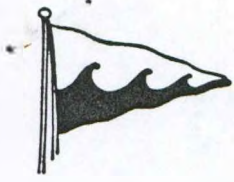


OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB



RICHARD H. ROBERTS, Race Secretary
60 Dart Street
New London, Connecticut 06320

(203) 443-4621 (R)

October 28, 1995

TO: Commodore William G. Gunther
FROM: Race Secretary Richard H. Roberts
SUBJECT: Race Secretary's Report

1. The results of the Fall Race Series and the combined, perpetual trophy results were mailed to the membership on October 13th, as scheduled. That mailing contained a confession and an apology for the mix-up in the effort to publish the photo of the Commodore's yacht, FROYA.
2. Continuing the statistical work done by Andy Anderson, I've added 1995 information to the attached table of Race Entry Statistics, together with some financial information for earlier years, and the enclosed table is provided for your study. That table shows a reduction in the number of yachts in some classes. This year the three A/B classes declined to 37(S) or 31(F) yachts while the five C classes improved to 86(S) or 76(F) yachts. Class B (8 yachts) needs some serious work; shall we ask Ed Purcell to lead the charge again?.
3. I have attached a tabulation of the dates for Off Soundings Club events, showing the dates approved for 1996 and the proposed dates for 1997. Those 1997 dates are scheduled for approval at the Board meeting on January 19, 1996. While the 1996 dates were previously approved, last January, the dates for the deadlines for receipt of Guest Invitation Applications reflect subsequent Board decisions, as discussed in Paragraph 4.
4. The Guest Invitation policy was changed by the Board in two actions, this year. First, in January the requirement that I mail the proposed guest list to the Board for its review prior to the April Board meeting was eliminated -- with the result that I could accept Guest Invitation Applications up to April 6th (the Thursday prior to the Board meeting), in lieu of March 23rd. Then, at the April meeting, the Board approved a further relaxing of the deadline to two weeks prior to the race entry closing (either Spring or Fall), using a revised Application form. That guest list is then to be circulated to the Board with objections to be raised by any Board member eight days prior to the race entry closing. Race entry packages are then to be mailed to those guests seven days before the race entry closing.

For our 1995 races, these are the guest statistics:

Received prior to April 6*	18	Raced:	Spring	10	Fall	8
Received April 7 - May 4	5	Raced:	Spring	5	Fall	3
Received May 5 - August 10	2	Raced:			Fall	1

*Does not include Membership Committee invitees who subsequently became members.

Does not include the Academies. Does not include the 12-Metre owners.

I am proceeding to continue these policies. In calling the first deadline (April 4th) the "Early-decision Cut-off," I hope to have the bulk of the Guest names for review at our April meeting (so that those Guests can be sent the First Notice packages at the same time as for members (April 19th) -- the mailing service does this), and use the later deadlines (May 9th and August 8th) to bring in the stragglers (their First Notice packages cannot be mailed before May 16 or August 15, seven days prior to closing -- the Race Secretary does this).

5. Time-on time scoring was used again this year, with few comments or complaints from the fleet, so far. Because this system makes life a little easier on the Race Committee, I recommend that we continue its use.

6. This year we continued with an Alternative Penalty scheme, where the penalty is 10 minutes added to the yacht's Corrected Time. Skippers elected to accept an Alternative Penalty five times this year (all in the Fall Race Series), with these results:

Fall	C-1	J.A.R.D LOOSE**	Sat-2	3rd to 11th	Comb	8th to 8th
Fall	C-2	FROYA***	Fri	11th to 11th	Comb	11th to 11th
Fall	C-3	MELTEMI*	Fri	14th to 18th	Comb	8th to 10th
Fall	C-4	WAVEWALKER	Sat	1st to 11th	Comb	3rd to 3rd
Fall	CR-2	TERN ABOUT	Sat	11th to 12th	Comb	9th to 12th

***Carrying a 15% Penalty

**Carrying a 10% Penalty

*Carrying a 5% Penalty

My conclusion is that the 10-minute penalty can give a marked change in position for a day's race (unless the yacht is close to last, anyhow), but the effect on the places in the combined results is harder to assess. Of course, the Alternative Penalty is aimed at a foul made in one race, not at the series.

