

GARDEN BAY SAILING CLUB

Saturday Races

Another quiet month on the water. Some members were away, the weather was awful the first weekend, and Valentine's Day made skippers choose their real partners on the second Saturday. However we managed to get 6 boats out the third week. Tommy Spooner was unable to get *Le Belle Rêve* running so inveigled a friend to try his luck. Although they did not finish, I am delighted to say that Darryl Desjardins and *Miss Jane II* (Hunter 38) decided to join the GBSC. We look forward to his participation in our races as well as cruises. Welcome Darryl. After the race we had



our monthly Pub gathering.

The last weekend saw 5 boats on the start line. For a change we had a "Boomerang" race, and this resulted in a very close finish between all the boats. Only 2mins 47 secs between first and last.

Once again I would ask skippers to call me 604-883-1199 on Saturday around ten o'clock, so I know if marks need to be put out. If I don't hear from anyone then they will not be there! This is more important in the winter months when fewer boats take part in the Saturday Races. Once the Summer Series starts there is usually enough interest, and a call is not as necessary.

Memberships

There has been a good response to payment of memberships and at the time of writing we had 30 renewals. This compares with 28 payed up members in 2013 and 36 in 2014. It is very important that we retain our members, and ideally I would like to see our membership grow each year.

Some members have sold their boats and plan to replace them. While others have switched to power, but hopefully they will still enjoy being part of the GBSC and continue to participate in Club events.

Line controls

Do you have the odd control that is out of reach like the outhaul, or awkward to adjust like the Genoa Cars stops? We all do, and the result is that we end up not using those controls. This in turn results in the inability to adjust the shape of our sails, and therefore we go slower.

The next time that you go down to your boat take a good look at your line controls, and think how they could be changed so that they are once again useable.

I know that the original outhaul cleat on *Peregrine* was three quarters of the way down the boom, and well out of reach from the cockpit. It was therefore awkward to adjust. If I went forward on the deck it was equally tricky because the dodger was in the way, and I then had to push as opposed to pull on the line. This meant that I could not really apply much force. The other tricky fact was that single handing meant that the wheel was left unattended!

The solution was a simple one of moving the cam cleat back 3 feet on the boom so that it was within easy reach!

How about those Pin Stop Jib Cars! I know that they are a pain to adjust, and impossible to move when they are under any pressure. There are a number of makers of adjustable cars, which allows them to be moved while under sail. Some are very expensive, but others are worth considering.

Another control that gets overlooked is the Main traveler. Sometimes it is just a matter of stripping them down, and cleaning out all the "gunk" that seems to get attracted to those inaccessible corners. Others, however, may need replacement because the cars or track have got too badly worn.

Now is the time to check these things out before the season gets underway.

Malaspina Regatta

It is still many months away but I would like to start getting organized.

The one biggest task is finding volunteers. I shall be adding a section to each Newsletter where I will show the positions we need help with, and as they are filled in we will add the names.

Tents Pick up (Music School): **David Twentyman, Paul Kappeli**

Tent Pick up (Lions): **John Mattison**

Tent Pick up (Power Squadron): (Need 1)

