



# The Mainsheet

## Newsletter of PYC Sailing

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Back issues are available [HERE](#).

### Photo of the Month



New York Yacht Club's boat PATRIOT "departed controlled flight" and capsized on 17-Jan, resulting in a 2'x2' hole in the hull and other challenges for the American team.

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### Your 2021 Race Committee

Jack White, Chair	
Brook Smith, Vice Chair	
Clark Chapin, Secretary	
Ty Cathey (IL)	Rick Lyons
Tom Ehman	Bill O'Donnel
Bill Foster	Kerry Pebbles (FS)
Brian Hawkins	Ann Taylor
Rick Jarzembowski	Steve Wiseman (LA)

### 2021 HPYC Board of Governors

Brian Hawkins, Commodore
Clark Chapin, Secretary and Past Commodore
Brook Smith, Treasurer
Bill Foster, Governor
Bill O'Donnel, Governor

### Race Committee Plans for 2021



The Race Committee held its initial meeting for 2021 on Thursday 28-Jan and set the wheels in motion for a return to sailing in 2021.

Although much will depend upon how the pandemic unfolds in the months ahead, the Jack White and the Committee hope to pick up where they left off and bring a fun-filled program to the sailors of Portage Lake.

- The weekend "Gold Series" features races scheduled on alternating weekends starting in May. If races cannot be held, they will be made up on the following weekend.
- Races will be in a shorter 20-25-minute format allowing for multiple races each day.
- The Slalom Race returns. This unique 1-on-1 competition will be held on Saturday 13-Jun and will be open to both singlehanded and multi-handed boats.
- A pursuit race is scheduled for Sunday 8-Aug. This event is open to boats of all different sizes: The slower boats start first, the faster boats start later, and the first one to the finish line wins!
- The sailors will organize a "First Sail" program using US Sailing materials, to introduce people

to sailing and get new prospects out on the water.

Other aspects from past years, such as an "Invitational Series" for people to try out sailboat racing, will be continued.

The Race Committee will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and, if need be, modify the plans accordingly.

## 36<sup>th</sup> America's Cup - Auckland



The semifinals and finals of the Prada Cup, the Challenger Selection Series to determine who will race New Zealand for the Cup started on 29-Jan in Auckland.

The round robins were a disaster for the

American boat, entered by New York Yacht Club. After going win-less in the first two races, they were leading Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli at the last mark before the finish when they caught a gust, capsized, and tore a hole in the hull. They forfeited the remainder of the races and lost 4-0 to Luna Rossa in the Semifinals. It was a heartbreaking result for a well-organized and well-financed team.

The British team, INEOS Team UK, won the round robin phase and received a bye into the Prada Cup Finals where they will face Luna Rossa starting Saturday 13-Feb (Friday 12-Feb in the US).

The winner will face Emirates Team NZ in the Cup Match itself beginning March 6.

There are several ways to view the racing. In the US, NBC Sports has the broadcast rights, but they are only showed on a delayed basis.

Using a VPN, you can sign onto YouTube from a Canadian address and watch for no additional cost. Finally, you can join Tom Ehman for a watch party free of charge on the Sailing Illustrated Facebook page [HERE](#). You do NOT need to be a Facebook member.

## Wild Vendée Globe 2020 Finish!

The Vendée Globe offered a thrilling finish after 28,000 nm of racing.

Much happened in the last two weeks:



48-year-old Yannick Bestaven, Vendée Globe winner.

After a seesaw battle for the lead, Charlie Dalin crossed the finishing line first with an elapsed time of a little more than 80 days.

Yannick Bestaven, however, won the race by finishing close enough behind that the time bonus he received for assisting in the rescue of Kevin Escoffier vaulted him into first place.

Boris Herrmann was in the mix for a podium finish until a mere 90 nm from the finish when he collided with a fishing vessel that had not triggered his radar or ship tracking alarms. His damaged boat managed to finish, but was slowed so that he slipped to fifth place. Jean Le Cam, the hero of the Escoffier rescue, was fourth on corrected time.

Clarisse Cremer, the leading woman in the race, is expected to finish on 3-Feb in an interval between two large storms in the North Atlantic.

Jérémie Beyou, one of the pre-race favorites, restarted the race nine days late after suffering mechanical problems. He may still turn in the fasted time after his restart if he finished by next Friday.

## Racing Rules Book Club Returns!



The Racing Rules of Sailing have been revised for 2021. PYC will host an online to discuss the rules using sample quizzes from a variety of sources. US Sailing members can download the new rules onto their phones at [USSailing.org](https://USSailing.org) or order a new

printed book at a discount price.

