

Mr. Pete Petersen;

GILBERT L. WOLFE  
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*Cole's*  
*Comments*  
*Ed Cole*  
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Dear Pete;

It is obvious that I was a miserable failure in making you understand the revisions in procedure which have been considered. Let us try again. In considering these, please forget past practices, some of which were developed to meet needs which no longer exist.

I believe that the below decks crew should be concerned with the PAPER WORK ONLY. I would like to eliminate the voice communication with them, which makes for confusion. [It was necessary only when it was desirable to pull cards and call finishes in advance. That need no longer exists.]

The finishes, I think, should be controlled on the bridge deck. One calm soul stands with a good air horn in one hand and the push button in the other. His only function is to push each hand at once, as each boat goes across the line. He should be alternated frequently.

A second man on the bridge keeps the list of sail numbers in groups of ten, as previously. And a third man keeps a similar list. The two are cross checked before delivery below. There can also be, another man doing the same thing if and when necessary.

Below, along side the timer, sits the man who clips the tape and staples it to the sail# list. He can keep an eye on the timers, to be sure that they do not cease functioning. He will hear the air horn, and know when there is a finisher.

I have carefully examined all of the tapes from the last races, and do not find any malfunxions which should cause serious problems. There was an occasional double print, which usually reprinted exactly the same digits, and was obvious to throw out. There were a few which printed an obviously non-sequential time, and would be disregarded. I believe this problem will be corrected before the next race.

If the man on the push button calls for a print when he should not have done so, it is easy enough for him to tell the recorder beside him that he has done so, and a line can be drawn in the appropriate space. Such things can be sorted out right on the spot, better than half on deck and half below. HOW CAN HE TELL THE RECORDER IF THERE IS A DOUBLE PRINT AND HE IS BUSY WITH OTHER BOATS FINISHING? George did not seem to have any great trouble spotting and throwing them out. GEORGE KNEW WHAT TO EXPECT.

INPUT HAS TO BE CORRECT AND RELIABLE  
VER  
THE JUDGE  
BOAT MSTS  
A  
NECESSARY  
WAY FOR  
TO KNOW  
EXPECT  
ADVANCE  
MALFUNCTION  
BE A  
PROBLEM

PRINTER MONITOR NEEDS (HAS) TO KNOW HOW MANY BOATS IN ANY GROUP, OR IF ONLY ONE, TO VERIFY NUMBER OF TIMES PRINTED

2-5-55  
If two times are printed for one boat  
and not corrected this throws the whole sequence off.  
Subsequent similar errors compound the displacement  
of boats vs times.

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We could move forward without ADDEPATE

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MUST FINESSE BEN

Your comments regarding the stake boat have been noted, but that subject is beyond this immediate question. The problem is a political one, really. I do not wish to offend a nice old guy like Ben Harrison, but he is hope less to control, or to follow directions. Rather than try to buck that, I have suggested new and I think better courses which will not require his boat except at the start Off Watch Hill the first day.

O.K. on deck below

Also, please understand that my motivation in this is NOT to cut down on crew or expenses. It is to establish a procedure which is so simple and automatic that it is relatively ~~automatise~~ foolproof, with no crisis points as have existed in the past. The only one I can think of under these procedures is the man with an eye on the printer, who must, in the event that it goes out of business, be ready to signal a return to the stop watches. But even if we revert to them in emergency, I think the horn on deck is an adequate signal, without conversation and chit-chat. (There will always be a spare horn handy, of course.)

Here is design

I hope this explanation is clearer than my first one, and that you will give me your thoughts.

Many, Many thanks.

*Gib*  
Gib.

Copies to Gotis, Voland, Ed Cole, George Mettler, Mary Converse

It is enough for the recorder to say: one boat  
or two boats  
or five boats

no call numbers  
no chit-chat  
Correction ~~may~~  
be necessary

Chris to  
Pete  
Tom  
see  
ferr ✓

*GC*