

SUMMARY

MBSA GENERAL MEETING

Feb 6, 2019

In attendance: Doug R, Jeff S, Jim W, Jody G, Lance R, Melissa V, Mitch , Russ C, Tom A, Bill Collins, Carl Doane, Carl Zimba, Clarke Smith, Ernie Hardy, Julee Colella, Karen Tenenbaum, Mark D'Onofrio, Michael Connolly, Paula Filias, Rob Gorman, Steve Kavanagh, Sue Hardy, Tyler Jupp, Dave DiLorenzo.

I. ELECTION:

MBSA Officers were voted in for the 2019 season.

President	Doug Ryan	<u>Executive Committee</u>
VP Offshore	Lance Ryley	Jody Graul
Treasurer	Jim Whipple	Russ Chapman
Secretary	Melissa Verrochi	Tom Anderson
Steve Wilson	Marketing/PR	Mitch Wiest
Jeff Silverman	Membership	

Open Seats: VP Juniors and VP One Design

Anyone with interest in serving on the board is encouraged to speak to the current board members. New members are welcome.

An inquiry as to what MBSA does with **junior programs** led to a quick summary of current activity: The Junior programs in Mass Bay are welcome to operate under MBSA and use its 5013C tax status for donations and raising funds, collaborate to schedule events (as the handicap division does), use the facebook page to promote events and awareness, and whatever else MBSA has to offer. Currently, there's a group of 5-6 clubs on the South Shore that use the MBSA umbrella, and MBSA is excited to assist them in anyway it can.

II SCHEDULE:

Lance circulated the latest version of the summer 2019 schedule for review. A few changes had been incorporated from the last meeting in December. The Flip Flop is planned for August 10. Scituate Invitational will be June 29 (a jump from its early August tradition). The Chowder Cup (HB) will be Sept 14 and Solstice June 22.

Courageous (Dave DiLorenzo) inquired about changing the Flip Flop from mid-summer to after Labor Day for the 2020 season in response to feedback that too many boats are away cruising in mid-summer but would come if the race were later in the season. Dave emphasized Courageous' interest in being a good neighbors, sharing water/race space and dates with the other sailing organizations. More discussion to follow to not only cooperate with the handicap races, but also to avoid space issues with Cottage Park's Snipes race (9/22-26).

III Ted Hood Regatta

Qualifier and/or Multiplier:

A question had been raised as to whether THR should be a qualifier for MBSA season standings and if it should get a multiplier. The board asked delegates how they wanted to handle this and recommended allowing for a multiplier of 1.25. A motion was made, seconded, and carried that THR be a Q race with a multiplier of 1.25.

THR open to registering all boats.

Clarke Smith expressed THR's interest in being open to all classes. Any boat can currently register for either ORR-EZ or PHRF fleets. There's also opportunity to include a sporty boat fleet and to include one design. If 5 or more boats sign up for a fleet, THR will give them a start line. The early sign up does not require payment yet, but will be helpful to the organizers to set up potential classes.

THR as PHRF and the ORR-EZ Championships

PHRF-NE has approached the THR committee to name the THR as the PHRF New Championships for 2019. THR regatta also asked MBSA about working with ORA to name the THR the ORR-EZ Championships as well. That should lead up to an exciting weekend. (Doug R will contact ORA about their involvement in making this the EZ championship. Russ says we can easily support the scoring of such a race. Lance will follow up with Clarke on getting the yearbook page organized and submitted.)

IV ORR-EZ update

SHORT-HANDED Certificates:

Anyone who applies for a certificate can also get a short-handed certificate for an additional \$25 (single or double handed). Organizing Authorities are encouraged to keep this in mind when writing up NOR's and to consider including short-handed fleets, especially for long distance, ocean races.

ORR-EZ Standardization:

ORA is standardizing the course types and wind ranges for the upcoming season. The wind ranges and course selections will no longer be based on MBSA GSI ranges. Course options will include more options, such as WL 50-50 (half up, half down) or 60-40 (60% one way, 40% the other), random legs and point-to-point. There will be a few more numbers for Time-on-time and easier to run for pursuit races!

