

2018 Race & Regatta Report

As the 2018 sailing comes to an end, the entire PYC should take pride in what has been accomplished this year.

This year the Fleet Captain positions were filled by some new faces, and familiar faces in new roles, as Kara & Mike Kaiser took over the role for the X fleet, after many years as Opti Fleet Captains. The X Fleet has gotten in most of their scheduled races, and typically sees at least a dozen boats on Saturday mornings.

Bill Lieber and Mike Boland stepped into the Opti spot, where they added a separate green fleet for keeping the newest sailors engaged on the race course. They continued the tradition of having parents as judges, and the reports are quite favorable that this division between the more experienced Opti sailors and the newer skippers is helping to grow confidence in this growing fleet.

Kent Jones continues as Fleet Captain for the Lasers, which has the widest range of ages of competitors. The boat is certainly an equalizer, as age, gender and size seem to matter very little and Wednesdays find about eight boats on the line, eager to get in as many races as the RC can squeeze in.

Alec Bishoff was again Fleet Captain for the M17 fleet, which typically sees about four boats competing.

Dan Quiram stepped into the MC Fleet Captain role. The MCs have been active on Sunday mornings as well as a dedicated group showing up for the Twilight Series. The MC Nationals will be hosted by the PYC in late August, with over 70 boats attending.

The C Fleet has the most challenging schedule this season, as the combination of PYC-hosted regattas, along with C-Scow events on Delavan, Beulah and Okauchee meant long stretches between championship racing on Pewaukee. But with over a dozen boats in the fleet, and quite a few of those coming out for the Twilight Series, Cody Ziegler's role as Fleet Captain continues to with a strong group of sailors. PYC hosts the 2019 C Nationals, so the fleet should get plenty of time on home waters next year.

The E Fleet, with Matt Peterson as Fleet Captain, was a little luckier with the weather and the schedule aligning. All 14 trophies were sailed for by the middle of August, with nine different winners, proving the competitiveness of this fleet. With four new boats added to the fleet this year, 15 boats on the starting line was not uncommon.

The A Fleet, with Fleet Captain Matt Weber, also saw significant growth, as seven boats have been competing on Sunday afternoons. It's great to see that many sailors on the water in this fleet.

As mentioned above, the PYC hosted the X and Opti Inland Championships in July. The X Chairs were Joby Boland, AJ Schweda and Dave Dexter. The Opti Inland was run by Sarah Spencer, Heidi Schweda and Nyla Burns. These groups, along with hundreds of volunteers, put in an amazing effort and everyone should be proud of these results. The X Inland alone saw 115 boats, representing 17 Yacht Clubs. The weather provided great conditions, and the quality of racing was bested only by the on-shore entertainment, meals and outstanding preparation that made these events run so smoothly. Next up is the MC National Championships, followed in September by the E Blue Chip Regatta.

On the logistics side of things, there were some significant changes made with a new scoring system, Regatta Toolbox, being used for posting results in a timely manner. A new starting system, the iStart, was installed on both Race Committee Boats. This system was embraced by the judging teams, who have reported that its simple operation has made accurate starts much easier. One of the boats was out of commission for a few weeks as repairs were made to the engine, but volunteers were able to step in with alternate boats when needed.

The ILYA announced the #FairSailing initiative in early 2018. At the heart of this program is the concept of improving education amongst competitors and instilling the sportsman-like conduct feeling that is the cornerstone of our sport. Essentially, by knowing the rules, we are better able to compete under them fairly. The ILYA has put forth a few programs to expand education amongst inland sailors: Weekly Scowlines Newsletter with rules and news about #FairSailing; an online rules quiz (complete with prizes) <https://sailzing.com/ilya-fair-sailing-initiative/> for all sailors to take; and online videos and live presentations. Rick Roy presented the first Rules Review Seminar in June, and we expect to be hosting more of these events in the coming months, aimed at youth and adult sailors (and race committee members) of all experience levels.

16 Race Committees, representing over 150 volunteers, along with head judges Mark DeGuire, Rick Roy and Tom Hyslop, were able to execute a safe, fun and fair racing season. Volunteers are always welcome to join a team, as it is a core component of the success of the club.

The Race & Regatta Chairs are already working on the schedule for 2019, along with enhancements to the equipment for the boats and continued programs in support of #FairSailing.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte Peterson & Matt Weber

PYC Race & Regatta Committee Co-Chairs