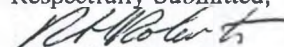
7. Last year we revised our Minimum Equipment and Accommodations Standards to be consistent with ORC Regulations, and we enclosed a copy of those Regulations with the 1994 Spring First Notice. An effect of this was to move the cut-off length for requiring double lifelines instead of single lifelines from 35 ft LOA to 28 ft LOA, on relatively short notice. Existing lifeline configurations were "grandfathered" for the 1994 Spring and Fall Race Series and the "grandfather" provision was extended for the 1995 Spring and Fall Race Series. Should the "grandfather" be further extended into our 1996 racing season?

8. Largely through the initiative of Race Committee Chairman Wes Maxwell, we have added many new things, this year. Those innovations included:

- a. Provided for the ability to select and post the course on the Committee Boat.
- b. Provided for the ability to use a drop mark to windward of the Start.
- c. Provided for the ability to use a drop mark to leeward of the Finish.
- d. Provided for the ability to shift the Starting Line (Code Flag "L").
- e. Changed to five-minute starting sequence, which allowed us to
- f. Split CR-1 and CR-2 into separate starts, which allowed us to
- g. Assign CR-1 to an earlier start and hence to a longer course than CR-2.
- h. The five-minute starting sequence would have made it more difficult for the ferry boats to pick their way through our fleet, particularly the new high-speed boat, so the Friday start location was moved east of the Thames River channel.
- i. The Saturday start location was moved one mile east, to have the capability to set a first leg to the west, should conditions dictate.
- j. Included the 12-Metre Class, with two races on Saturday, which allowed us to
- k. Have two races on Saturday for Classes C-1 and C-2.
- l. Provided for the ability to start a class on one side of the Committee Boat while finishing yachts on the other side.
- m. Changed the results-reading procedure in order to speed up the announcement process.
- n. Extended the 1995 Guest-Invitation Application deadline to two weeks prior to race entry closing, for both the Spring and Fall Race Series.
- o. Provided a computer print-out for reading the results, rather than using the calculation cards.

Comments on the above list were invited in the memo which forwarded the results of the Fall Race Series.

Respectfully Submitted,



Richard H. Roberts

Race Secretary

Race Entry Statistics

October 28, 1995

Class	S 1989	S 1990	S 1991	S 1992	S 1993	S 1994	S 1995	X	F 1989	F 1990	F 1991	F 1992	F 1993	F 1994	F 1995
DESTINATION	BI	BI	BI	BI	BI	BI	BI		SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI	SI
12-M															2
A-1	13	12	19	14	15	16	17		10	15	16	13	15	15	12
A-2	14	14	15	12	13	8	12		16	14	15	12	11	9	11
B	9	9	11	12	13	15	8		10	13	16	13	16	15	8
C-1	23	23	22	17	19	11	18		23	18	16	17	17	14	14
C-2	19	21	16	17	19	11	16		12	15	18	15	15	11	12
C-3	17	13	18	16	16	12	18		15	19	13	15	15	15	19
C-4	19	16	13	16	15	14	17		21	17	12	16	14	16	15
C-5	17	18	15	16	15	17	18		14	17	11	17	15	17	16
CR, CR-1	28	24	27	31	15	17	11		27	26	23	26	16	19	14
CR-2					13	15	11						15	13	15
Totals	159	150	156	151	153	136	146		148	154	140	144	149	144	138
Crew Count	909	882	903	891	915	791	869		844	846	805	833	869	818	844
Crew per Yacht	5.7	5.9	5.8	5.9	6.0	5.8	6.0		5.7	5.5	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.7	6.1
Income, yacht + crew	\$8,630	\$10,583	\$10,800	\$10,634	\$11,017	\$8,879	\$9,503		\$8,024	\$10,505	\$9,700	\$10,039	\$10,622	\$9,390	\$9,005
\$ per yacht	\$54.30	\$70.55	\$69.23	\$70.42	\$72.01	\$65.29	\$65.09		\$54.22	\$68.21	\$69.29	\$69.72	\$71.29	\$65.21	\$65.50
\$ Non-racers @ \$6				\$78	\$174	\$96	\$66					\$108	\$204	\$174	\$108
Fee, per yacht	\$20	\$35	\$35	\$35	\$35	\$30	\$30		\$20	\$35	\$35	\$35	\$35	\$30	\$30
Fee, per crew	\$6	\$6	\$6	\$6	\$6	\$6	\$6		\$6	\$6	\$6	\$6	\$6	\$6	\$6
Scratch, boats							3								5
Scratch, \$ refunded							\$138								\$162
Scratch, crew							23								27

