



COMET

E-NEWS

**September
2013**

www.cometclass.com

From the President's Desk

The Comet Class has been very active over the past several months. The Class is very appreciative of the Shrewsbury Sailing & Yacht Club for hosting a very successful International Championship. They had one of the largest fleets in many years and it was run without a hitch. Seven well run races were followed by an abundance of food and refreshments for three days. Check out the Comet web site and Facebook for the many pictures of the event.

For the first time in many years all the boats were weighed at the Internationals. A majority of the boats were within ten pounds of the minimum weight, with a couple needing to add permanent penalty weights. It is a testament to the quality of the double bottom hulls that they have only gained a few pounds after being sailed for over thirty years. The fact that some of the heavier boats have proven to be very competitive, indicates that being light is not always necessary.

Congratulations to Rudy Bailey and Dominique Neubelt for winning the Championship, and to all the other trophy winners for their achievements. Two other special awards were presented. The President's Cup to Tina Lauver for all her efforts in working on the new web site, helping with the communications to the Class and for running a

“Congratulations to Rudy Bailey and Dominique Neubelt for winning the Championship.”

very successful North Americans. The other special award is the Citizens Cup presented to Jim Ryan. This was in appreciation for all the time,

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2013 COMET DREW BOWL REGATTA & TERRITORY III CHAMPIONSHIP

September 21, 2013

Shrewsbury Sailing & Yacht Club

Racing Format and Venue: Three (3) races will be sailed on the Shrewsbury River.

Entry Fee: The entry fee is \$30.00, which includes: prizes, lunch, and post race refreshments.

Schedule: Skippers Meeting 10:00
Harbor Gun 10:30
First Start 11:00

Contact: Peter Munger 973-600-7587
e-mail: petermunger@me.com

Rudy Bailey Wins 2013 Comet Internationals

by Jim Widdis

Bermuda's Rudy Bailey won the 2013 Comet Internationals hosted by the Shrewsbury Sailing and Yacht Club held August 22nd through the 25th with finishes of 1, 6, 1, 1, 8, 1, 9 for a total of 18 points followed by Bob Slook of SSYC in 2nd place with 23 points and Stephen Widdis of SSYC in 3rd place with 25 points.

Many thanks to SSYC and the tireless efforts of club volunteers on and off the water to make this a memorable event. The festivities began Thursday night with boat weigh-in followed by a barbeque for all in attendance. Three races were sailed on Friday in a medium northerly breeze. PRO Jeff Jacobi set the weather mark close to the northern shore of the Shrewsbury River resulting in varying conditions which provided an added challenge. Racing on Friday was followed by a catered dinner prepared by SSYC member Lynn Estrada and was attended by many SSYC members who enjoyed meeting the

visiting Comet sailors. Three races were sailed on Saturday in lighter conditions followed by one race on Sunday.

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to SSYC for their generous hospitality to make this a memorable event for the Comet Class and SSYC.



