



The Pennant

5 June 2021

Newsletter of the Cayuga Lake Cruising Fleet

We're racing tomorrow!

Like it says on the Fleet calendar (<https://www.ithacayc.org/IYC-Sailing-Calendar/>) we have Spring series races June 6 and June 13 (with an end-of-series fetch after races on the latter date). We also have Sailstice coming up June 19 (or 20) with a rally (and race) to Sheldrake Point in honor of sailing and the solstice!

The season so far

This sailing season has been an interesting and unusual one weather and sailing-wise. The things that we haven't had yet make for quite the list. We haven't had, for example, a knock-down, blow-out wind. We haven't had a dead calm day or a scorcher, yet, either (although those are more typical for Summer). We haven't had extreme cold or rain or any of the weather conditions generally considered more challenging.

Racing last Sunday

What we have had on multiple occasions this year, including this past Sunday, feels even more unusual. What we had was some and not much from everywhere and everywhere else. We didn't, as I've mentioned, have a knock-down. We didn't have rain. It wasn't cold. It wasn't hot. There was generally wind! And that wind... But that wind...

Before racing Liz set both courses to BNF (**B**lue Building, **N**ear Maplewood, **F**ar Maplewood) as we had a generally N wind with predictions of N to E. It might have been blowing 5 or 6 when we actually started and it was mostly kind of NNE so the on-shore side of the starting line was moved to the end of the North docks – to square the line up with the wind. And it felt square to the wind for a while, I suppose. It's kind of hard to remember if it actually was square to the wind at the time of the start because that's the kind of wind we had on the day.

As stated above the winds were a bit all over the map. On the first leg to **B**leu we had boats all across the lake – sailing the same tack in radically different directions. Yes, until you actually got over to the Eastern shore it was a close reach to beat for everyone but if you were on the Western shore, as I believe *Fantasy* was, you were sailing straight up the shore on starboard. If you were in the middle or right of the lake like *Grey Owl* then it appeared that you had a great line on making the mark on a reach – heading 45 or more degrees right of where *Fantasy* was heading on the same tack. A J/24 or two stayed more left on the lake and another one or two stayed more right on the lake. As far as I could tell none of the strategies worked perfectly as everyone I saw did an awful lot of tacks to get to the darned mark. This is related directly to the radically shifty nature of the winds of the day and to a

boat's position on the lake. Closer to the East shore things got far crazier/shifty and in very short order a boat could easily be turned completely from the mark regardless of tack.

The next legs and the rest of the day, really, continued with the crazy shifts. With the big boats having both reaching and running spinnakers their foredecks were quite occupied switching back and forth between those on a moment's notice and many of the legs that looked like quiet dead runs turned out to be beats. And, of course, as this happened the winds would come up just a little so holding those giant chutes and getting them down when no longer able to hold them were a bit difficult.

By the time of the second race we had a solid South wind (not predicted by any wind model, natch) so the course was changed to WEN (**W**est Shore, **E**ast Shore, **N**ear Maplewood). Again, this race was punctuated by big wind direction and velocity shifts. Those lucky enough to guess a 90 degree direction shift ahead of time took great advantage of this and finished well before the last!

Indeed, the first race took the last crosser ~1h45 to finish and had a spread first boat-to-last boat of 20 minutes. For the second race it was ~1h15 to finish with a spread of close to 25 minutes. Ah! The luck of those picking the good line! There was surely no skill involved in any of the line picking. Right? Right???

Race 7 and 8 results

Time: 13:30, Course: BNF, Wind dir: NESW, Ave wind: 1-14

Rank	Boat	PHRFTOT	Finish	Elapsed	Corrected	Points
1	<i>Snitch</i>	168	15:00:03	1:30:03	1:21:31	1.0
2	<i>Mehitabel</i>	168	15:01:12	1:31:12	1:22:34	2.0
3	<i>Adelante</i>	168	15:01:43	1:31:43	1:23:02	3.0
4	<i>Grey Owl</i>	87	14:52:28	1:22:28	1:24:09	4.0
5	<i>Viento</i>	87	14:53:40	1:23:40	1:25:22	5.0
6	<i>Fantasy</i>	192	15:13:26	1:43:26	1:30:37	6.0

Time: 15:30, Course: WEN, Wind dir: SWNE, Ave wind: 1-10

Rank	Boat	PHRFTOT	Finish	Elapsed	Corrected	Points
1	<i>Grey Owl</i>	87	16:18:02	0:48:02	0:49:01	1.0
2	<i>Snitch</i>	168	16:24:55	0:54:55	0:49:43	2.0
3	<i>Mehitabel</i>	168	16:26:12	0:56:12	0:50:53	3.0
4	<i>Adelante</i>	168	16:30:07	1:00:07	0:54:25	4.0
5	<i>Fantasy</i>	192	16:41:24	1:11:24	1:02:33	5.0
6	<i>Viento</i>	87	16:37:57	1:07:57	1:09:20	6.0

Spring 2021 Series Standings

Sailed: 8, Discards: 2, To count: 6, Rating system: PHRFTOT, Entries: 7, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Boat	PHRFTOT	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	Total	Nett
1st	<i>Snitch</i>	168	2.0	(8.0 DNC)	3.0	1.0	1.0	(4.0)	1.0	2.0	22.0	10.0
2nd	<i>Grey Owl</i>	87	4.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	(5.0)	(5.0)	4.0	1.0	23.0	13.0
3rd	<i>Mehitabel</i>	168	1.0	3.0	(4.0)	(5.0)	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	22.0	13.0
4th	<i>Adelante</i>	168	(7.0)	6.0	(7.0)	6.0	3.0	1.0	3.0	4.0	37.0	23.0
5th	<i>Viento</i>	87	5.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	(6.0)	(6.0)	5.0	6.0	35.0	23.0
6th	<i>Mojito</i>	69	3.0	5.0	5.0	4.0	4.0	3.0	(8.0 DNC)	(8.0 DNC)	40.0	24.0
7th	<i>Fantasy</i>	192	6.0	4.0	6.0	(8.0 DSQ)	(7.0)	7.0	6.0	5.0	49.0	34.0

Races 9 and 10!

Looks likes it's going to be toasty warm out tomorrow! Bring your swimsuit and towel! All of the wind models I'm perusing (I'm ignoring CMC's .6 degree model!) seem to say that there will be wind – somewhere in the 7 to 12 range from the WSW. And if that's the real wind... You'll read about it here next week!

Good luck out there!

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<http://www.CruisingFleet.org>