

For the third successive year, the San Diego Soling Fleet here at MBYC served as host for the Pacific Coast Yachting Association's (PCYA) Jesse L. Carr Regatta. The Carr Regatta, which is now in its 52<sup>nd</sup> year, is open to up to two crews from each of PCYA's four regional areas by way of local member associations. For this year's event, the Pacific International Yachting Association from the Pacific Northwest was represented by Ian Wareham of Orcas Island Yacht Club; the Yacht Racing Union of Southern California was represented by John Walton of Mission Bay Yacht Club, the Southern California Yachting Association which supplied two team skippers by Mike George of California Yacht Club and Bill Marting of Balboa Yacht Club, and the San Diego Association of Yacht Clubs was represented by Tim Hahnke of Southwestern Yacht Club. The Carr Trophy Gift of Deed requires the 'Captain' to be at least fifty years old.

The racing venue was in Mission Bay. The courses were windward/leeward with finishes to weather to facilitate the boat changes required by a round robbing event. The race committee, directed by Andrea Caroe, was excellent throughout the event, in conditions that were unusual at best. Jane Engleman provided a professional protest committee. There was universal praise from the competitors for the execution of the committees. The MBYC fleet supplied four of the five boats (Brownsea, Minton, and Walton (2)), the fifth courtesy of Dave Morse from Alamitos Bay Yacht Club. The Fleet provided beer (essential), commemorative shirts and excellent food on Saturday, expertly prepared by Heather Brownsea and emeritus fleet member Steve Smidt. Fittingly, the Club had entertainment as part of the Memorial Weekend celebrations.

In order to give every crew experience in each boat twice, ten races were scheduled and completed. The sailing conditions were excellent and varied. The weather was warm on both days. The wind on Saturday was both light (4 – 8 knots) and originating from an abnormally southerly direction. As Saturday's racing progressed, the wind backed considerably; the Race Committee diligently reset the course to match the wind direction. The MBYC team (Walton, Steve Brownsea and Dave Hochart) started fast with a first, second, first in the initial three races. They were followed closely by the defending champions from Orcas Island Yacht Club (Wareham, Alex Levine and Terry Turner) with a second, first, second. Meanwhile, the California Yacht Club team (George, Peter Drasnin and Jo Ann Meepos) were steadily improving from fifth to fourth to third before getting two seconds and a first in the last race (Race 6) on Saturday. In the last three races on Saturday the wheels came off for the MBYC team, whose finishes of third, fourth, and third dropped them to second at the end of the day, three points behind the OIYC team. The other teams, Brown, Hahnke with Tom Parry and Bob Caldwell, and Marting sailing with Glenn Selvin and Dave Morse, trailed by three, three and five points, respectively. The racing was close and getting closer as everyone gained experience in the boats and conditions.

Sunday dawned bright and sunny with significantly more breeze (10 – 14 knots) than Saturday. The local competitors started off well winning and putting a boat, the ever improving team from CYC, between them and the OIYC regatta-leading team. The MBYC team trailed by a single point, after the first race on Sunday. The second race provided some drama. The team from Southwestern Yacht Club led the race through four laps, followed closely by the MBYC team in second and the OIYC team in third. There were lots of face-plants, lee-bows, and maneuvering for clear air through those four laps. At the leeward mark the SWYC team had what can only be described as a 'shocker' for a take down, which resulted in the MBYC team being forced past the mark and outside, allowing the OIYC boat to gain first place from a distant third. Regaining second on the final beat, the locals now

trailed by two points. Race three of four on Sunday was also interesting. Again the local team held second place with the OIYC team in third. Unfortunately, after the weather mark rounding, the lumpy seas and gusty wind combined to flip the forestay out of the mast on the boat that was being sailed by the locals. Since that bit of standing rigging is essential, the locals dropped out to repair the damage. The OIYC team won that race. Using Rule 60.1 RRS, the local team subsequently requested redress. After the race 3 incident, race 4 was much better for the MBYC team, who won while relegating the OIYC team to fourth. The wind conditions were again unusual. The weather mark was initially placed at the mouth of Chicken Cove in the area of a Tower start. To the great surprise of all, the wind backed further. The Race Committee continued their professional job and kept the mark and the lines square to the wind.

The Request for Redress for the boat failure in Race 3 on Sunday (Race 9 overall) was heard by the Protest Committee. The Committee agreed that redress was appropriate. The MBYC team requested that they be given the average of their finishes on Sunday (1.33 pts). The Protest Committee chose to give them their position at the time of the incident, resulting in two points. The scores after ten races were OIYC with 20 points and MBYC with 20 points. The winner was determined by the first tiebreaker, which was the number of firsts in the regatta; OIYC had five, and MBYC had four. Congratulations to Ian, Alex and Terry for their excellent performance.

All of the competitors attested to an excellent regatta. We would like to thank Mission Bay Yacht Club staff and members for all of their assistance with the Race and Protest Committees, the beer and food service, and the logistics necessary to stage the event. The accompanying photographs, which demonstrate the conditions and competitiveness, were graciously provided by Edna Johnson. We want to thank the Pacific Coast Yachting Association for their assistance, and Commodore Joan Marsh-Clune for attending the event. All of the competitors want to acknowledge the thorough preparation of the boats used in the event. Other than a single tiller extension and the forestay issue, the boats and ancillary equipment performed flawlessly.

Mission Bay is a great venue, providing viewing opportunities from the Yacht Club. Mission Bay Yacht has again demonstrated its ability to be a first-rate host. We are pleased that PCYA, based on the continued success of the event, has asked us to host the Carr Regatta next year.