



# Bluewater Bay Sailing Club NEWSLETTER

March 2009

Promoting Sailing, Boating, & Related Activities!



The 2009 racing season kicked off with the Chili Dog Regatta on 21 February. It was a beautiful day with winds coming out of the South East at 8 to 12 knots. Eight boats, including one laser, registered to race with the traditional entry fee for this race being a tacky trophy. This year they ranged from an old tiller to a half finished bottle of rum. The race was run by Mickey Duvall who adjusted the base PHRF ratings based on several different factors such as crew size, use of spinnaker, fixed prop etc. He also employed a Bermuda start with an added wrinkle that when the first boat rounded the last mark, which was Grass Lake, all the boats would head for the finish line. The idea was to finish all the boats as close as possible to each other so everybody could be present for the start of the Chili cook off. The plan worked with all 8 boats finishing within 13 minutes of each other. The race results were:



1	Maverick	Bob Hutchinson
2	Head High	Chad Knaepple
3	Avocet	Pat Ballasch
4	Whit's End	Tom Whittemore
5	Pandemonium	Bill Deming
6	Chili (Laser)	Zack Kastl
7	Kayla	Michael Phillips



The Chili cook off was another success this year with 11 entries (two more than last year). It was going to be a difficult task to decide on the best recipe since they were all excellent. It was finally decided to base the judgment on applause. The winner was Pat Hutchinson who was awarded \$25 gift certificate to L J Schooner's restaurant.

I want to thank everybody for coming out for the race and chili cook off and a special thanks to Mickey for running a great race and to all the Chili Chefs for there outstanding contributions.

The next event is the Start Palooza schedule on 21 March. This event is designed to brush up on your starting skills with several very short races. In addition a discussion of the new rule changes that went into effect this year is planned. There is no entry fee for this event. The Skipper's meeting will be at 11:00 AM in the new bar.

*Bill Deming, PHRF Fleet Captain*

# Small Boat Fleet Report

To all you small boat sailors out there, you know who you are. If you're like me (doubtful) you go outside and hose yourself down in front of fan every couple of weeks to refresh the feel of what it's like to sail fast in a breeze on a boat with a few inches of freeboard that takes bay chop over the bow like a nuclear sub. If you can't remember what that's like and you don't want to try the water hose and fan trick, ask Zach Kastle. He raced the Chili Dog regatta on his Laser a few weeks ago and appeared to be a better man for the experience. All hail Zach!

I can't wait for the first small boat race of the year! Luckily it's coming up shortly on 22 March. Although, I have to admit it, the water is still pretty cold. If we don't get a fairly radical change in temperature, it may be too cold to get a good crowd out for the first race. If it doesn't appear that we can get at least five boats out for the race, I'll postpone the race until a warmer day. I'll be making phone calls to the usual suspects to gauge the level of insanity.

The schedule this year is for six BBSC regattas. We'll have them on Sundays starting at 1:00 PM. I am working with FWYC to finalize the Small Boat Bay Challenge Cup series for 2009. We have discussed a simpler format this year, with a 2-day event

at FWYC and another 2-day event here capped by the awards presentation. This is a slightly condensed format from what we have done in the past, but I'm hopeful we'll increase the turnout on both ends of the bay.

I am looking for volunteers for committee duty for the six small boat regattas and the one weekend Challenge Cup event for 2009. I'll have a signup sheet at the Spring meeting that I hope you will seriously consider signing. I will publish the small boat Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions for 2009 shortly (see the BBSC website). If anyone has any questions or concerns about the small boat fleet (including info on small boats in need of a new home), please let me know, mark.hunter@cox.net.

If you are as tired as I am of the hose and fan make believe, I look forward to seeing you out on the water soon.

*Mark Hunter, Small Boat Fleet Captain*



## Sailing & Fishing

In advance of the sailing season, here's an article on combining two water-based pastimes.

From a CD forum poster, 07-Nov-2008:

I consider this to be a basic set-up for the Ocean and trolling.

Most folks don't know this but Sportfish captains and mates, especially charter boats, hate to see sailboats fishing close by because it is a known fact they raise fish, and raise fish much more consistently than a SF boat. They just seem to have the right buzz and motion. It's embarrassing to be out fished by a sailboat for the charter boat. Remember all this, boat and lures, imitates a school of fish feeding on the surface and the lures are wounded stragglers trying to keep up, appearing as easy pray. Sailboats have a cleaner wake and your lure is much more visible from below. While the Gulfstream deserves great respect in many ways, it also offers a terrific fishing opportunity, especially the edges, and eddies, where blue water and green water rip the surface with opposing currents and major SST differences exist in close proximity. Birds feeding and any breaking school of fish assure a great fishing opportunity.