Individual boat Issues:

For MBSA area, there are about 16-20 boats whose VPP ratings are under review for the upcoming season. As our meeting continued, various delegates brought up specific boats with concerns. All of them were on the list of those boats being reassessed.

MBSA subsidies:

For any boat registering for an ORR-EZ certificate for the first time, MBSA will extend the \$25 subsidy given out last year (for first time applicants). Renewal certificates are \$75. If you have reconfigured your boat and are applying for a new certificate (but had an EZ cert last year), the subsidy does not apply.

One Design: EZ made easier!

If 5 identical boats apply for an EZ cert and qualify for the same rating, the cost per boat will be \$25. As boats sign up, they will be considered individual boats until the 5th identical boat signs up. Then, the discounted rate kicks in for all boats (including additional boats).

V Year in Review: Good and Bad report from delegates

In general, the report is that EZ was met with optimism and adapted easily to benefit programs.

- Scituate: all went well. A couple of boats need review (including a double masted boat). The list of boats will be sent to Lance to ensure they are reviewed.
- Manchester ran the Patton Bowl as EZ and were very happy with it. They were nervous at first but found EZ to be great. They considered using it for Crocker but have many 'one-off' boats. Lance and MBSA will help the committee use information from other areas for boats similar to those in the Crocker.
- Eastern Point is on board with EZ. They enjoyed and took advantage of RMS's option to auto issue a temporary rating for PHRF boats. Boats like that.
- Sporty Boats—There's movement afoot to group sporty boats in one class as they are affected similarly by conditions and are enthused about racing each other. Lance is taking lead on this.
- Corinthian used EZ and had no complaints, no problem. They intend to do more EZ this summer.
- Courageous reports that it has many PHRF voices in their contingency with a growing band of EZ supporters. It's Courageous' intent to support maximum participation by utilizing either according to demand.
- Jubilee used EZ for the Jubilee Regatta and Phil Small and report it went well. They encountered really big wind swings which created a glitch with the ratios. Whether to use EZ or PHRF on Thursday nights will be debated later this week.
- Boston YC will continue as they did last year. They report a strong PHRF contingent on Wed night and will stick with PHRF. For weekends, they may use either recognizing that both rating systems are in place in Mass Bay. They found for beer can racing on Wed nights, people wanted to know by how much they're winning/loosing as they race, thus will use the phrf. The Beringer utilized ORR-EZ.
- Hingham Bay is happy with the decision to go all EZ. While they have some issues, as any OA has, none of the issues have to do with ratings.
- Marblehead YC says the Clemson is going EZ this summer!
- The Great Chase Race in Hull was the first pursuit race to use EZ and worked with RMS to develop an easy to use system for TOT pursuits!

MBSA GSI's and Class Splits

MBSA will be updating the by-laws and GSI's to accommodate changes and updates concerning ORR-EZ now that we have a year under our collective belt.

Class Splits may change. They will be generally consistent with last year's splits. How we will arrive at the new splits is yet to be determined, but it will be clear once it's determined. The split will be based off one rating number out of the array of numbers assigned to one boat. Submit ideas for consideration. (Some questions considered include: do we need a 6th class? Sporty boat division? Will adjustments help reduce boat classes? Is there an EZ marker at which point the numbers become more skewed?)

GSI: Some suggestions have already been submitted. Any others are welcome. Carl Z sent in good updates to rules 20.9 and 20.10. Any other suggestions or concerns should be sent to Russ or Lance.

Once the GSI and by-laws have been rewritten, a draft will be sent out to all delegates for review.

EMAIL BLASTS:

MBSA encourages any and all Organizing Authorities to utilize the MBSA email blasts which reaches all MBSA members. (This will hopefully reduce the number of questions sent to Lance about specific regattas and get those questions answered more quickly by those running the race.)

****** YEARBOOK PAGES due by Mar 8, 2019 ******

Addendum:

At the executive meeting just prior to this meeting, it was decided to further support the US Coast Guard men and women by making an additional \$500 contribution to the Coast Guard Relief Fund. An earlier facebook post and email blast met with much support from our members, so MBSA will be encouraging the membership again to support the GC with another shut-down looming. Stay tuned for more information.