

GARDEN BAY SAILING CLUB

NORTH SAILS Presentation on Sail Trim



North Sails Presentation

On 16th of January Drew Mitchell from North Sails and Gary White, their Sunshine Coast representative, came to the Garden Bay Pub to give members a very informative and interesting talk on sail trim and controls.

The twenty-one members of the club who attended were treated to a very clearly delivered talk, which covered Mainsail adjustments using halyard tension, cunningham, outhaul, traveller position and boomvang, all in light air conditions.

This was followed by a section on genoa trim and how the use of backstay tension, lead car position, and halyard tension all affect the shape of the sail.

Drew also spoke about North Sails and their preeminent position in world sailing.

There was a wealth of information, which at times may have been hard to fully absorb, however, it awoke in all the attendees the realization of how much more we all could be doing to optimize our boats.

Drew promised to send us a summary of his presentation and I shall circulate it as soon as it is received.

Membership renewals

I am delighted to report that at the time of writing a total of 35 people have so far renewed their memberships in the GBSC. This is excellent and I look forward to receiving more shortly.

Saturday Races

We managed to get in four races this month and there was a good attendance for all of them. Maybe the seminar helped to focus skippers on the possible things they could do, and they were itching to try out their new found knowledge!

Nine boats came out on the 23rd of January but sadly three did not finish due to misjudging the fickle winds at the start. Shortly after, the wind filled in from the west and provided good sailing for the balance of the race.

The final race was held on the Sunday and saw seven boats on the line. Although the winds started light they filled in nicely and saw a number of position changes during the course of the race. Boats are getting closer, which is good to see.

Next Pub Meeting

The next Pub meeting will take place on 20th of February. As you know the

Garden Bay Pub is closed for the unforeseen future. I have spoken with the Grasshopper, and unless anyone wishes to propose an alternative location, we will meet there. A possible alternative could be to raft up at John Barker's dock, if the weather is nice. As a backup I have also contacted Bob Fielding, who says we can use his room at Liaison Marine.

Neighbourhood Clean-up

David Pritchard is spearheading a Spring clean-up for Pender Harbour, and is hoping to have this on Earth Day April 22. As this is a Friday it will probably also include Saturday as well.

If you can volunteer for this excellent task please contact David at davidpritchardph@gmail.com

Race/Cruise Schedule

Andy Paulus has put together a schedule for this year's Race/Cruises and subject to any feedback from members these are the proposed dates and destinations:

28-29 May Secret Cove. Upper Deck

18-19 Jun Van Anda. Potluck

13-14 Nanaimo. Picnic Newcastle Island

3-5 Sep Princess Louisa. Potluck

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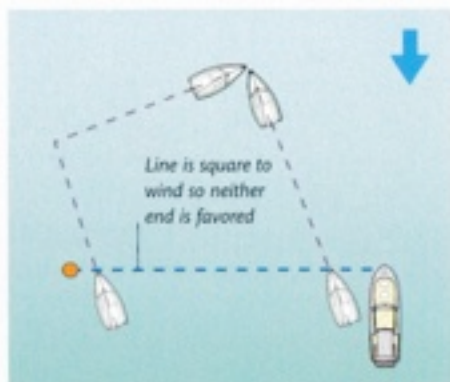
If there are any alternative suggestions please contact Andy at Paulus1@dccnet.com otherwise this will be the plan.

Starting A Race

In order to make a good start there are four things that the skipper must bear in mind:

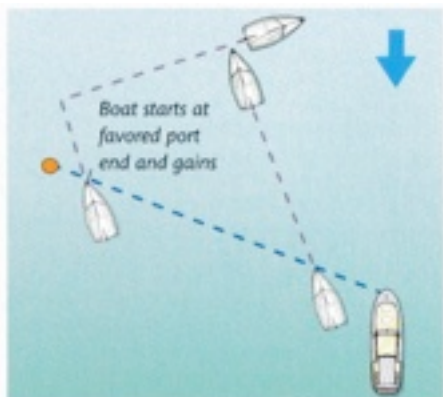
- be just behind the start line at the starting horn
- be traveling at full speed
- have space around you, especially to leeward
- be at the favored end of the line.

So what does this last point mean?



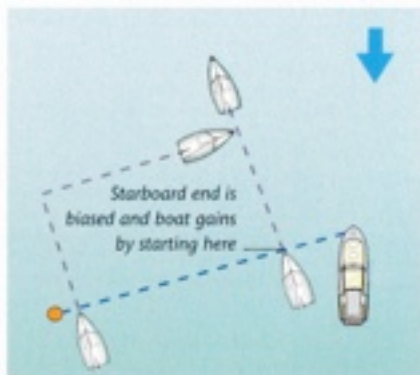
From the diagram above it is clear to see that there is no bias towards either end. i.e. the wind is at 90 degrees to the line, so it does not matter where you start.

In the second diagram, one can see



that the port end of the line is favored, and that a boat starting there will be ahead of a boat starting at the other end.

In the last case the reverse is true.



This is all fine, and I am sure that some of you are asking how do you tell which end is favored?

The simple way to find out which end is favored:

- is to sail along the line,
- sheet in the main so that the sails are correctly set, with the traveller on the centre line,
- cleat the main sheet,
- then tack around and sail the other way, Do not adjust the main sheet.
- look at how the mainsail is setting,
- if it is over-sheeted and needs to be eased then you are pointing away from the favored end,
- if it is flapping slightly and needs to be sheeted in, then you are pointing at the favored end.

Easier said than done but good luck!

Book Reviews

I have often raised different subjects that we can cover in our Newsletter and would like to add the suggestion of David Pritchard for a new topic; Book Reviews.

David will be submitting an article for next month, and I invite you to offer your reviews.

There are still the topics of: Skipper's Profile; Boat Profile; Tell Tales; Projects on

boats, which you are welcome to submit and can be added at any time. So put pen to paper and write something for the newsletter. Thank you.

Sail Improvements

The following members have purchased new sails:

Claus Sjogren - North: Main and Genoa
Tommy Spooner - " " "
John Mattisson - UK: Genoa

This I am sure will over time bring some major changes to the rankings, so watch for great Saturday races!!

Common Courtesy

It sometimes happens that boats taking part in a race withdraw voluntarily, and then motor up to join the fleet.

Under Rule 24.1 it says: "If reasonably possible, a boat not racing shall not interfere with a boat that is racing."

For further clarification: "A boat is racing from her preparatory signal until she finishes and clears the finishing line and marks or retires, or until the race committee signals a general recall, postponement or abandonment."

In the cases where I advise skippers that they can rejoin the race using motors it is expected that they rejoin at the end of the fleet not in the middle!

Thank you!

Race Management Course

As a club we always face the challenge of finding people who can officiate at the Malaspina Regatta. BC Sailing are putting on a course at the Jericho Sailing Centre on Tuesday, February 23 at 7pm.

If you are interested in taking it please contact Holly Slaney at 604-224-4177 or email admin@isca.bc.ca The introductory course costs \$20 and those who attend will be certified 'Assistant Race Officer'.

Fair Winds

David Ll. Twentyman