

September-October 2020

FROM THE FRONT
THE LOST YEAR

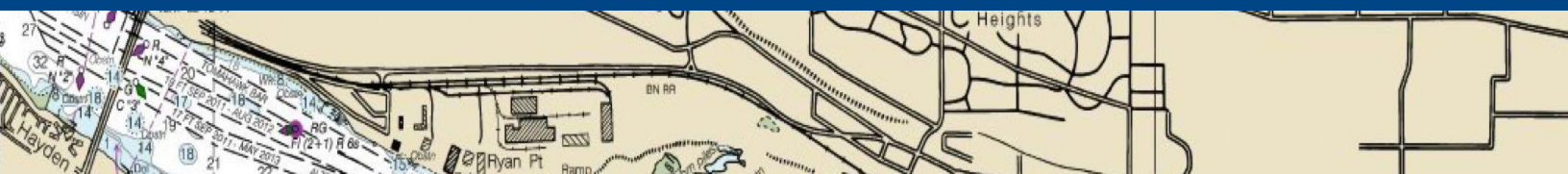
FROM THE REAR
ONE DESIGN
REGATTA

RACE REPORT



SMALL YACHT SAILING CLUB OF OREGON

STARTING LINE



One Design Regatta, Photo by Dierk Polzin

FROM THE FRONT

ANNA CAMPAGNA - COMMODORE

SYSCO leadership this year had some difficult choices due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We had to scrap the Spring Series with the sudden spike of Coronavirus illnesses in Oregon. We ran racing this summer cautiously, with some noticeable changes (I'm sure you all noticed). Because the Race Committees would necessarily be reduced in number, and because of the difficulty of sanitizing 20 flags plus a course board, we used the radio to inform racers of the courses, and limited the number of flags used to start the races. We re-branded the Summer and Twilight series as Fun Races. We also decided not to award trophies this year so as not to entice skippers to race who should not be racing - those who may be vulnerable to the virus because of age or compromised immune systems. A lot of skippers raced under-handed, or raced with family members in place of their regular crew, or both. I like to think that, although a lot of people didn't get to race, a few novices and new faces were added to the scene. And hopefully they will all find a way to keep racing.

To mitigate this no-fun-factor of 2020, SYSCO created a keepsake for those who raced for fun, and for those who stayed away. (We missed you!) This whole crazy idea was inspired and executed by Jan Burkhart, SYSCO's long-time Membership Chair, and designed by yours truly. All SYSCO Members were offered two custom made SYSCO pub glasses. Additional glasses were made available for purchase (SYSCO subsidized the cost at a slight loss), and we welcomed skippers to purchase glasses for their crew members. Well, we were so overwhelmed by the response for extra glasses that we had to make a second order. Some of the phrases Jan suggested, just to get the Board discussion started, were hilarious. "Virus Did Not Stop Us; Pandemic Ditch Race; COVID Chaos; Sail On COVID Survivor; No Flags, No Problem; No Stopping SYSCO".



FROM THE FRONT

ANNA CAMPAGNA - COMMODORE

In the end we decided making a joke out of surviving COVID-19 was not the best option. We settled on "The Lost Year." We certainly hope to see those folks who passed up racing in 2020 will be able to return to their regular routine this winter, or perhaps next Spring.

I expect to see you all on the Virtual Zoom-call OCSA Tropical Party on October 16! And I definitely hope to see you all on the water soon.

Anna Campagna
Commodore



Photos by Anna Campagna

FROM THE REAR

MICHAEL MORRISSEY - REAR COMMODORE

One-Design Regatta – Michael Morrissey

September was like no other for the Pacific Northwest. After a summer of balancing sailing with COVID19, we experienced 48 hours of 40-60 mph winds from the east with humidity levels in the single digits. Everyone had that uneasy feeling around Labor Day, as one could see smoke-clouds to the SE, and the feeling in the pit of your stomach, that this was not good. It wasn't. Several smaller fires in the Cascade range blew up, causing widespread evacuations, loss of numerous homes and tragic deaths in the region. Then came the smoke, followed by a strange inversion layer that lasted a week, and Portland had the worst Air Quality Index (AQI) in the world. It was now shutter in your home, shut the windows and doors and only venture outside if you had to. It was painful, and the Long Distance race to St. Helen's was cancelled, and you woke up in the morning clicking on the AQI app, newly installed on your phone, only to see red and purple and no chance for outdoor activity. Fortunately, a low pressure system finally reached the coast (after 7 days), and rain helped wash particulate matter from the sky. The forecast for the weekend was for light winds but breathable air. It was good to get out of the house and down to the boats, and the One-Design Regatta was on. Four fleets signed up for the races including the J-105s, Melges 24s, Merit 25s and Cal 20s. The SYSCO One-Design Planning team consisted of Michael Morrissey, Craig Daniels, Denny Damore and Dierk Polzin. After several ZOOM call meetings, a plan was put in place for several short



