

Hello to all!

I trust that everyone is doing their best with social distancing and/or self-quarantining. I have put off sending a note out because my inbox has been overrun with COVID-19 emails either way too sappy or scary, which has been a bit overwhelming.

Hopefully, you have seen notices on our website, Facebook page and in Lin McCarthy's "Southern Bay Racing News You Can Use" emails about our postponements and cancelations of BBSA events. I have been talking to the other clubs who run racing circles south of Solomons, MD. All of us are struggling to make the right decisions for our members. At this time, the BBSA board, training committee, and racing fleets will be discussing postponements and cancelations in short increments of roughly 2 weeks. Once an event is canceled, it cannot go back on the calendar therefore we do not want to cancel too much at once. A two-week time period is reasonable to manage for the board and fleet coordinators while attempting to not take away any event that you could have participated in when the COVID-19 virus becomes less of a threat. I will take what other clubs are doing into consideration; however, each club is unique and what one does may not work for us. An example of this is the Wednesday night racing at HYC. We have both postponed racing. They may start before we do because they do not require a real race committee. They do not score their races and can run a race with a race committee of 2 people from their docks maintaining a reasonable amount of social distancing. An ability that we lack. If we score, we must run a full race committee that involves several people in a small space touching the same item on a boat bouncing around on an anchor. We must make our decisions based on what is best for all of our people and volunteers. Our start date will be determined by the entire BBSA board with input from the fleet coordinators of each sailing circle. My goal is to have all club activities back to normal as soon as we are able.

Currently, all events have been canceled for March. This week we canceled the first two spring series races in Little Creek and Willoughby. The board and I will decide if we need to cancel the next two weeks of racing (April 15/16 and April 22/23) and the April membership meeting at the beginning of April and will continue to evaluate every two weeks going forward. The Hobie Fleet is not holding meetings or racing at this time. Fleet race committee instruction and ribbon pick-up dates will be postponed. LWMCCC committee meetings will be done as video conferences. We may be able to do other webinars if needed.

If anyone has any questions or concerns about how we are handling our activities at this time, please feel free to reach out to me. I look forward to seeing all of your smiling faces out on the water and at our membership meetings once this is over!

Stay healthy!

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