



# The Mainsheet

Newsletter of PYC Sailing  
Live well! Have fun! Sail!  
(Vol 4 No. 3, May 2023)



## On your Marks, Get Set, Go!

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Back issues are available [HERE](#).

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### 2023 PYC Race Committee

Jack White, Chair	Brook Smith, Vice Chair
Clark Chapin, Secretary	Rick Lyons (LA)
Tom Ehman	Bill O’Donnel
Bill Foster	Brian Hawkins (FS)
Ann Taylor	Marc Gleichert (IL)
Steve Wiseman	

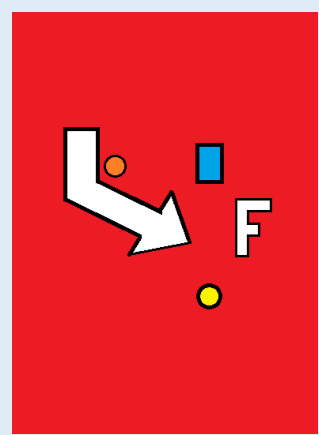
### 2023 HPYC Board of Governors

Steve Wiseman, Commodore
Brian Hawkins, Past Commodore
Clark Chapin, Secretary
Brook Smith, Treasurer
Bill O’Donnel, Governor

### Handy Reference Links

<a href="#">PYC Sailing Calendar</a>	
<a href="#">Basic Knots (animated)</a>	<a href="#">US Sailing</a>

### Photo of the Month



A new course placard will join the old favorites this year. When the Signal Boat is at the downwind end of the race course and this placard appears after a downwind leg, it means, “Round the leeward mark to port and then finish between the blue shape on the Signal Boat and the nearby (yellow) finish

mark.” This will allow us to use fewer marks, particularly on Thursday evenings, and more quickly shift the course to account for changes in wind direction.

### Race Management Training on Tap

Sailing curious? This may be your chance! Mark your calendar for **Thursday 18-May at 7:30 PM!**

2023 may bring the biggest changes to race management to Portage Lake in decades. Members of the Race Committee are currently developing a new

system for displaying race signals that should be easier to manage and make moving about on the signal boat much easier. If the entire Race Committee approves this new system, it will be ready for everyone to see and try out at the annual Race Management Training Session on Thursday evening, May 18. If the Committee does not approve, the tried and true mast and halyards will return for another year. The session will begin at 7:30 PM on Thursday 18-May. If weather permits, it will be held on C-Dock at

the orange-canopied Signal Boat, otherwise inside PYC. Everyone is urged to attend.

## US Sailing Upgrades Jack White



Portage Yacht Club's Race Committee Chair, Jack White has successfully been certified as a US Sailing Regional Judge, elevating him from his previous Club Judge certification.

Jack has judged several events both in SE Michigan as well as in Massachusetts.



Jack White (center) chairing a redress hearing at the 2021 ILCA No Coast Championship at Crescent Sail YC on Lake St. Clair with Judges-in-Training Bob Harvey (left) and Peggy Menzies (right).

Jack joins PYC's Brook Smith as a Regional Judge and is one of only six people certified as Regional or National Judges in the State of Michigan. Congratulations to Jack!

## The Ocean Race Headed to USA

Leg 4 of The Ocean Race kicked off on Sunday April 23, as the fleet departed Itajaí, Brazil and headed north to Newport, RI. Leg 5 from Newport to Aarhus, Denmark will start on Sunday May 21. The five boats are ungangly-looking IMOCA 60s with canting keels and curved daggerboards that allow them to "semi-foil" almost out of the water. The boats are lightweight and somewhat fragile, but very fast. In Leg 3 from Cape Town to Itajaí, Brazil, the winner averaged over 17 kts over a distance of more than 12,500 nautical miles.

The early part of Leg 4 offered lots of drama:

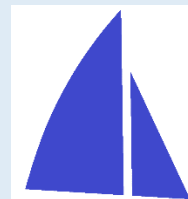


Standings leader Holcim – PRB suffered a dismasting on 27-Apr while leading Leg 4 of The Ocean Race, but hopes to rejoin the fleet for the Leg 5 start on Sunday May 21, in Newport, RI.

- Two boats were on the wrong side of the starting line in Itajaí at the starting signal and had to turn back and start correctly.
- Racing was close up the Brazilian coast as the boats had to avoid various "Exclusion Zones" of oil fields or marine wildlife.
- On Thursday April 27, race and overall leader Holcim – PRB was dismasted. Although noone was injured, the boat returned to Rio de Janeiro and hopes to rejoin the racing in Newport with a new mast.
- As of April 30, the two leaders (11<sup>th</sup> Hour Racing (USA) and Team Malizia (GER)) were within sight of each other after seven days of racing.

Each team is mixed gender and also has an onboard reporter and media specialist. There are stunning videos and drone footage each day. See <https://www.theoceanrace.com/en/home> for more information

## Interlake Regattas on Tap



The Interlake Sailing Class kicked off its annual series of regattas in March with the Midwinters in Tampa, Florida, but the major part of the season kicks off this weekend in Columbus, OH with

the Chiefs Regatta at Leatherlips Yacht Club, about a three hour drive from Portage Yacht Club.



The Chiefs Regatta has been going on for over 50 years and always features fleet because there are three active fleets within easy driving distance. The weather can be, um...challenging but reasonable conditions are forecast this year.

