



OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

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TO: Board of Governors, Off Soundings Club

I regret that I am unable to participate in the day's activities. My report follows:

Status:

Race Documents:

The Spring and Fall First and Final Notices have been reconciled so that they are now as similar as possible in form, sequence, and content. This will make them easier to use and maintain. The number of places where specific dates appear has been reduced to improve maintainability.

Equipment Standards:

Are complete, printed in booklet form, and available on the website. Advance copies were mailed to Board members. I have supplied 100 copies for distribution this evening; please return any leftovers. I have another hundred for use over the next four years. The Equipment Standards will be distributed as a separate booklet with this year's Spring Series First Notice and will then be incorporated directly into the First Notice booklet as they have been for the past two years.

Special Classes: ~~MULLS WILL BE INCLUDED IN~~

Class J: At Dave Nickerson's suggestion Steve Clarke and Paul von Maffei have been appointed as the Class J liaisons. Zeke Wolfskehl is coordinating the participation of three or four Express 37s from western Long Island Sound, so there should be a reasonable class. At this point J/35s, Schock 35s and Express 37s can race level in this class at PHRF 72. Off Soundings PEs apply. In the opinion of the Measurer at this time there are no other candidate types to race level in this class.

Class M: This is the new Mumm 30 level class. OSC PEs will apply. Peter Bergendahl is the Class Liaison. The class has been assigned flag Kilo, formerly the Class B flag, and will start 11th in the sequence, just after Class J. A class of 6 to 8 is expected.

Class T: This class will again be planned for the Fall Series.

Open Issues:

The Measurer has informed me that the J/100, previously discussed by e-mail, will have a factory installed lifelines and pulpits option. Vessels with this option will be eligible to sail in Off Soundings Series.

I support Norm Rabe's recommendation that PHRF-ECSA handicap certificates be accepted in addition to and in lieu of OSC Data Measurement Certificates. I was ECYRA Offshore Chairman at the time of the transition from the Off Soundings Rule to PHRF. There was concern over the new group's ability to properly manage the handicapping process, so OSC required it's own certificate as back up. Over 30 years ECSA-PHRF has matured and stabilized and administers its process competently. I have revised race documents ready if this recommendation is approved. Please let me know the result ASAP as the NOR goes to press next week.

Action Requested:

Request that the Board declare that vessels designed after December 31, 1999 are "vessels of recent design" under 4.16 of the Equipment Standards and, therefore, not eligible for waivers of Section 4 (Structural Features, Accommodations, and Fixed Equipment) regulations, which includes the lifelines requirement. This is consistent with the Equipment Standards having been in their present form and available for reference by designers since the year 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

VOTED