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Southern Bay Racing News You Can Use #1015 - 1016 February 15, 2021

SBRNYCU is an independent weekly publication of southern Chesapeake Bay racing happenings.

Founded in April, 2000. Lin McCarthy, Editor

Try sailing - it's NOT easy! - Bill Schanen, SAILING Magazine



Technically, we are half-way through FEBRUARY! However, according to Charles McDowell, "When February provides a glimmer of sunshine, it is just a trick, an exercise in irony, a sort of stage lighting for the entrance of furies undreamed of. February brings winds strong enough to blow polar bears off their feet. And it brings pseudo-whimsical little breezes too soft to blow the flame off a candle. They don't have to; the little breezes of February freeze the flame where it stands." But, take heart, southern Bay racers, Racing Season is coming, just like SPRING!

The 2021 Southern Bay Racing Season stands on the cusp of BLAST OFF!

Expect a few tweaks in personnel, resources, and particulars, solid favorites survive the pandemic and big boat racing cranks up for 2021. Here's a southern Bay sampler:

- *Mid-week (Wed/Thurs) racing* will begin the second week of April in Hampton Roads and in the York River area. At Fishing Bay, crew training and then Spring Series will begin;
- Southern Bay Race Week is receiving entries already and will add the ULTIMATE 20 North Americans
 Championship and the new CONDO Cruisers fleet regatta headquarters at Hampton YC;
- Leo Wardrup Memorial Cape Charles Cup will be a race to Cape Charles, overnight stay, and the next day a race back to Hampton Roads Al Brazzi is this 2021 BBSA event chairman;
- CCVR will have its usual High Point Racing Program, and will add a new event, Triple Tunnel Terror Race on July 24th and the CCV Racing Guide will be distributed on March 27th;
- Memorial Day Weekend will offer the 71st Down the Bay Race 120 nm non-stop dash from Annapolis to Hampton;
- Rappahannock River YC will stage their April Spring Regatta, and the Typhoon Fleet, also at RRYC, will host the Chesapeake Typhoon Championship Regatta in June;
- Old Point Comfort YC will open their Yankee Station Series in May and BBSA will present the Cape Henry Cup Race also in May;
- HYC's Hampton Sprints will be back full force and NYCC will have their Dink Vail Memorial Regatta ready to go, both in July:
- Fall will bring the Hospice Turkey Shoot Regatta at RRYC, the Labor Day weekend Stingray Point Regatta at FBYC, Hot Buttered Rum racing in Willoughby Bay (BBSA);
- And, the J-111's will hold their Class WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP Regatta at Hampton YC, Oct 17-23.
- Organizations will determine their covid social modifications as they apply.

• There are many more racing events. 2021 SOUTHERN CHESAPEAKE BAY BIG BOAT SCHEDULE is available by email request to mcbear@earthlink.net or hit "reply". Just say "2021 Schedule" on the Subj: line.

VXOne WINTER SERIES Wraps up February event in Sarasota. Southern Bay racers, Henry Amthor and Dave Eberwine finished mid-way in the fleet of 24. Henry reported that they "...survived racing in 30 knots yesterday with some swimming at times! Saturday was 8-12 and very competitive fleet." It's a new fleet, too, for Amthor/Eberwine, but they are enjoying learning the new ropes. Complete results available at https://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/regatta_uploads/21490/FebDay1.jpg

Tomorrow's (Tuesday) plan calls for the skipper and crew members of *MERIDIAN XI*, Sledd Shelhorse' Carkeek 40, to be in Miami. There will be a 7pm skippers' meeting (electronically hosted by Coral Reef YC) as final prep instruction for the Race to Eleuthera, which is the fourth part of the SORC Islands in the Stream Series. *Meridian's* team list: Michael Collins (pit); Jeremiah Dull (headsail trimmer); Graham Garrenton (autopilot); Greg Gendell (bow); Liam Harr (mid bow); Ron McLean (main trimmer); Max Plarr (floater); Sled Shelhorse (skipper); Will Van Cleef (boat captain); Harold Warren (grinder); Mark Wheeler (navigator). Cross up your fingers for the southern Bay entry. *Meridian* will be approaching the scheduled 1000 hrs Start on Wednesday morning. The course is about a mile NE of Government Cut (Miami harbor) to the entrance of Cape Eleuthera Resort and Marina. For event information see https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?elD=13143

Watch out for occasional changes in the location of day marks, buoys, boundaries, etc. in the immediate vicinity of the HRBT Expansion Project. Click on www.HRBTExpansion.org for updates and watch the Coast Guard official publications. This project is well up and running and will be so for the coming 5 years.

Racers need the new version of *THE RACING RULES OF SAILING, For 2021-2024* The book retails for \$29.95. (additional \$5 for waterproof cover), at the US Sailing store site. *Members of US Sailing may buy 1 copy for \$7.00*. Purchase on line at https://shop.ussailing.org/racing/racing-rules/

MURPHY'S "Tune-Up" Rules Pop Quiz:

Q – *Basher* is approaching the starting line to start. Just before the gun, the bowman leans way out in front of the headstay and his head and shoulders are clearly across the line at the gun. Is *Basher* over early?

Ans – Two months ago the answer would have been "yes", since no part of the hull, crew, equipment, sails, etc. could be across the line before the gun.

BUT....not now!! The 2021-2024 rules have changed to say that no part of the HULL may be across the line before the gun. No problem, however, if crew, sails, gear, etc somehow get there a little early.

AND...The same applies at the finish. A boat is now finished when any part of her HULL crosses the finish line from the course side, i.e. from the direction of the previous mark. So, no further need to try to fool the line sighter by easing the chute just before finishing! BTW, most times it's the bow that crosses...but this RC once saw BR Flowers finish stern first. Yup. Only BR!!!

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71st DOWN THE BAY RACE for the Virginia Cruising Cup. Posted at https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?elD=14347 NOR, current entries, contact info, ON-LINE registration. Start Friday, May 28th, 120 nm non-stop, Annapolis to Hampton. Presented by Hampton YC and Storm Trysail Club, Chesapeake Station Event Chair: Rich Wilcox (757) 773-6292;

PRO (HYC)-Bob Thomas; PRO (STC)-Dick Neville



SBRW 2021 UPDATE: The 2021 fleet continues to build. Opening night: June 3. Racing; June 4,5,&6. For details, a look at the current scratch sheet, and to enter click on https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eid=14283 or call Lin at 757-850-

4225. SBRW Chairman: Jack Pope; SBRW PRO: John McCarthy

MURPHY'S LAW: Yrs Truly, the Racing Beagle, has a proposal that will get us through February and to SPRING much sooner. Send Punxsutawney Phil on an indefinite sabbatical and take February off the calendar! Feel better just thinking about it. /S/ Murphy the Racing Beagle, the sailing spirit in us all.

To **SUBSCRIBE** directly, send an email to mcbear@earthlink.net, put SBRNYCU on the subject line, give your name, and say, "Sign me up!" SBRNYCU is free. If you wish to UNSUBSCRIBE, send an email to mcbear@earthlink.net and put UNSUBSCRIBE on the Subject line OR, simply hit "reply" and put UNSUBSCRIBE on the subject line. **The postal address associated with this email is:** SBRNYCU, 4401 Chesapeake Avenue, Hampton, VA 23669. You may reprint or forward all or any part of this publication as long as you give credit to: SOUTHERN BAY RACING NEWS YOU CAN USE, Lin McCarthy, Editor

4 Attached Images