

OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB



Carl D. Fast
Entertainment Chair
2 Chestnut Hill Square
Groton, CT 06340

(203) 445-6733 (H)
(203) 433-4627 (B)

January 5, 1995

Dear Peter,

The recent memo from Dick Roberts concerning the page in the ECSA yearbook reminded me of discussions with various members over the holidays concerning increased race participation. I would like to share some of the suggestions with you for possible discussion at future meetings.

These are a few that come to mind. If it seems negative it is not meant that way. The vast majority of things with the race are right on. That is what has made it so successful through the years. It is a format that has been often copied and for good reason.

I'll be glad to collect and organize similar suggestions from other members, either formally or informally, as you consider appropriate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Carl Fast'.

Carl Fast

January 5, 1995

Ideas For Increased Race Participation

- Guest invitation cut-off date of March 25 is too early. This is before most people begin to plan their weekend race calendar. Guest cut-off should be the same as member entry deadline.
- Allow fall guest invites. Guests don't compete for combined awards so why make them wait a year to race?
- Simplify guest invite application. One member's letter with consensus of membership chairman or race secretary should suffice. References could be given and appropriate phone calls should confirm guest integrity if required.
- Eliminate the Off Soundings measurement if current PHRF or IMS certificate is available.
- Use alternate drop marks to ensure at least one beat each day for racing classes. Modern racing boats, unlike some older classes, are happy going upwind. Also, some racers feel cheated when they are not forced to tack at least once.
- Don't read results, at least not all the boats, all the classes, each day and combined. Computer printouts posted and copies available by class should suffice (and should be provided regardless). Compromise by reading combined results on Saturday for everyone.
- Establish class "boosters" to drum up competition in each class.
- Offer informal "team" awards for three boat teams.
- Use alternate racing locations.