Start of the Melges fleet in the One-Design Regatta series, Photo by M. Morrissey

FROM THE REAR CONTINUED

MICHAEL MORRISSEY - REAR COMMODORE

races for each fleet that would optimize good starts, crew work and general boat handing, even with a restricted crew. Craig and Dierk volunteered to be RC setting up the courses in Pancho and a second Boston Whaler lent by Passion Yachts. The forecast wasn't great — light winds with a possibility of showers — but most of the boats made it to the starting area happy to be sailing again. The start was wisely delayed for an hour, and then the wind filled in nicely from the SW. It was a perfect 5-7 mph with puffs to 10 mph, ideal for restricted crews. The Committee ran lots of races, 5 for the J-105s and Melges 24s, 4 for the Merits and Cals, and there were enough shifts and magic puffs to keep things interesting. The sun even appeared for a few hours and the races were run with three- minute starting sequences, which did not allow for much rest in between. It was good fun and although COVID19 restrictions did not allow for post-race bragging rights and story telling among competitors, most racers gave it a thumbs up and want to keep the One-Design Regatta as a part of the SYSCO race races.

Michael Morrissey

Rear Commodore



Photos by Anna Campagna

RACING REPORT

GREGG BRYDEN - RACE CAPTAIN

It is always a sad day when Flying Frog comes out of the water for the winter. Mixed feelings ensued last Tuesday as we scrubbed her hull, lashed her mast to the rails, and floated her on the trailer.

Mixed feelings seems to be the theme this year. Despite COVID and the smoke, this year was a good one for this old boat and her old crew. Short-handing the boat this year presented some challenges, but we managed to win a few races *and* stay healthy thanks to masks and lots of hand sanitizer. Our Ranger 20 fleet provided some great competition, but we missed the spontaneous post-race parties at the docks where we used to brag about, explain, and occasionally apologize for our race moves. I had faith we could race safely under our guidelines but worried what would happen if we were not careful enough.

While this has been a tough year in so many ways, I have to count my blessings: Being part of a great sailing community that comes together to keep our sport safe and alive. The committed efforts of our Board members who provide the perspective and energy to help us “keep calm and carry on.” The sheer joy of just going out for a sail on a day when you can see the sky and breathe. Watching new traditions like last week’s highly successful one-design match racing take hold.



Frog and Tucker dog watch the Sailing on Sunday racers sail by.

RACING REPORT CONTINUED

GREGG BRYDEN - RACE CAPTAIN

Next year is sure to pose new challenges, but I am confident we can meet them. I look forward to working with Dennis Damore, who is slated to be our new Race Captain in 2021, to put on another great season of racing. Some of the issues Dennis and I have already begun discussing include:

- Balancing the number of boats on Tuesdays and Thursdays—we consistently have about twenty more boats racing Thursdays than on Tuesdays.
- Making sure RC duties are shared more fairly so that it is not always the same skippers putting up platforms and crews to run races.
- Getting more marks on Pancho and providing more interesting race courses while recognizing limited RC staffing.

We welcome your ideas and comments on how we can improve SYSCO racing in 2021. Send us an email at Race_Captain@SYSCO_Sailing.org and I'll share your ideas with Denny.

Greg Bryden

Race Captain



Photos by Anna Campagna

SYSCO BOARD MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 8 2020

Attendees: Anna Campagna, Scott Stevenson, Gregg Bryden, Lynn Eastes, Michael Morrissey, Jan Burkhart, Bruce Newton, Jacqueline Pitter, Denny Damore, Darren Posey, Stephanie Walker, David Paul, Bill Sanborn

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order electronically at 5:34pm. This meeting was done remotely using Zoom.

Membership Report: Jan Burkhart

2 memberships in August

New Member applicant.

1) Kerry & Amy Cakebread Regular Membership 8/22/20
Cal 20 *Light Speed*

West Linn, OR Volunteering for Mark Boat.

Action: SYSCO board voted to approve the Cakebreads for membership

1 renewal (Tolliver). Last joined in 2016 (7/22/20)

SYSCO membership:

92 Regular Members @ \$120.

12 Associate Members @ \$25.

104 Total SYSCO Members

Treasurer Report: Scott Stevenson

\$5603.00 in checking

\$6489.00 in reserve fund

\$12,092.00 total cash assets

No significant upcoming bills outstanding

Discussion about ordering more pint glasses. We have approximately 9 unclaimed glasses left. Sixteen members did not respond to inquiry about whether they wanted glasses or not. After much discussion, we decided to just use the 9 glasses we currently have and not order more. The end of this week is the deadline. Several volunteers will distribute them off their respective porches.

