



The Pennant

4 May 2021

Newsletter of the Cayuga Lake Cruising Fleet

There is a race this coming Saturday!

I need to be more succinct and to get the important information to the people who need it in a more expeditious manner and thus I do, verily, inform you of this truth – the Spring Series commenceth **Saturday**, May 8 with the competitors' meeting at 12:45 and the first start at 1:30. WE SHALL RACE for realz later this week!

If you're racing a boat you should really be at the skippers' meeting. If you are looking for crew or you need a boat on which to crew you should come around to the South pavilion at the Ithaca Yacht Club and you should do so earlier than the aforementioned meeting. Noonish seems like a pretty good time to show up for these folks. And you will surely find that getting the crew or boat you need will work out better for you if you forewarn the Fleet Captain so that she may add you to and diffuse the various lists of needy crew and boats. Said Fleet Captain being Liz and her email address of function being CayugaLakeCruisingFleet@gmail.com

We had some preseason racing last weekend

From ashore I have reports that the weather for our warm up races had pretty much everything but snow. It wasn't, generally, cold but there were parts that were cold. It wasn't generally warm but there were parts that were warm. And so on for sunny, cloudy, foggy, rainy, breezy and calm, at least. We also had winds from most of the ordinal directions as well as the cardinal directions to boot. Getting around the courses was exciting and challenging not only for the reasons just listed but also for being (very) early in the season in addition to boats being short on usual crew and even skippers in one case.

Six boats managed to make it to the starts despite the fact that the marina said they weren't even going to be launching boats at all until this week. The six did, however, include three crane-launched J/24s, *Adelante* helmed by Bullock, *Mehitabel* helmed by Fewtrell and *Snitch* helmed by Schweizer as well as the trailer-launched Columbia 30, *Viento*, helmed by Witherup and the Bonniwell-helmed J/112e, *Mojito*, who spent the winter on the water. Indeed, it was surprising and refreshing to find the Ford-helmed J/100, *Gray Owl*, in the mix as well. Good job, John, on getting Fingerlakes to get it to happen for you!

The larger boats were started on the same courses as the J/24s but with a five minute delay. This creates more interesting races and keeps boats closer together for longer. Liz set the first course to **F**ar Maplewood, **S**ycamore and the second to **F**ar Maplewood, **S**ycamore, **N**ear Maplewood, **W**est Shore. Having northbound starts each race worked out fine this go around in that at the time of the starts the wind was indeed blowing from a more northerly direction. For the first race it was much more defined with the 15+ kts of wind from a northerly quarter gradually diminishing over the course of the race. *Gray Owl*, *Mehitabel*,

Mojito and *Snitch*, from what I recall, flew chutes during this race. *Mojito* took line honors and then results corrected to put *Mehitabel* in the first slot.

Rank	Boat	PHRFTOT	Finish	Elapsed	Corrected	Points
1	<i>Mehitabel</i>	168	14:18:20	0:48:20	0:43:45	1.0
2	<i>Snitch</i>	168	14:18:57	0:48:57	0:44:19	2.0
3	<i>Mojito</i>	69	14:13:14	0:43:14	0:45:24	3.0
4	<i>gray owl</i>	90	14:20:20	0:45:20	0:46:03	4.0
5	<i>Viento</i>	90	14:22:45	0:47:45	0:48:30	5.0
6	<i>Adelante</i>	180	14:36:50	1:06:50	0:59:31	6.0

The second course saw much lower and MUCH more variable winds as well as the rain, fog and whatnot. *Viento* managed to get a chute up for the first downwind leg and accidentally chose to put up her Code 0. As the winds had shifted more west during this time that sail “choice” gave her a real speed advantage on this beam-to-close-reach of a leg and gave her an insurmountable lead in real and corrected terms. Of course, the race was more than just one boat and two legs. We saw *Adelante* drop from the race (for lack of wind?) and much jockeying back and forth between *Gray Owl* and *Mojito*. *Snitch* had been a little late to the line and we didn’t see her ever quite get back in the mix although she did still fly her chute and finish (sorry – corrected time on her second race was off a little so scoring may be as well but this is still preseason and doesn’t count for anything but bragging rights!).

Rank	Boat	PHRFTOT	Finish	Elapsed	Corrected	Points
1	<i>Viento</i>	90	16:26:24	1:31:24	1:32:50	1.0
2	<i>Mehitabel</i>	168	16:38:05	1:48:05	1:37:51	2.0
3	<i>Mojito</i>	69	16:23:30	1:33:30	1:38:11	3.0
4	<i>gray owl</i>	90	16:32:58	1:37:58	1:39:30	4.0
5	<i>Snitch</i>	168	16:47:24	1:57:24	?	5.0
6	<i>Adelante</i>	180		DNF		7.0

Hmm. In fact, these don’t seem quite right. Well, we will all need to work on **properly recording and reporting** our **finish times!** The correct way to do so, for now, is in GPS time!

Drumroll please...

That gives us final preseason results of:

Rank	Boat	PHRFTOT	R1	R2	Total	Nett
1st	<i>Mehitabel</i>	168	1.0	2.0	3.0	3.0
2nd	<i>Viento</i>	90	5.0	1.0	6.0	6.0
3rd	<i>Mojito</i>	69	3.0	3.0	6.0	6.0
4th	<i>Snitch</i>	168	2.0	5.0	7.0	7.0
5th	<i>gray owl</i>	90	4.0	4.0	8.0	8.0
6th	<i>Adelante</i>	168	6.0	7.0 DNF	13.0	13.0

Updated Sailing Instructions

The Sailing Instructions have been updated and are attached.

Register early! Register often!

A better Fleet registration form is attached. If you are a skipper, please hound your crew to register – it may be the only cost they shoulder on the year and the Fleet provides all kinds of benefits to them including BBQs and so on! If you are a skipper, please register!

Social media

Liz is working hard this year to get us out there a bit more and if you can get her pictures then she will publish them (and market us) on Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/cayugalakecruisingfleet>. We also have our private FaceBook Group (just ask to join!) at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CayugaLakeCF>

Other links

Our calendar is online through the Ithaca Yacht Club at <https://ithacayc.org/IYC-Sailing-Calendar>. We are in the process of migrating our web presence to <https://ithacayc.org/Cayuga-Lake-Cruising-Fleet/> and eventually our (out of date!) website <http://www.cruisingfleet.org> will point to that location.

So... Upcoming...

Saturday May 8: Spring 1-2

Sunday May 16: Spring 3-4

Saturday May 22: IYC Wine Keg Laser Regatta (they'll want volunteer help!)

Etc. Look at the calendar!!!

Charles Witherup

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