The series starts on **Thursday 4-Feb at 7:30 PM** on Zoom:

Meeting ID: **482 219 6565**

Passcode: **1067**

## Treat Your Lines Right

**Many troubles on your boat can be prevented by treating your lines right**

### Bad line habits:

Coiling line for storage can work twists into a line. Line has a memory. The classic decorative flat spiral on deck, or the circular neat looking hanging coil, both create kinks in line as they are created. If line is twisted to create a storage coil where the body or end of the line flips over as it's being coiled, there will be multiple kinks in the line equaling each twist. Kinks and twists that are allowed to get worked into sheets, halyards, multi-pulley systems, or centerboard lines, will slow or stop the free flow of the line.



"The centerboard on my Interlake won't go down! I wonder why?"

### Line abuses

- Line left resting in water - Creates a heavy line, encourages algae growth and attracts dirt. Best to hang line to dry making it lighter, cleaner and longer lasting.
- Left unnecessarily in the sun. Especially if not fully Dacron.
- Left in weather over the winter.
- Frayed ends - Creates bunching of double braid and leads to difficulty feeding line thru blocks, cleats and fairleads. Best to tightly whip ends, or hot knife at an angle for added melt area and easier to feed into hardware.

### An accident waiting to happen:

Plastic balls at end of a line...think of standing on a marble, or kneeling on a Lego. Use ok as long as the ball is always supported with tension off the floor as a mid-line stopper (never at the tail).

### Good coiling habits

Good coiling habits leave a balanced line that is free flowing with less need to work the twists and kinks out before or during each use.

- The Figure-8-Flake or Figure-8-Coil does not introduce twists as the line is gathered and draped over your open hand or object.
- Once gathered the line can be draped over a centerboard trunk or hiking strap for storage. Then simply dropped on the floor for immediate use and flows easily. Or wrapped with the tail once gathered for long-term storage.

Line has a memory and will treat you well if not forced into shapes or storage situations it does not like. So, it's important to inspect for twists before they get worked deeply into a line that can cause systems to fail. Examples of kink free coiling and storage are [HERE](#), [HERE](#), and [HERE](#).

*Rick Lyons*

## Broken Rudder Award

While the balance of the Club's awards are given for performance, service, or sportsmanship, there is one exception: The Broken Rudder Award. This is given in jest and only made when it can be accepted in the spirit in which it is intended.



Let Jack White tell this year's story, which occurred during the informal racing on an evening in August:

"Nancy and I were on our way home from an errand when we got a phone call from Tyler (Flea actually).

They wanted to know if we were home and could we come out on our boat and help them. I said we were close, Flea said they were drifting, dragging their anchor, and their engine wouldn't start. Wind was blowing, things were dire.

We got home, got in our boat and found Ty and Flea drifting toward the lee shore and a bunch of docks with big, expensive boats... Not good. Their anchor line was tangled up and Ty was getting ready to use himself as a human fender as they headed towards a nearby boat and dock. Tyler jumped, wrenched his back but managed to soften the crunch.

Finally, we managed to get them under tow, or Flea at least (Ty was limping off the dock and looking for someone to help) thanks to some great boat handling on the part of my wife, Nancy. We got their boat back to their dock and, as we tried to tie it up. I noticed that one of the aft dock lines was drawn tight to the motor, Oh, Oh. When we raised the motor the dock line was wrapped tight around the prop. Felicia had to fetch a kitchen knife to cut the offending dock line."

Rick Lyons fashioned an appropriate "keeper" award for Tyler from various portions of the Midwest Sailing scrap bin and Tyler was also awarded a suitably engraved pocket knife for future use:



Congratulations – I think.

## From the Back of the Boat – Kerry Pebbles

For all those who sail, we started somewhere. My opportunity came when I was introduced to sailing. A couple invited me to crew on a 27' Catalina for a Friday night racing series. I was not familiar with racing, but knew immediately that I wanted to learn to sail. That couple taught me basics regarding sailing, but I wanted to learn more.

In the early 80's, I was able to take sailing classes at NYC. There, I learned basic seamanship, how to rig the boat, and all points of sail. I had multiple instructors, so learned different styles and techniques. As I progressed in the program, there are different levels which could be achieved: Helmsman, Skipper, Racing Skipper, and then Instructor (if you chose to go that far).

While in the class I was approached by one of the instructors/racers to crew for him. In the course of racing with him he helped me understand winds, waves and trim, and, along the way, racing! All sailors who race, always talk about racing - which tack was favored, wind shifts, close mark rounding's, and finishes.

After years of crewing, it was a big adjustment to move to the back of the boat and be a Skipper.

