

Welcome to the club racing website page.

Ok I have a boat, belong to a club, now what?

It should come as no surprise to anyone that this is a large part of the club lifestyle, but that being said not everyone likes it. Funny thing though racer or not, when two or more boats meet on the lake or leave at the same time to go somewhere, the individual skippers try to get there first. The racing allows new sailors a chance to meet other skippers up close, and become a better sailor. The learning curve between racing and crewing is about four to one. Every season of racing is equal to about four years of cruising on a learning curve. That being said, we have different levels of racing as far as competitiveness goes. A great way to begin would be to crew with an experienced skipper for larger races and then take what you learn out into the more fun racing.

How do I get into this?

Well the first step is that you are here. The next thing is to find out when, and where the race is.

There are schedules posted here on the webpage, posted on the bulletin board, and if the race chair (me) has done his job you should have gotten one by email. The next step in the when part of the question is to see the bulletin board for the official notice of race. These are a definite hint that the race(s) are on the serious side of the ledger. The more relaxed races are usually just a general notice or word of mouth, but we will get to that in a bit. The first thing on the notice of race will be the Date(s). some races are one day one race type of thing, others are one day multiple race events and the rest are a series which will be a total of multiple races over multiple days. The next thing on the notice of race is the time of sign up and the skippers meeting. Attendance at the skippers meeting is critical as the course will be laid out and other information passed along. The start time is given out then as well. It may be different from the one posted due to weather, or if we can get the committee boat working. Don't laugh the Sidney Hobart race was delayed this year because of problems with the committee boat. I think someone hit it, but I digress.

How do I get to be crew on a boat?

All skippers have one thing in common, they love bragging, and race skippers suffer from this malady more than most, just kidding? They always looking for crew to race with and bringing along new racers are a bonus, because at some point the new skippers won't be new anymore, and will be racing their own boats. You walk around the club and see who the racers are. They are easy to spot. Their hats and shirts are faded, usually featuring an image of some alcoholic beverage on either the hat or shirt. They will usually make the first move on you. Something like "hi I am _____ you have what boat? Are you experienced? You want to crew? "Even if you have no intention of ever racing go out and try it for the knowledge you will gain. Other type of races we have are the less series ones. The prime example of that is the Wednesday night pursuit races we have in the summer. These are actually the most well turned out event we run. Everyone is given their own start time according to their handicap rating; oh did I forget to mention handicapping? It is the most important part of the type of racing we do. It is called the Performance Handicap Racing Fleet. You will hear it referred to as phrf. It is what makes all the different type of boats equal, more or less. Back to the pursuit races, you leave at your time and we race for one

hour. Then at the end of it the boat in the lead is called the winner. Strictly for bragging rights until next week.