



## OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

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### WINTER NEWSLETTER, FEBRUARY 9, 1994

As this is written we are in the midst of a bitter cold spell, the ice extends from shore all the way out to the breakwater, a frigid northwesterly is blowing 15-20 knots, and still more snow is predicted for tonight and tomorrow. What better time to sit down and contemplate the joys of our sport and the coming season.

Your Board of Governors and the various committees continue to spend their energies maintaining and improving the quality and success of our Club, especially our races. The split Cruising Canvas division was implemented this year, and the consensus is to continue this split. A new course was introduced for the second day of the fall series. While the breeze was disappointing, the consensus of opinion favors trying the Peconic Bays again. Some adjustments need to be made, such as in the starting area, and other concerns are being evaluated as well.

The Board will recommend two resolutions to be voted upon at the April 2 Annual Meeting. The first would permit active members who are elected to honorary status to maintain their voting rights (ARTICLE XI, SECTION 6). The second shortens from three months to two the period before the Secretary contacts members in arrears for dues (ARTICLE XI, SECTION 3).

Recently, our finances have improved steadily. This is due largely to the fact that for the past several series the committee, stake and patrol boats have been donated. The Club is deeply appreciative of the services of these volunteers as well as the many others who insure that the Club runs as well as it does. Three volunteers have completed their terms. Chet Humphrey and Don Robinson, both long term volunteers, have been replaced by Jack Haugh as Fleet Surgeon and John Brooks as Chairman of the Measurement Rule Committee. In addition Milan Bartek has turned over the Entertainment Committee to Carl Fast.

While a great deal of the improvement of our Club activities comes about through "fine tuning," every once in a while something more is needed. A few years ago such a departure was made when PHRF replaced our previous measurement rule. At that time we kept Time-on-Distance "TOD" scoring, but during the past year the Board has been considering the merits of Time-on-Time "TOT" scoring. Whatever scoring system we use needs to be considered as fair, and must meet the requirements of the Race Secretary and the Race Committee. "TOT" scoring can reduce the irregularities which arise on very slow or very fast days and when there are large spreads in ratings. It offers the Race Committee more flexibility, including course selection. And, it simplifies production of the Final Notice for our races. Hence, the Board has voted to adopt "TOT" scoring for at least the 1994 season.

Since some may not be familiar with "TOT" scoring, a brief paper prepared by Past Commodore Jim Slimmon and Rear Commodore Andy Anderson is attached. The paper compares "TOT" versus "TOD" scoring.

I wish it were not necessary for me to remind the membership, but while participating in our Series we are guests of those who provide us their facilities. We and our crews must not reflect badly on the obligations we incur as guests if we expect to continue to be welcome.

The 1993 Off Soundings season was blessed with four pretty good days, although many of us would welcome more windward work. The air was a little heavy the first day in the Spring and a little light the second day in the Fall, but we got all four races in. Here's to a 1994 season that is even better. Let's start it off grandly at the April 2 Annual Meeting and Shore Party, which will be held this year at the Coast Guard Academy in New London. And throughout the year let's all concentrate on bringing in new members who will insure the future of Off Soundings Club.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter W. McFadden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Peter W. McFadden  
Commodore

Enclosure