The ISCA designates a series of regattas, called "The Travelers Trophy" and awards prizes for the top boats. This year's schedule is:

Date	Regatta	Location
March 10-12	Midwinters	Davis Island YC, Tampa
May 6-7	Chiefs	Leatherlips YC, Columbus
May 20	Indian Lake	Indian Lake YC, Russells Point, OH
June 3	Cattail	Jlly Roger SC, Toledo
June 17-18	George Fisher Memorial	Hoover SC, Columbus
June 23-24	Great White Northern	Grand Traverse YC, Traverse City
July 29-Aug 1	<b>National Championship</b>	Grand Traverse YC, Traverse City
August 12	President's Cup	Am Sailing Inst, Milford, MI
August 19	Hot-to-Trot	Portage YC, Pinckney, MI
Sept 16-7	Sandusky One Design	Sandusky SC, Sandusky, OH
Sept. 23	Haphazard	Mohican SC, Mansfield, OH
October 7-8	Poltergeist	Indianapolis SC
October 7	Fall Blowout	North Cape YC, LaSalle, MI
October 14	Snowball	Buckeye Lake YC,

## Upcoming Flying Scot Regattas



The Flying Scot Sailing Association has several upcoming regattas, highlighted by their North American Championship to be held at Lake Norman Yacht Club in Mooresville, NC in June.

The FSSA's events reflect the Class's geographic diversity and popularity with events that are also

specifically for juniors and women as well as open events. A portion of their schedule is shown below:

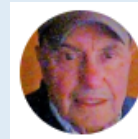
Date	Regatta	Location
May 5-7	Great 48	Lake Norman YC, NC
May 19-20	Wind and Waves	Camp Hatteras, NC
May 20	Buckeye	Hoover SC, Columbus, OH
May 20-21	Grits & Haggis	Keowee SC, South Carolina
May 27-28	Hog Wild	Grand Maumelle SC, AR
June 3-8	North Americans	Lake Norman YC, NC
July 8-9	Junior North Americans	Cedar Point YC, Westport, CT
July 14-16	Womens North Americans	Westhampton Yacht Squadron, Remseberg, NY
Sept 12	Hot Scot	Portage YC, Pinckney, MI

## PYC Sailor Publishes Third Book



PYC Wayfarer sailor Tom Czarnik has published his thrid book, "The Patient Sailor", subtitled "Navigating Through Life". He dedicated the book to Elaine Seroka. Tom and Elaine are frequent sailors on Elaine's Wayfarer "Won Ton II".

The book is composed of "Nautical Meditations and Short Stories". alongside short stories and narratives are poems with various sailing-related titles such as, "Air", "Water", "Land", and "Clouds".



Thomas Czarnik

The book joins others that Tom has previously published. "The Secret Life of Paladin: Confessions of

a Frontier Polymath", based upon a 1950s TV western.

Elaine contributed poetry for a third book, "Hugh the Manatee", also available on Amazon.

Look for it on Amazon.com or click [HERE](#).

## Sail GP: On to the Grand Finale!



The third season of SailGP wraps up this weekend, May 6-7, in San Francisco. Australia and New Zealand already are assured of places in the winner-take all final race. The third spot is a tight race between France and Great Britain (“Emirates GBR”) with Denmark and Canada having an outside chance.

With up to ten points up for grabs in the fleet racing on Saturday and Sunday, the standings look like this:

Rank	Team - Skipper	Points
1	Australia - Tom Slingsby	84
2	New Zealand - Peter Burling	73
3	France - Quentin Delapierre	69
4	Great Britain - Ben Ainslie	68
5	Denmark - Nicolai Sehested	60
6	Canada - Phil Robertson	59
7	United States - Jimmy Spithill	57
8	Switzerland - Sébastien Schneider	29
9	Spain – Diego Botin	29

After the fleet racing portion on Sunday, the top three boats, based on the season points, will race for a winner-take-all \$1M prize.

You can find descriptions of the teams and boats, as well as highlight videos at: <https://sailgp.com/>.

NBC Sports will broadcast the grand finale this weekend, but it will be competing with the Kentucky Derby and the Coronation of King Charles.

## From the Back of the Boat – Clark Chapin



Each year, the Race Committee works from January through May to plan the year’s activities and to get ready for our racing program. The tasks are divided up and every

member of the Committee pulls their weight and contributes, but are some positions that fall into the category of “Gee, I’m glad that I, personally, don’t have to do THAT!” Be sure to thank those people when you’re out on the lake this year.

**Chair:** The Committee is a diverse group and our humble leader must herd all of those cats in one direction. For the past few years, that has been Jack White.

**Scheduler:** This person must take all of the registration forms with their lists of “don’t schedule me for these dates” and come up with a race management team for all of our club races. For the past three years, this has fallen to Jack White, also. See you out there.

**Quartermaster:** Someone once said, “It’s hard to make anything foolproof because fools can be so darn clever.” We have a group of sailors who have to be able to use our two powerboats successfully and not manage to break or lose any of the equipment (marks, anchors, motors, radios, signal shapes, etc.). For 2022-3, this has been Rick Lyons.

**Scorer:** At the end of each day’s (or evening’s) racing, somebody must take the scribbled, often wrinkled, and sometimes soggy score sheets and enter them into the scoring program. Woe unto him if he makes a mistake. For the past decade, that has been Brook Smith.

These aren’t the only tasks, but they are some of the most time consuming.

Be certain to thank these folks when you see them at the Club or out on the water.

*Clark Chapin*