Dingy Races (Need 2): **David Hoens,**

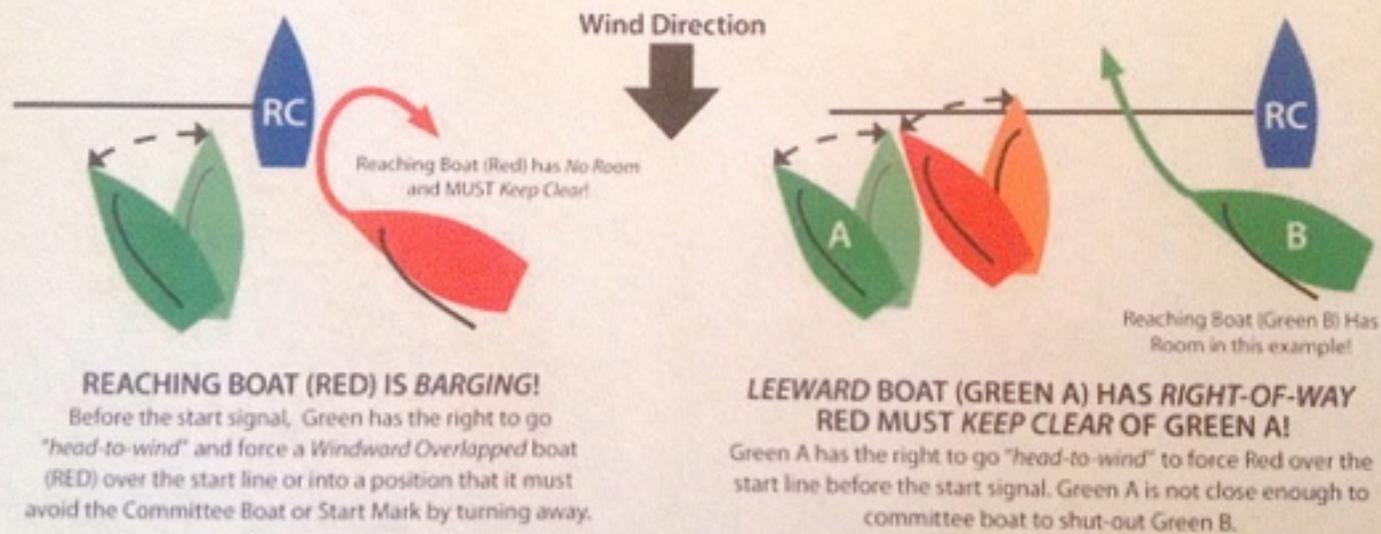
The other important area requiring your assistance is with the food tables setup, and general help with serving. Louise would appreciate hearing from anyone who can help with the set up during the race, as well as during the actual BBQ. Please contact her at louisetwentyman@dccnet.com or 883-1199. We would be grateful if this could be shared with your families who might not ordinarily see this missive!

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Starting Rules and Barging

A Leeward boat has *Right-of-Way* at the start and is allowed to sail above her *Proper Course* to shut-out any boat heading into the start before the start signal. After the start signal, the Leeward boat must assume her *proper course*. Any boat that tries to squeeze into the start from the side without *Right-of-Way* is considered to be barging and is in violation of the rules. It's a common mistake to try to force your way in at the last second because you did not set up properly in the first place. Don't do it! Just slow down, take your turn, and try to get into a better position next time.



Barging

This is a rule that we have looked at many times but it never hurts to repeat it. I found this diagram on line and thought that it explained it very clearly. Naturally this only occurs at the pin end of the line in our case, as we have an Obstruction at the other end of our Start line in the form of a dock. This means that boats have to call for room to tack or make a costly error.

Pender Harbour Days

I covered this event in last month's Newsletter. The Saturday race that week will be held at 10 o'clock instead of 12 so that people can get to other events in time. There had been the request that skippers consider taking on "visitors" for the race, but the organizers of the PH Days have now dropped this idea. That does not mean that you shouldn't!

Summer Racing Series

At the beginning of April we will once again be starting the Summer Race Series. I would like to remind skippers that this is a series based not only on how well you do in a race, but also on the number of times you come out, as well as the number of boats taking part in each race. So the more the merrier and help increase the number of points that you can earn.

On those weekends when there is a cruise, the results of any race that might be organized in PH do not count in the Summer Series.

Cruising Schedule 2015

Once again Andy Paulus has very kindly agreed to be our Cruising Coordinator for this year. He has put together the following dates and destinations and would like to hear from

you if you have any alternative places that we could try. He would like to have this finalized in time for the next Pub meeting.

6-7 June to Secret Cove

8-9 August to Van Anda

11-13 September to Princess Louisa

Please contact him if you have any suggestions, or changes to these destinations Paulus1@dccnet.com or at 604- 885-2665

Next Pub Meeting

The next gathering will be on Saturday 14 March. As usual it will take place after the race, or at 12 noon if there happens to be no race that week.

Mark your calendars and I hope to see you there!

Fair Winds

David Ll. Twentyman