look for more photos on pages 5 & 6

2013 Comet International Regatta Results

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1	Comet Class International Championship Regatta 2013											
2												
3	Skipper	Crew	Sail #	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5	Race 6	Race 7	Points	Place
4												
5	Rudy Bailey	Dominique Neubelt	4127	1	6	1	1	8	1	9	18	1
6	Bob Slook	Kelly Brinton	4074	3	9	3	7	1	7	2	23	2
7	Stephen Widdis	Laura Eichorn	3322	DNS 24	2	2	2	3	3	13	25	3
8	Pete Schell	Ainsley Hilfiker	4115	10	1	7	3	7	5	3	26	4
9	Talbot Ingram	Lee Ingram	4099	4	10	14	6	6	2	4	32	5
10	Mike O'Brien	Cathy O'Brien	3090	6	12	4	14	5	4	5	36	6
11	Mark Beaton	Rachel Beaton	4079	9	5	10	4	2	11	22	41	7
12	Elliott Oldak	Barbara Best	4037	5	3	5	16	10	9	15	47	8
13	Mark Hess	Anne Filbert	4114	7	4	9	8	12	8	14	48	9
14	Stuart Van Winkle	Will Hilfiker	406i	13	18	6	12	13	6	6	56	10
15	Brad Meade	Teddy Schroeder	3468	2	17	19	10	15	12	1	57	11
16	John Costanzo	Stacey Kelley	4116	11	11	16	5	9	16	10	62	12
17	Carl Oberg	Kathy Taylor	4085	14	13	12	11	4	17	11	65	13
18	Rich Gruskos	Michelle Gruskos	3959	DNS 24	15	8	9	17	15	8	72	14
19	Jim Widdis	Melissa Widdis	4061	8	7	11	17	16	19	18	77	15
20	Matthew Welch	Angela Welch	4136	15	8	13	13	21	10	23	80	16
21	Rob Schell	Drew Schell	3418	16	14	17	21	11	13	16	87	17
22	Peter Munger	Georgi Munger	3866	17	16	20	15	18	DNF 24	12	98	18
23	Wick Dudley	Mike Evans	4148	12	19	15	20	20	14	19	99	19
24	Reed Rodgers	Ridgely Kelly	4077	18	22	21	22	19	22	7	109	20
25	Stoney Duffey	Patrik Keating	4137	21	21	23	19	14	18	20	113	21
26	Robert Peronne	Tom Butler	3865	20	20	18	18	23	21	17	114	22
27	Keith Landgraf	Micheal Munger	3958	19	23	22	23	22	20	21	127	23
28												

From the President's Desk

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effort and expertise he gave to the Comet Class during the building of the new Comet and designing the deck mold. Everyone has been very impressed with the new Comet.

After the Saturday dinner the Annual Meeting was held and was well attended. Everyone was waiting for the final proxy count and hoping to be the lucky winner at the raffle. Approval of all the officers and the dues increase were passed unanimously. The By-Law change for the Mylar sails was also passed with a 31 to 9 vote. Thanks to Mark Beaton the grand prize for the raffle was a new jib. The lucky winner was Rob Peronne.

There is still plenty of sailing left with the Drew Bowl at Shrewsbury and their Sunday Fall Series is open to non members. The Pumpkin Bowl is being held at Tred Avon Yacht Club this year in conjunction with a Penguin regatta, and Corsica River Yacht Club will also have their Fall Series. Smooth sailing for the remainder of the season,

Talbott Ingram
President, CCYRA

Minutes from the Annual Meeting

Comet Class Association
Annual Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2013
Shrewsbury Sailing and Yacht Club
512 Seawaneka Avenue, Oceanport, NJ, 07757

Officers present:
Talbott Ingram, President
Brad Meade, VP Class Development
Christina (Tina) Lauver, VP Information & Publicity
Reed Rogers, Secretary / Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 8:48 PM by President, Talbott Ingram who gave opening remarks. This year our Executive Committee has been very busy getting the word out about the Comet Class developments of the new builder and new cockpit design, as well as the introduction of Mylar sails. The Executive Committee also attended a meeting at the office of Robert Peronne in Philadelphia to discuss this year's class activities. Some of the Executive Committee travelled to Denton, MD for a visit to Mathews Bros. to measure and inspect the new hull and the deck mold inserts. Present were Brad, Talbott, Lee, Wick, Andy Wood, Jim Ryan and representatives of Mathew Brothers.

Secretary/Treasurer - Reed Rogers

We currently have 111 paid members, up from 99. There is currently \$12,025 in the Comet account. The North Americans almost broke even, thanks to the concerted efforts of Joe and Tina Lauver.

VP of Information and Publicity - Tina Lauver

The new website is up and running with new information and most of the old site transferred. Scuttlebutt has been sent updates. Photos need to be posted on Facebook. We don't have that much area to display them to advantage on the website.

Bermuda Fleets - Gladwyn Lambert

Talbott has been working through Scott Fox and Rockal Evans regarding the activities in Bermuda and to get the proxy votes here in time to be counted. Rudy Bailey was asked to speak on the level of activity in the Comet Fleets on the island. Rudy said, "The fleets are doing well and are always looking for boats to buy. We have lots of talented kids who want to sail. 3

VP for Class Development - Brad Meade

The molds for new boats are complete and the first boat is on the water. Allowing different skippers in different venues to use the Mylar sails has proven to be a big draw. There was a large turnout at the North Americans where many got a chance to see the sails and give them a try. We also have a large turnout here at the Internationals

Class Measurer - Dick Harmon

No report at this time.