Racing report: Gregg Bryden

- It was a successful race season despite significant challenges
- Next year, Gregg suggests that the race captain codifies some of the rules to be more consistent with other racing organizations. Jackie reminded everyone that any rules changes would need to be presented and approved by OCSA for approval by October.
- Gregg has recruited a new race captain: Denny Damore has agreed to do this job. He is requesting that someone be an apprentice under him to take over the following year.

SYSCO BOARD MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED

SEPTEMBER 8, 2020, CONTINUED

- Still need to recruit the “race wrangler” for both Tuesday and Thursday nights. This individual(s) could be race captain the following year.
- There are still some upcoming races
 - One design race September 19. There are 10 boats signed up so far
 - There will be a Match racing seminar in March. We can possibly do a match race in place of a beer can. Michael proposed a 1-day training with practice runs
- Pancho will be pulled at the end of the month
- Northsails will be repairing some of the marks that have been damaged
- Long Distance race has been shortened to one day. 14 boats are signed up.
- Gregg has agreed to be commodore in 2021

Other Business

- OCSA trophy nominations are open

Action: Anna will send this reminder to the fleet captains to nominate someone. A brief blurb about each trophy will be provided

- Tropical Party will be virtual on Friday, October 16th.

Action: Anna will provide tropical drink recipes for the virtual banquet

- Discussion about succession planning. Denny Damore recommended building a list of offices with their respective duties and have the listing of opportunities available on the website. We need to be more deliberate and dedicated to the approach to recruiting new people to help.
- Currently the only about 50% of the cruising fleet participates in SYSCO responsibilities.
- Gregg reminded the group that the Tuesday and Thursday night numbers need to be rebalanced for next year. Many cruisers race on both nights but do not pay the double SYSCO memberships as required. This will be more strictly enforced next year.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm

SYSCO BOARD MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED

OCTOBER 5, 2020

Attendees: Anna Campagna, Scott Stevenson, Gregg Bryden, Lynn Eastes, Michael Morrissey, Jan Burkhart, Bruce Newton, Jacqueline Pitter, Denny Damore, Stephanie Walker, Bill Sanborn, Craig Daniels, Michelle Bennet, Rick Samuels
Call to Order: The meeting was called to order electronically at 5:35 pm. This meeting was done remotely using Zoom.

Membership Report: Jan Burkhart
SYSCO membership:

92 Regular Members.

12 Associate Members.

104 Total SYSCO Members

Treasurer Report: Scott Stevenson

12/31/2019 10/3/2020 Account Balance

Bank Accounts SYSCO Checking \$5,084.93 SYSCO Reserve \$ 6,489.34 TOTAL

Bank Accounts \$11,574.27

Racing report: Gregg Bryden

- Pancho is put away for the year. Needs bottom paint in the Spring. Trailer is well locked since our theft 2 years ago.
- One Design Race went well. There were approximately 12 boats. Fleet races got several races. This was so successful, we will plan to do it again next year
- Discussion about Match Races next year. These will be done in place of a few Beer Can races. Craig Daniels commented that they will do several educational sessions prior to the race. Michael, Craig, and others will plan this out and get it in the race book
- Gregg commented that we might want to try conducting more races that are shorter next season
- Tuesday/Thursday Wranglers (Race coordinators): Gregg will make phone calls to fill these positions. Also need a Pancho engineer.
- Discussion about Beer Can attendance – Attendance was good, however, this was an unusual year and not necessarily one to be used for comparison
- Ranger Nationals will be held exactly the same time period as this year's was scheduled. Finding a pro to run the race can be difficult, so the Ranger fleet should contact people immediately

SYSCO BOARD MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED

OCTOBER 5, 2020, CONTINUED

Other Business

- OCSA Virtual tropical party will be held via Zoom. We have the budget to hire a technical person to assist with this very large undertaking.

- This will be Friday, October 16.

- OCSA is in need of a Vice Commodore for 2021. Jacqueline Pitter, current OCSA Vice Commodore, asked for suggestions. The group identified a few individuals who could be contacted to see if they would fill this role.

Update on SYSCO "The Lost Year" Pint glasses

- SYSCO created Commemorative Pint Glasses to give away in lieu of trophies this year. The concept came from Jan Burkhart. Anna Campagna designed the glass. SYSCO gave two free glasses to each member, and 1 free glass to earth Associate member. Of 104 members, 98 members requested glasses.

- We distributed a total of 336 glasses in the first round. Because it was so popular, we created an order form for members to order extra glasses to give to their crew members. 4 individuals who were not members ordered glasses. Another batch of 34 glasses was ordered to fill last minute requests after the first batch was distributed. We charged \$5. each (a slight loss) from a Bitly Order form set up by Jacqueline Pitter. People paid SYSCO by check or PayPal after they ordered (honor system). SYSCO ordered the glasses from Dormer's in Newberg. They cost \$6.25 each with a setup free of \$35.

- Big thank you to Jan Burkhart for coordinating this entire process.



Photo by Nelly, breeze and Jan Burkhart

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 pm