



OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

Peter W. McFadden, Past Commodore
85 Willowbrook Road
Storrs, Connecticut 06268

(home) (203) 429-0851

TO: Board of Governors
RE: Ad Hoc Venue Committee

Recommended:

That the Board of Governors select Newport, R.I. as the venue for the 1997 Fall Series and keep Block Island as the venue for the Spring Series.

Background:

Commodore Gunther established the Ad Hoc Venue Committee to consider alternate sites for our series. The Committee adopted as its basic rubric what it believes our members desire in our series:

1. The course the first day takes us to a suitable destination, we go somewhere.
2. The course the second day provides good racing.

So, the variables we considered when examining alternate venues were first of all the potential for good racing both days, we need suitable party facilities both nights, there need to be rooms available because many crews and the Race Committee sleep ashore, and to a lesser extent, transportation should be available because crews and guests come and go.

With the above in mind the Committee considered at length Montauk, Three Mile Harbor, Sag Harbor, Dutch Harbor, Jamestown, and Newport, and to a lesser extent the Connecticut River (Essex) and Westbrook.

Newport quickly emerged as the venue that has it all. It's a great destination, there are excellent possibilities for courses the second day (up or down the bay depending on weather, around the island), there are excellent party venues in the Fort Adams area, rooms should be no problem, and transportation is easily handled since its on the mainland. The decision to replace Shelter Island and to keep Block Island was based on the merits of Block Island as a venue and its popularity with our members.

The recommendation is not meant to be a permanent change.

The Ad Hoc Venue Committee
Peter McFadden, Chairman
Wes Maxwell
Dick Roberts
Grant Brandon
Carl Fast

10/14/96