

This Month in SMSA: February 3, 2014

<http://www.southernmasssailing.com>

What roller coaster weather we have had this winter already. The harbor outside my window has frozen and unfrozen twice already and we have just reached February. Winter tends to be the dormant term in Southern Mass Sailing and yet while there is not a lot going on publically, there is a lot going on behind the scene. Here is a taste of what you can look forward to.

- I. Meetings/Conference Calls:** Our organizational meetings will start up again on Thursday March 20, 2014. Dates and times of future meetings and conference calls are posted on the website. Each member club is encouraged to have a representative participate so that information flows back to the member clubs and input comes from the entire membership

For a complete list of days, times, and call in procedures, visit the SMSA website:
<http://www.southernmasssailing.com/ma-sailing-association-meeting-minutes.asp>

II. Training:

- 1. Instructors and Coaches:** Many clubs are looking for instructor training this spring. Certified instructors help make the season safe while using best practices to teach the sport that we love. This year, SMSA has helped organize several US Sailing Instructor and Coach Certification courses in the area. A complete list can be found on the SMSA website and the US Sailing website.

SMSA - <http://www.southernmasssailing.com/ma-sailing-association-clinics.asp>

US Sailing –

http://training.ussailing.org/Course_Calendars/Small_Boat_Instructor_and_Coach_Course_Calendar.htm)

Remember registration for all US Sailing courses is first come, first serve and there are no waiting lists. To ensure acceptance into the course you want, sign up early!

- 2. Race Management:** SMSA will be hosting a 1-day Race Management Seminar at **Saturday May 3, 2014 at Duxbury Bay Maritime School**. This certification seminar is perfect for those who are running club races and local regattas. Cost of the seminar is \$25, which covers all US Sailing materials; SMSA will pick up all other cost associated with the day including food. More information, including how to register, will be sent out in March. Save the date.
- 3. Regional Symposium:** As I write this, US Sailing is hosting the first ever Sailing Leadership Forum February 6-8, 2014 in San Diego, CA. To quote from their website, “This groundbreaking event will connect leaders from all aspects of our sport such as sail training and education, yacht club and sailing organization management, racing associations and organizations including one-design and handicap classes, race officials, and industry professionals.” If you missed that opportunity, do not fret. The **US Sailing Spring Regional Sailing Programs Symposium will be held on Friday March 7, 2014 at Tabor Academy**. While the RSPS will not touch on all the topics discussed at the forum, it will have a regional flair that will benefit all clubs. The focus topic of discussion this time around will be insurance and how to make sure your club is covered fully and properly leading into the 2014 season. More information will be post on the website.

III. Hiring: If your club still has a job opening for the summer and would like to advertise it, send a PDF to SouthernMassSailing@GMail.com and I will post it on the SMSA Job Posting page of the website. <http://www.southernmasssailing.com/ma-sailing-association-job-postings.asp>

That is enough to keep you busy for a few weeks. Below are the usually announcements. It has been a while since you have seen them, so read carefully less you miss something important.

Where to find stuff on the SM Sailing Website:

A. **SMSA Regattas:** schedule of 2014 events that have been confirmed are posted. <http://www.southernmasssailing.com/ma-sailing-association-calendar-of-events.asp>

B. **Peg Dates for 2014:** Please look at the projected 2014 dates for traditional regattas. [http://www.southernmasssailing.com/userfiles/2014%20SMSA%20Peg%20dates%20\(9-2-13\)a.pdf](http://www.southernmasssailing.com/userfiles/2014%20SMSA%20Peg%20dates%20(9-2-13)a.pdf)

When your club confirms its dates, please let me know (SouthernMassSailing@GMail.com) and I will post it on the SMSA website

C. **Want to stay informed all year?** Join the SMSA E-Mail list. It's free, it's easy, and everyone is welcome. Here's the basic information:

To send a message: SMSA@topica.com

To subscribe: SMSA-subscribe@topica.com

To unsubscribe: SMSA-unsubscribe@topica.com