

Flag Lt. Race

Paul Waterfield

2006 Race Report

40 of 56 scheduled races were sailed this season not including the Indian Summer Regatta. Most of the cancellations occurred early in the season including 6 races on the first three Sundays and the first two races of the Wednesday night Manning series. Eventually, 68 different skippers competed in from 1 to 27 races each. Season Champion John Kimball also sailed the most races. Activity by series was as follows:

	# Races	# Boats	Ave Boats	Qualifiers
Zephyr	7	36	12.1	14
Robinson	14	44	11.92	9
Kaydeross	10	32	10.7	13
Manning	9	46	16.7	16

Increased participation is always one of our goals but prior year comparisons aren't readily available. My guesstimate is that participation was at about the same level as in recent years. We saw new faces but probably lost as many as we gained. The Manning series on Wednesday night was the most popular with a total of 46 boats and an average attendance of almost 17 per race. A potluck after-sailing dinner is a fun feature of Wednesday night racing. Cleaning up afterwards is not quite as popular.

Sunday participation seems to be difficult for many sailors. In analyzing the reasons for this I've discovered that many families actually have other things they like to do. For instance, the usually reliable Tedrows spent most of the summer on the family farm someplace in Pennsylvania for crying out loud. Regatta travel which is excusable with prior permission is another factor depressing the numbers on Sunday. Still, those who turned out enjoyed some excellent racing and camaraderie. Race Committees showed up as scheduled and did an excellent job and Tony Bianchini kept the motor boat fleet chugging along.

As would be expected based on their numbers Flying Scots turned out more sailors than our other fleets averaging six qualifiers per series. The Kestrel Fleet was very active and qualified an even higher percentage of their numbers. Thistles were most visible on Wednesday night and took three of the top five spots in the Manning. Bruce Blackie logged one race fewer in his Ensign than John Kimball but didn't have as much company as he'd like. Still, the Ensign fleet which he has

nurtured from its infancy is one of the club's jewels. Lasers are always active under Allan Miller's leadership.

Our Fleet-sponsored activity was also very successful. This is due in part to the travel our own members do. Also the club has a well-deserved reputation for running quality regattas.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Waterfield