### TOOLS

- Cotton gloves
- Fisherman's Pliers
- Knife
- Small Hand Gaff
- Longer 3" gaff
- Good stout rod holder
- Small crimping tool
- One release clip
- One 15-18# float ball rigged with 4' of rope and clip.

### TACKLE

- A short, 5', stand-up rod
- Shimano TLD20 or 25, spooled with 30# line
- 100# fluorocarbon leader material
- Spinning rod, 10-12# test set-up

The TLD Shimano reels have stood the test of time and remain the most durable and serviceable reel in the world. Penn has suffered many management and owner changes and frankly they just are not what they used to be. Keep grease and an extra drag washer.

A rod with good quality ceramic rings will outlast the high maintenance roller guides every time and rollers are not needed on light tackle.

### RIGGING

Put a loop in the line with a Bimini twist. Tie the leader into the loop with a modified Albright. Crimp your lure on the leader with an appropriate size double barrel crimp. This is considered a wind-on leader set-up and as simple as it gets.

### LURES

Lures are very regional and any real tackle shop can offer you an assortment for your region. Just be sure they know the speed you intend to pull them. Speed is everything and you need lures which produce at sailboat speeds. Remember most lures are designed to catch fisherman, not fish. On the east coast, consistent producers includes

- Green machines
- Huntington Drone Spoons
- Cedar plugs
- Islander sailures and trackers, also known as Hawaiian-eyes, Blue/White
- Moldcraft Squid and wide-rangers

A good running wide-ranger, for instance, set in the third or fourth wake will break the surface, cup air, and then go sub-surface and trail a stream of bubbles before it breaks the surface again. Depending upon your boat, you may need to place the release clip higher on the backstay, end of the boom, etc, or adjust how far back and where on the swell you put it. Take the time to place it where it works correctly.

Keep the spinning rod at the ready. More than a few Dolphin have been caught by casual casts, with a feather jig, under debris or weeds on the way by and it's well worth the effort.

### WARNINGS

If the thought even crosses your mind that what

you have hooked is more than you can handle cut it loose. More than one big, and I mean BIG, Blue Marlin have jumped the above list of lures. They can take the lure and leave a hole in the water the size of a Volkswagen. You will get spooled so cut it off NOW and settle for the excitement of the strike. Don't even think about bringing any live billfish in the boat. Even a green 40# white marlin can do a substantial amount of damage to a cockpit and crew. Be careful! Almost everything you catch will have teeth and they are as quick as a cat. Sharks; don't even think about it!!! Even a green dolphin can beat stuff up pretty good and toss a hook out of its mouth with speed of an arrow. If you get a hook in you push it all the way through and cut the barbed end off with your bolt cutters. Then it can be backed out cleanly. Yes four fingers of rum will help.

Know the law. A tuna needs to be reported on the east coast and you need a permit if you wish to fish for them. You can not land and sell your catch without a commercial license to do so, so forget it. Stripped Bass are protected as well so be knowledgeable of the laws.

### TUNA TRICK

Most don't want to release this favorite table fish but anything over 30lbs is a handful in the cockpit and they will beat you and your gear up, too! Here is a trick to employ. We are not fishing for IGFA records here. Take the float ball rig, or a fender, and clip it to your reel. Set the drag up heavy and toss everything, yes everything, overboard; Float, rod, reel, everything. Then sail around the ball till it stops bobbing and dunking. Pick up the ball, your rod and reel, and hopefully enough subdued tuna for you and all your friends. You will also need to take the reel down, clean and lube but that is a small price to pay. Don't do this with a Wahoo or you will watch your float go over the horizon!

Finally, be a responsible fisherman if you plan to fish. Honor your catch by taking the time to learn how to prep and preserve its wonderful table qualities. Only catch what you can use and just stop fishing when enough is enough. One decent fish is usually all that is usable. There is nothing uncouth about fishing from a sailboat, so have fun and catch dinner.

# Wednesday Night Races

## Procedures and Scoring for 2009

The official Wet Wednesday racing season starts April 1 and continues through Wednesday, August 26. During the official season, each boat is awarded one point for each race participated in, plus a second point per race for having paid the \$15 fee for the season.

A skipper is awarded 3 points each time he does Race Committee, up to a total of 6 points (i.e., doing race committee twice).