The three clubs race together about 12 times a season. There are currently 29 active boats with about 16 boats participating in a regatta every 3 weeks. The West End and the East End Clubs are very active. The Mid-Atlantic is more of a social club at the moment." Barbara Best asked, "How do you keep your young sailors interested in Comets?" Rudy responded, "They graduate

Minutes from the Annual Meeting

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from Optimist and look for a boat they can afford when they are between 16 and 22. High tech boats are short lived and expensive. Snipes are too physical. Comets are a reasonable price and not too physical.”

Old and New Business

- Brad Meade noted that Carl Chapman has 2 boats available in Houston, Texas.
- Rudy Bailey feels the Mylar sails need a boltrope on the mainsail foot. The loose foot would allow easing the outhaul to form a more spinnaker like sail.
- Elliott Oldak felt the top batten would control the sail camber.
- Talbott Ingram reminded him that he could order a sail with either length batten.
- Stephen Widdis stated that too many variable facets for a one design class may discourage new sailors.
- Talbott Ingram: This is still experimental; there will be some variation during the developmental stage.
- Richard Gruskos stated that some classes buy sails every 3 years to sort out their ongoing development.
- Mark Beaton contributed the fact that the hull has always remained the same but there have always been variations in the rigs and sails. There have been 8 stay rigs.
- Mike O'Brien feels a minimum weight should be set for the sailcloth to equalize Dacron and Mylar. His concern is that there will be a demand for lighter sails that will only last for a few races.
- Mark Beaton feels that this market isn't interested in that dynamic. The present sails are made way above the minimum so they hold their quality for years.
- Mike O'Brien still feels the amendment should be tabled until a weight is set.
- Bob Slook says pass the amendment and add the weight restriction if needed later.
- Robert Peronne suggested just allowing the Mylar with no other changes.
- John Costanzo added, "Rudy said juniors are getting in for the lower cost What problem does it address?"
- Joe Lauver reminded us that a suit of sails is still inexpensive relative to other boats.
- Both Stephen & Mike say Mylar sails don't last that long. Perfect care and no sun is not realistic.
- Bob Slook's J24 sails are holding their shape well. When asked if he would take these used sails to a championship regatta he said he would with no hesitation.
- Mark Hess liked the "slug" on the clew. So much easier to rig by yourself.
- Stephen says college racing they had choice for a while as to whether to use the boltrope or just the slug. They used the slug in light air and the boltrope in heavier air to achieve a better shape.

Voting

Amendment for modifying the CCYRA specifications to permit the use of Mylar sails

13 in favor of those present

9 opposed of those present

18 proxies in favor

0 proxies opposed

31 votes in favor of Mylar sails

9 votes opposed of Mylar sails

Amendment for modifying the CCYRA specifications to raise the annual dues to \$40.00

Unanimously accepted

Vote for the 2014 Slate of Officers

Unanimously accepted 40 in favor, 0 opposed

National Officers

President - Talbott Ingram,

VP Class Development - Bradley Meade

VP of Championship Regattas - Andy Wood

VP of Information and Publicity - Christina Lauver

Secretary/Treasurer Reed Rogers

Chief Measurer - Dick Harmon

Member-at-Large Peter Tasi

Following the election the drawing for door prizes was held. We were extremely fortunate to have a new Comet jib donated by Mark Beaton to draw for. It was a very generous donation after the devastation in Mantoloking by superstorm Sandy and the Comet Class is very appreciative of the donation. Thank you Mark!

Other door prizes were SSYC T shirts, belts, hats and glasses. Names were drawn by Barbara Best.

The proud winner of the Beaton jib was.....Robert Peronne!

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45.



International REGATTA

SHREWSBURY SAILING
AND YACHT CLUB

www.cometclass.com

Mark & Rachel Beaton



Faces that made the regatta a success