

GARDEN BAY SAILING CLUB

January Saturday Races

January should have been a stellar month as, in theory, we had five racing weekends. But in spite of willing skippers and crews we only managed to get three races completed. As is to be expected the first race of the year saw a good turnout of five boats on the course. The following week was a bit of a drifter, but *Pendulum* (Keith Maxwell) is to be congratulated for coming all the way from Secret Cove to participate. I hope that we will see much more of them during the season. The race on 17 January had to be abandoned half way through due to lack of wind! Although there were a few who would have loved to stay out all day, a Pub Gathering had been scheduled so eventually sails were furled and thirsts were quenched!

The final race of the month saw five boats out on the course, however there was only a very light breeze. It was good to see YippeKiYae and Wings II back on the water, and hopefully as we get into February others will be inspired to return!

Next Pub Meeting

The next gathering will be held on Saturday 21 February. As usual it will start after the race, or at 12 noon if there happens to be no race that week.

I look forward to seeing you then.

Combined Club meeting

There has been a request that in order to breakup the winter blues we should have a meeting which involves the GBSC, the Power Squadron, and the RCSAR groups. Let me have your thoughts and interest level.

Memberships

The membership forms were emailed earlier last month and I would ask you to kindly return them at your earliest convenience. Only fill out the form if there are changes.

I would also like to thank those members who have generously made contributions over and above their membership fee.

Pender Harbour Days

A community wide event is being scheduled on the weekend of July 10-12, and the first thing on the agenda on the Saturday is an Invitational Sailboat Race. As this event is going to be getting a lot of publicity we can expect to see a few more boats taking part in our Saturday Race. It would also be a great opportunity to take "new" crew out to show them the joy of sailing.

Depending on the weather we will try to set a course that takes in all the corners of the harbour.

If anyone has any suggestions I would appreciate hearing from you.

Caps and Burgees

Just a reminder to anyone who may not have picked up their order, or who needs replacements, that we have both colours in stock. The cost is \$20 each.

Are you allowed to kedge?

Kedging was the method of moving a sailing vessel, typically against the wind or out from a dead calm, by hauling on a line attached to a kedge anchor, a sea anchor or a fixed object, such as a bollard. In small boats, the anchor may be thrown in the intended direction of progress and hauled in after it settles, thus pulling the boat in that direction.

So are you allowed to drop anchor in a race? And what are the rules when you do that?

Well the answer is that you can drop anchor to stop your boat from drifting backwards. Such a situation could be when the current exceeds the wind's ability to keep the boat moving forwards.

In some clubs where the course is subject to strong currents the race instructions often specifically require boats

to carry a kedge anchor, and boats are disqualified if they are found to be in breach of it.

There is no rule that specifically applies to anchoring but it is generally understood to fall under Rule 42: "*Except when permitted in Rule 42.3 or 45, a boat shall compete by using only the wind and water to increase, maintain or decrease her speed. Her crew may adjust the trim of sails and hull, and perform other acts of seamanship, but shall not otherwise move their bodies to propel the boat*".

This means that when one is retrieving ones anchor one must be very careful not to pull on the line in any way which would result in the boat proceeding along the course.

For those who have been following the Volvo Ocean Race you will have seen this being correctly performed by a number of the boats as they worked their way very slowly through the Malacca Straits.

Malaspina Regatta 2015

Canada Day falls on Wednesday this year so the date for the Malaspina Regatta has been set for Saturday 4 July. Please mark your calendars.

Once again it will follow the same schedule as in the last few years, with the BBQ being held at Fisherman's Resort and Marina.

We will be looking for volunteers to help with the running of the regatta as well as helping with the BBQ and food service. Please call David at 604-883-1199 or email davidtwentyman@dccnet.com

Pacific Yachting

For those who have not seen this month's edition there is a good article on *About Time*, the Marlow Hunter 37, owned by GBSC member Munson McKinney. Well done Munson, look forward to your return to the Saturday Races.

Fair Winds

David Ll. Twentyman