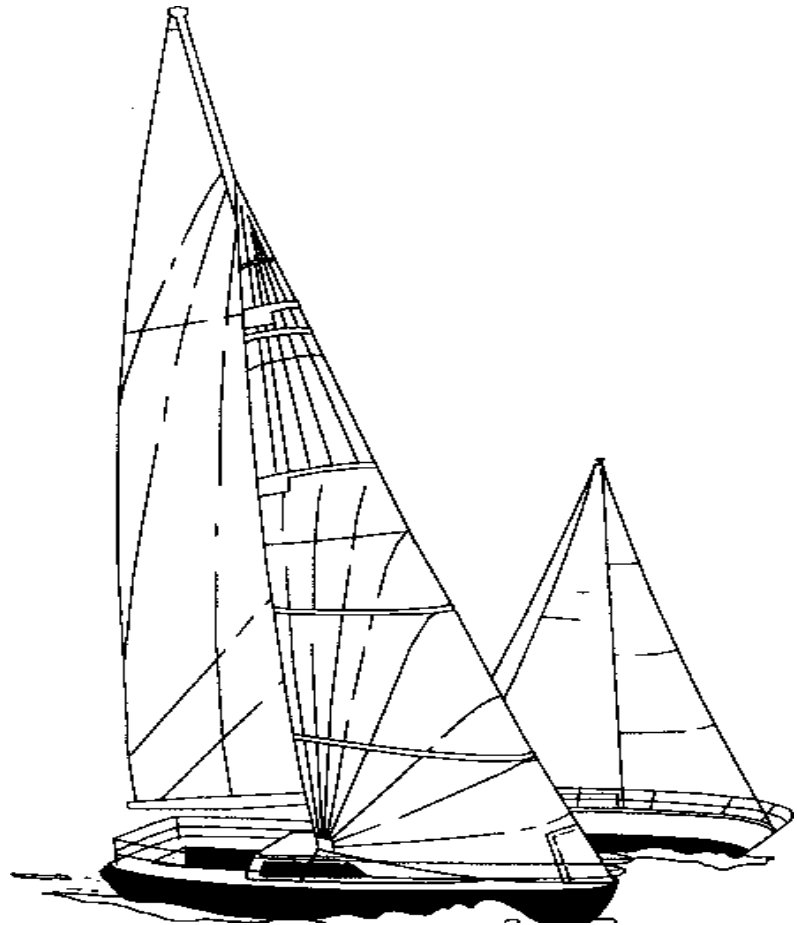


DRYA

NEWSLETTER



Winter 2006

COMMODORE'S CORNER

A quiet calm has settled over DRYA. No major changes are planned. No major issues are being debated. As always, we are looking for ways to improve, but the coming season is headed toward a smooth continuation of the last.

There will be new principal race officers on two of our courses. Both are familiar with their courses. Tricia Smotherman takes over the B course, where she has been helping for years. Ron Spies and Ian Dawson take over the C course. Ron from GIYC has been running races downriver and on Lake Erie. Ian from SPSC has been running races on the Canadian side of Lake St. Clair. Both came out to become familiar with the C Course last year.

Once again this winter, DRYA will be presenting "If It's Wednesday, It's Sailing Seminar Night". This year's series will cover a mix of topics (first aid, weather, navigation, sails, racing) presented by well known personalities (Gary Jobson and weatherman John McMurray) and local experts (Al DeClercq, Ted Everingham, Dr. Rob Amsler, Kaye Soka, Michael Clow, Jim Rodgers). Check out the schedule at www.DRYA.org. Remember, a primary goal for these seminars is to introduce our sport to new sailors, to peak their interest, and to lure them into racing. Invite some non-sailing friends, and introduce them to our sport.

Check out DRYA's website and Forum (www.DRYA.org). You don't have to wait for a newsletter to find out what's being discussed, considered, and decided in DRYA. New postings are added as information becomes available. The announcements appear in Latest News - right in the center of the DRYA website. Issues are debated in the Forum - a link to the Forum is found in the bar across the top of the DRYA website. Executive Committee members are reviewing the Forum regularly. Wade in. Check out the website and join our forum.

Commodore
Larry Breskin

A note from PC Brian Geraghty

I enjoyed being your Commodore in 2005 and I would like to thank the work of all the volunteers who helped on and off the race course to make another great Sailing Season happen. The Awards Banquet was very well attended at GPYC to close out the Season.

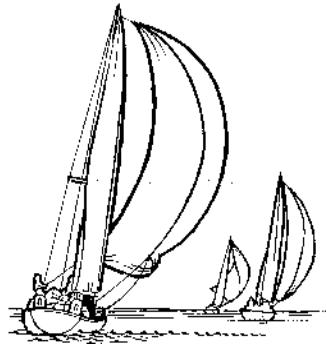
Racing in the DRYA series is doing well as the number of boats registered in 2005 was equal to the number in 2004 and up from 2003, despite tough economic times in the area. Participation was up 3% overall for the DRYA series of races in 2005. The handicapped classes had lots of change with the introduction of IRC, and IRC classes will continue in 2006. With the 2005 experience of running the IRC rule, the Executive Committee has reviewed the pros and cons of Endorsed Certificates and will be requiring Endorsed certificates for all IRC DRYA racing in 2006. Time-on-Time scoring was expanded to all classes and was well received.

