

Response from John Johannemann

2 January 2008

Dear Rick,

Re: Your request for feedback from the 2007 racing season.

1. I did not think that any racing season could be better than 2005/6 with Bob Smith as racing director but I was wrong. The 2007 season under your direction was the best yet.

In particular:

- a. You were well prepared for every race.
- b. You handled the "Captains' meeting" very effectively in a timely fashion.
- c. You organized the committee boat for each race with directions, helpful hints and setup and cleanup.
- d. You responded quickly to all questions and racing results.
- e. You maintained control of the program.

2. No major changes come to mind re number/types of races.

3. For its first year the committee boat did a fantastic job. It has a lot of potential and is a great addition to the racing program. Several members put in a lot of time and effort to bring it to its present condition. They should be recognized and rewarded.

Suggestions would include

- a. Fix, repair, tune, or whatever to make the motor more reliable and user friendly.
- b. Replace carpeting and give the boat a better appearance overall.
- c. Keep an eye out for using the boat for duty other than committee.
- d. Perhaps ask for a donation to fix the boat or use some of the "Admiralty" money.

4. The Committee Duty Selection Process worked OK for me. It seems only fair for those who benefit from the committee boat should support its use.

5. New events: At least one race in the year should be set aside for helpful instruction, sailing assistance from seasoned sailors, rules and examples review and an invitation for all new sailors to try their hand at racing. Some new sailors (mainly P fleet) try to race once or twice but feel left behind because no one is showing them the ropes. Actually our P fleet is getting smaller rather than growing in number as it should. So maybe one day of encouragement a year might be enough to keep them as more than observers.

6. My only suggestion is to begin setting up minimum qualifications for racing boats e.g. safety gear. For my part, I would require all boats to have a working motor, anchor, battery and usable nighttime safety lighting, etc. I really hate to begin this but it seems to me that there should be some minimal standard for each fleet. How to fix it? I don't know.

I'm looking forward to the 2008 season.

John Johannemann