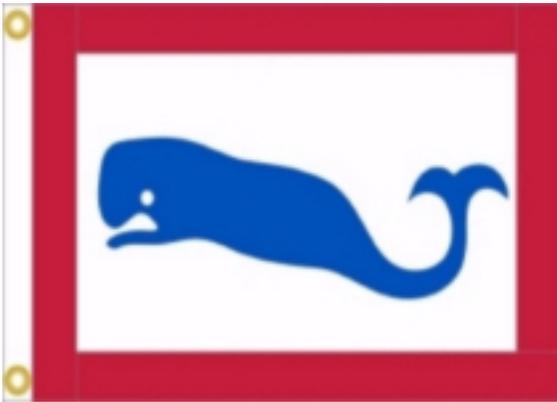


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Week in SMSA: July 16, 2015

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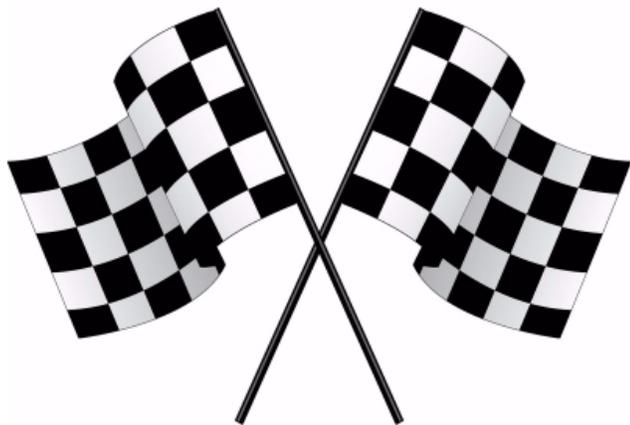
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### ***For Your Consideration: Sportsmanship Awards***

I have been lucky enough to be at a bunch of regattas already this summer and in each case there was a "Sportsmanship Award" given out. And, in each case the award was not given for an act of sportsmanship but instead, it went to the person who finished last. I know what the well intended regatta chairs were trying to do, but in each case it called attention in a very public way to a child who had floundered along all day and finished dead-last. In one case, I watched a kid cry because he was awarded the trophy. Sportsmanship is hard to define, but we all know good examples of it when we see them. Maybe it is the yacht club team that comes to the event chair after racing to shake their hand and say thank you. Maybe it is the kid who loans his race gloves to a teammate who forgot them that day. Maybe it is the kid who does his penalty turns on the Opti course. Those are examples of the Corinthian Spirit that defines sportsmanship. Finishing last is an example of perverseness. So next time your club holds a regatta, re-consider the sportsmanship award. Give a trophy for a positive attitude, award a mid-fleet trophy, or hold a raffle at the end. The goal is the recognition of good behavior above and beyond the score. I think that we can all be more creative in the manner with which we do that.



The 2015 [SMSA Grand Prix](#) is underway. The C420 first scoring race was New Bedford Jr Regatta with Vineyard Haven and Falmouth the next two stops. The Optis opened with New Bedford, and Stone Horse with Edgartown the third leg of the series.

[C420 standings](#)

[Opti Standings](#)

Questions, comments, & concerns can be address to [me](#). With so much data begin entered, there are bound to be some mistakes. If you point them out, I can fix them quickly.



**[This Week in SMSA: July 16- July 21](#)**

7/16-7/18: Edgartown Jr. Regatta  
7/20-7/21: Vineyard Haven Jr. Regatta  
7/21-7/23: C420 Nationals

**[Next Week in SMSA: July 22- July 29](#)**

7/25-7/26: Falmouth Regatta  
7/25: Stone Horse Laser Regatta  
7/27-7/29: SMSA Gill Trophy



**SMSA Website links:**

- A. [2015 Regatta schedule](#)
- B. [Race Results](#)
- C. [2015 Grand Prix Racing](#)
- C. [US Sailing Symposiums](#)

7/29-7/30: Duxbury YC Jr. Regatta

7/29-7/30: Wianno Opti Regatta

[All Summer in SMSA](#)

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