The One Design Classes preferred to retain a "boat for boat" scoring system in 2005 and that will continue for 2006.

The plans for 2006 include a PHRF class for the A course and a PHRF class for the C course and there will not be an IRC start on the C course. C course handicap boats wishing to race IRC can race on the A course.

The Sailing Seminars are coming up just after the new year! The topics for the Seminars have built on the interest from the past few years, so plan on attending with your crew to keep the sailing thoughts going in the cold months.

Regards,
Brian Geraghty, 2005 DRYA Commodore



Handicap Review Board

We would like to take a few minutes of your time to discuss recent and upcoming DRYA PHRF Handicapping activities. IRC and it's fit with the current Handicap Review Board (HRB)

PHRF handicapping process was discussed in an earlier letter, mailed out, dated September 23, 2005. A copy of that letter is available upon request.

Recent PHRF handicapping items that have been completed include, the 2005 Fall Boat Review, review of all "T" - Temporary rating designations, abbreviated handicapping activities, organizational set-up of the HRB structure for 2006 along with revisions to the Section 15 – DRYA PHRF Rules and Regulations.

The complete DRYA Fleet was looked at for possible rating adjustments. Race results, participation, position finishes within the class/fleet, weather conditions were major determinants used in this year's fleet review. The consensus led us to a "no need for further HRB review" and/or rating changes. While the HRB may not have recommended any rating changes, owners and competitors could file for individual rating changes and did so prior to the December 1, 2005 deadline. From the December 1 deadline, eight (8) Requests for Rating Review were submitted. Presentations along with related discussion will take place starting on Monday, January 9 and finishing on January 16, 2006. Those meetings are open to the DRYA membership and take place at Bayview Yacht Club, beginning at 7:00pm.

The HRB Team Structure has been determined, with Team Captains being appointed on Monday, September 26, 2005. Those Captains are voting members along with the Chief Handicappers and Secretary, equaling nine (9) voting members for 2006. The Vice Commodore of the DRYA Executive Committee sits on our committee and is the tiebreaker vote during our deliberation and voting process.

Most "T"-Temporary designations associated with some of the member boat's ratings were removed. Some may remain in place for the upcoming season along with the "S"- Special designations.

One of my goals this year was to streamline the timing of our handicapping process from start to finish. I believe we've accomplished that task and will continue to do so without compromising the final outcome for the DRYA membership. Our fall process has, in the past, been 3+ months. This year it was done in 6 weeks. The spring process has been 3-4 months in duration. In 2006, I see us completing our handicapping activities in less than 6 weeks. Total for the year from 28 weeks to 12 or less. I would like to complement the total HRB membership for that commitment. They've done an excellent job and will continue to do so. If you get a chance, please acknowledge the great work they've done and will do for the remainder of the handicapping term.

Updating of the 2006 Section 15 – DRYA PHRF Rules and Regulations was completed and approved by the DRYA Executive Committee on December 8, 2005. Updates included the addition or reference to the Equipment Rules of Sailing (ERS), reference to IRC and it's fit with the

continued on next page

Handicap Review Board continued

DRYA PHRF process and mainsail furling and batten usage. A copy of the 2006 Section 15 Rules is available on the DRYA website. Go to www.drya.org home page.

A link to the rules is located in the center portion or can also be found in the Handicapping section, left side of the home page.

We are the local PHRF governing authority. Our responsibility to the DRYA membership is to provide fair PHRF handicaps with minimum expense and inconvenience to boat owners and to make the handicapping process understandable to them. While IRC rating information may be considered another data resource to our PHRF work, they will be used most judiciously. To that end, we're available for any questions you may have most anytime. My e-mail address is provided below.

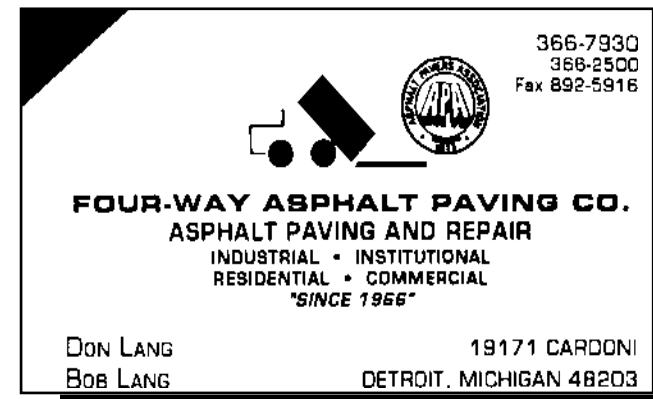
2006 will find the HRB involved in the process for requested rating changes (early to mid-January), handling the Appeals process (mid-February), publishing the 2006 Valid List (March) and setting Class Splits (March/April). We hope this overview has been most helpful and look forward to a great racing season in 2006.

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