Scratch data have not been subtracted from other statistics.

October 28, 1995

BASIS FOR SELECTION OF DATES FOR OFF SOUNDINGS EVENTS

The following describes the Basis for the Race Secretary's selection of each season's dates. This Basis table is intended only to be a guide, a starting point -- practical adjustments will have to be considered, as well, in any given year.

Following selection, the dates for a season are proposed to the Board of Governors for approval.

"Early-Decision" Guest Invitation Cut-off	Thursday, 2 days before the April Board Meeting
Annual Meeting and Shore Party	First Saturday in April. Except April 1st? Easter Eve? Constitution specifies to be held in Feb, Mar or Apr.
SPRING RACE SERIES	
First Notice	Friday, 13 days after the Annual Meeting
Late Guest Invitation Cut-off	Thursday, 14 days before Closing Date
Closing Date	Thursday, 22 days before Race Friday
Final Notice	Friday before Race Friday
Race Friday	Bermuda Race minus one week, or 2nd Friday in June
Results of Spring Race Series	Friday, 4 weeks after Race Friday
FALL RACE SERIES	
First Notice	With the results of the Spring Race Series
Late Guest Invitation Cut-off	Thursday, 14 days before Closing Date
Closing Date	Thursday, 22 days before Race Friday
Final Notice	Friday before Race Friday
Race Friday	11 days after Labor Day
Final Results	Friday, 4 weeks after Race Friday
BOARD MEETINGS	
January	Third Friday in January
April	Afternoon of the Annual Meeting
October	Saturday. Set so as not to conflict with US SAILING's Annual Meeting (dates of which are set, through 2000), which involves a few Governors.

October 28, 1995

DATES FOR OFF SOUNDINGS EVENTS

	<u>APPROVED</u> <u>1996</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u> <u>1997</u>
"Early-decision" Guest Invitation Cut-off	April 4 *	April 3 *
Annual Meeting and Shore Party	April 6 #	April 5
SPRING RACE SERIES		
First Notice	April 19	April 18
Late Guest Invitation Cut-off	May 9 **	May 8 **
Closing Date	May 23	May 22
Final Notice	June 7	June 6
Race Dates	June 14-15	June 13-14
Results of Spring Race Series	July 12	July 11
FALL RACE SERIES		
First Notice	July 12	July 11
Late Guest Invitation Cut-off	August 8 **	August 7 **
Closing Date	August 22	August 21
Final Notice	September 6	September 5
Race Dates	September 13-14	September 12-13
Final Results	October 11	October 10
BOARD MEETINGS		
January	January 19	January 17
April	April 6	April 5
October	October 26	October 25
REFERENCE DATES		
Easter	April 7	March 30
Bermuda Race (3rd? Fri in June)	June 21	June 20 ? (M/B)
Labor Day	September 2	September 1
Dyer Dhow Derby	October ____	October ____
US SAILING Meeting	October 16-20	October 15-19

NOTES

- # April 6th is Easter Eve
- * Thursday prior to the Annual Meeting
- ** 14 days prior to the Closing Date