After the end of August, the UNofficial season continues through September (Sept. 2 through Wednesday, Sept. 30). During September there are no more participation points awarded; the racing is just for fun. However, anyone not having already done two race committees WILL receive their three points each time they do race committee during September.

Wednesday night start times will be 6:00PM, with a 6:45 turn-around time if no boat reaches the mark by then. Prizes (read that as beer) are awarded for the first boat to round the mark, and the first boat back to the finish line. At the start, any boat not making the start within three minutes is disqualified from winning first back.

It is with sadness that we report the death of Clifford C. Brabham of Valparaiso, Florida on February 23, 2009. Cliff was a founding member of the Bayou Sailing Club (now Bluewater Bay Sailing Club) in the days when the sailing and races were staged out of Lincoln Park in Valparaiso. In later years, Cliff and his wife, Shera, moved their beautiful, blue hulled Pearson to the Bluewater Bay Marina and were strong supporters and participants in cruising and racing.



Chad Knaepple here...your new BBSC "Beer Commodore". Our former Rear Commodore, Ridge Nye, told me all I had to do was make sure we have plenty of beer at all of the club functions. He lied. Here I am writing this news letter while Ridge is preparing his boat for a cruise to the Bahamas! Cruising season is upon us and our first cruise is just around the corner. The tentative location is marker 50 for April 4th/5th, however; we will make a final decision at the Spring Meeting (March, 14 2009, 6pm at Schooners). The more drinks you buy me the more your vote counts. This years' other cruises and social events are as follows:

*May 30th – June 7th 2009 Extended Cruise*

*July 4th Picnic*

*August 1st Shrimp Boil (2pm)*

*October 10th/11th Fall Cruise*

*Chad Knaepple, Rear Commodore*

## COMMODORE'S CORNER

Congratulations to all who participated in the Annual Chili Dog Regatta. It looks like the cooler weather has finally departed (wishful thinking?), and the 2009 BBSC Sailing Season is upon us. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the Spring Meeting on Saturday, March 14th at 6pm at the Marina Store. We will discuss the upcoming calendar and Bill Deming and Mark Hunter will give their first brief synopses of the changes to the racing rules as well as discussing the upcoming PHRF and Small Boat racing seasons. Chad Knaepple (Rear Commodore) will discuss the cruises including the upcoming Spring Cruise. We will also talk about the Wednesday Night Races which are set to resume on April Fools Day.

Now is the time to get those boats ready!

*Fair Winds, Charlie Mauck, Commodore*

**BBSC Store**

All prices include the cost of adding your boat name.

Order form on [www.bbsc.com](http://www.bbsc.com).

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Men's, Ladies;  
White, Light Blue, and Navy.
- Light blue, short sleeve denim shirts: \$25**
- Light blue, long sleeve denim shirts: \$30**  
Ladies', Men's.
- Windshirts: \$35**  
Navy, Stone.
- Baseball Hats: \$15**
- Boat Bags: \$30**  
Royal, Navy, Hunter
- License Plates: \$10**  
(without name)

For additional information go to [www.bbsc.com](http://www.bbsc.com) or contact Louise Kaunzinger at [zinger48@embarqmail.com](mailto:zinger48@embarqmail.com)

# BBSC SPRING MEETING & Membership Drive

## March 14, 2009

### 6:00 pm @ Schooner's Ship Store

Beer & Hors d'Oeuvres Provided

For More Information — Contact: Charlie Mauck · [commodore@bbsc.com](mailto:commodore@bbsc.com) or Visit: [www.bbsc.com](http://www.bbsc.com)

# Upcoming Events

Sat., March 14	Spring Meeting
Sat., March 21	Start Palooza
Sun., March 22	Small Boat Series #1
Wed., April 1	Wed. Night Races Start
Sat., April 4 & 5	Spring Cruise
Sat., April 18	PHRF Series #1
Sun., April 19	Small Boat Series #2 & Bay Challenge #1

## 2009 BLUEWATER BAY SAILING CLUB BRIDGE

**Commodore: Charlie Mauck**  
*Commodore@bbsc.com*

**Vice-Commodore: Tom Whittemore**  
*Vice-Commodore@bbsc.com*

**Treasurer: Marilyn Ostrominski**  
*678-3150 • Treasurer@bbsc.com*

**Secretary: Scott Pursell**  
*897-7150 • Secretary@bbsc.com*

**Rear-Commodore: Chad Kneapple**  
*Rear-Commodore@bbsc.com*

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*For general information please contact any Bridge Member.  
For race information please contact the Fleet Captain  
or Commodore. Additional information is available at:  
[www.bbsc.com](http://www.bbsc.com)*



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