

Fleet 15: A Retrospective on Our First Season

By David Clark, Fleet Captain

First, I want to thank Richard Payne for his support and all the time he has spent on Fleet 15 business. I also want to thank Hampton Y.C. and Fishing Bay Y.C., the two clubs that hosted these events for us. I also extend my thanks for their help in getting us established. Next, I would like to say how pleased I am with the level of participation. We are, at the moment, a small fleet of seven boats and had six of these boats registered for two of our three events, not too bad for a first year. Thank you skippers and crew for your support.

Alas, with the coming and going of Labor Day 2007, the first race season of Fleet 15 has come to a close. We held three events: Black Seal Regatta in June, Leukemia Regatta in July and finally Stingray Point Regatta in September. Although we got off to a slow start at Black Seal, the participation was very encouraging for the other two events. My hope is that we can build on this foundation next year. Stingray Point regatta was held in near perfect conditions with very close racing. "The sun shines on the righteous" or "the devil looks after his own," whichever you think is appropriate. In fact, in one of the races there was only a 35 second spread from the first place to fifth place finish.

The North American Championship Regatta is being held at Annapolis in November, and we have at least one boat that is going and also Key West bound in January. We'll have to schedule our January Annual Meeting around the Key West event. The Secretary will send out a notice for the meeting once we have firmed up the date.

Now that J105 Fleet 15 is on the chart, I hope that we all do our best next season to make sure that we have even more fun than we did, this our first season.