

Long Range Planning Committee 2000/2001 Venue Update

Committee: Andy Anderson-chairman, Wes Maxwell, Peter
McFadden, Dick Roberts

1. Tom D'Albora, VC Narragansett Bay Yachting Assoc. felt that September is an over busy month for Newport to even make an attempt to do justice with an Off Soundings event. Possibly the first weekend in June might hold some promise with only the Gold Regatta scheduled so far.
2. Sag Harbor Breakwater Yacht Club never responded with a proposal to host Off Soundings.
3. Relations with Shelter Island Yacht Club have never been better than at present. A shift to either Greenport or Sag Harbor would be taken as a slap in the face.
4. RC John Brooks advises New London harbor will not be ready to support an Off Soundings event for a few years.
5. Mystic Seaport dockmaster Dick Lotz felt he might be able to handle substantial dockage if arranged for early enough in the year (say early January) . Over 50% of the participants are from this area they most want to sail in other waters a few times a year. The 2 bridges offer an impediment.
6. A boat/skipper comparison between racers in 1996 and 2000 indicate over half to 60% are the same who likely responded to the original survey and thus would not warrant another survey at this time.
7. Comments received to date by your chairman indicate a change in the existing venue for 2001 & 2002 is not a very high priority of the racing skippers that have come forward with comment.

Current research by A.Anderson

Summary of 1996 Race Venue Survey and Ad Hoc Committee Review

Committee: Peter McFadden-chairman, Grant Brandon, Carl Fast, Wes Maxwell, Dick Roberts

Factors Considered for Alternative Sites:

- a. Potential for good racing both days
- b. Suitability of mooring/anchorage
- c. Suitability of shore facilities for parties both nights, availability of rooms ashore and transportation.

Alternative Sites Considered: Montauk, Three Mile Harbor, Sag Harbor, Dutch Harbor, Jamestown, Newport and to some extent the Connecticut River (Essex) and Westbrook.

Committee Conclusion: Newport was the best of the alternatives with some legitimate concerns about a good course for the first day and getting home on Sunday.

Membership Survey in December 1996: 280 total responses-
- 141 of them designated as skippers
Of the skippers responding:
31% were for keeping current Spring & Fall venues
56% would support a temp. change for Fall
34% would support replacing S I with Newport
13% would support replacing B I with Newport
28% would not participate to Newport

Committee Conclusion: The 1996/1997 Ad Hoc Committee revised their previous conclusion relative to Newport and recommended not changing the Shelter Island venue based on the survey.

References: a. Peter McFadden report to Board of 10-14-96
b. Commodore Gunther's letter to Membership
Re: Race Venue, dated 12-8-96
c. Peter McFadden report on Venue Survey
dated 3-27-97