

# Telltale

Saratoga Lake Sailing Club

Web page: [sailsaratoga.org](http://sailsaratoga.org)



September 2020

## Commodore's Corner

By John Smith

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## Labor Day Lobster Boil

This event has been  
**abandoned**  
for 2020.

## SLSC Covid Guidelines

- **Maintain 6' from other non-household members**
- **Wear masks if you are closer than 6'. The docks are only 6' wide.**
- **No group gathering other than household members**
- **Stay away from other member's boats. Do not help other members launching or retrieving boats unless it is an emergency, this includes helping on the dock with lines.**
- **Use sanitizer or wash your hands after contact with high touch areas such as:**
  - **Trailer dollies**
  - **Crane controller**
  - **Boat hooks**
  - **Ramp hand rails**
  - **Hoses**
  - **Port-a-potty door handle**
  - **Tractor**



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## Upcoming Events

Sept 12.....	Ensign Regatta
Sept 26-27.....	Kestrel Regatta

# Commodore's Corner

By John Smith

The strange year keeps going on and on and on. In past years, this is where we would talk about the regattas that we had and the upcoming Labor Day Lobster Boil, but, unfortunately, not this year. I know that the Kestrels and Ensigns are going to try to have a regatta later in September and possibly, the Thistles in October.

After a lot of consideration, the board has decided not to have any social events at this time. As fall progresses, we will reevaluate.

We have been able to conduct racing on Wednesday evenings and Sundays. We continue to have 100% compliance with all of the Covid19 protocols.

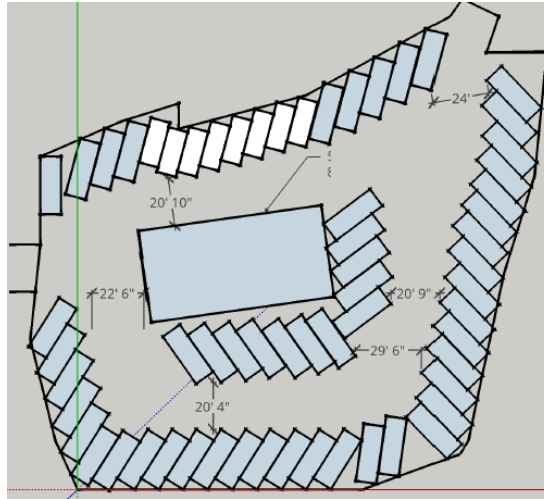
The Rice Series will start Wednesday September 2<sup>nd</sup>. As an explanation for new member, the Rice Series has been a Wednesday night all for fun series. We race short 15 to 20 minute races, usually at least three races. This series is a good place to practice starts, crowded mark roundings and maybe even a different boat. This is fun low key sailing. Through the years we have had many first time racers at the club get their start in race during this series. In past years we have sailed into the dark with lights on the boats and marks. This year since most of the rescue boats are only manned by one person, twilight sailing could present considerably more risk if an emergency occurs. The race committee will have to make that call each evening. Come join us even if you cannot make the first race at 6:00, there will be more than 1 race.

The Sailing School had a successful modified year, using the new barn as a jumping off point every day and acquiring more single-handed boats to keep everyone safe. The school staff has already stored most of the school boat into the new barn, thereby reducing a portion of the fall work party labor.

The new pole barn will be used this year for the first time and is able to house all but the two school Ensigns, Catboat and two Flying Scots. We will have five club motor boats and the 33 sailing school boats under roof this year. Many of the boats are stacked or standing on end to maximize the space. Dollies for the smaller boats are stored in the upper level of the old barn. This will greatly reduce the amount of work to cover and uncover all of these boats and the amount of trash created by destroyed tarps. Last year, we had to lift the many of these boats to the upper barn or cover them with tarps.

A subcommittee to evaluate our club's capacity has met to review all areas of the club. We reviewed the following:

- **Boat Park** – The boat park has grown in capacity from 104 spaces in 2012 to 123 today. There were several empty spots converted that added five of the spaces. The balance of the growth was accomplished by reducing the space between boats. There is no room for growth in Boat Park.
- **Dinghy Rack** – This rack was built several years ago and has had one expansion and now holds approximately 36 dinghies or kayaks. At a DEC walkthrough several months ago, we were told not to expand this area. Any overflow dinghies can use the dinghy dock. This area is to be used exclusively by members with a mooring and limited to one boat per member. Any additional canoes or kayaks must be stored on the six racks on the lawn.
- **Lawn** – The committee that reviewed the space before we changed the Bylaws regarding membership cap, had set the capacity at 54 boats on dollies. This number includes four boats each under the six racks, six boats between the racks and water for the first two racks near the playground, five boats between the racks and water for the next three racks and three boats backing the boat park by the crane. There are no assigned spaces and we ask you to comply with the described spacing to maintain the lawn space. This Lawn is at capacity with no room for growth. Any boat on the lawn must be on a dolly so that it can be moved. No trailers.
- **Lawn Racks** – The upper tiers of these six racks are not at capacity. The use of these racks is for boats on dollies on the ground under them, board boats (Laser, Sunfish, etc.) on the first tier, canoes, kayaks and wind surfers on the upper tiers. We have finally found one of two club dollies that are for members with boats on the upper tiers to use to get their boats to and from the water. This dolly is painted blue and is to be left empty by the Laser ramp. You are not to leave a boat on the club dolly.
- **Meadow** – At the last work party we had 51 empty trailers and 20 boats around the perimeter and next to the barn. Since then we have identified 11 abandoned trailers and, at that time, there were five club motor boat trailers on site. The club boats will be in the barn for the winter and the abandoned trailers will be disposed of. This reduction will allow us to implement angle parking to make it easier to park boats and reduce the chances of damage. This arrangement will give us a capacity of approximately 60 – 65 spaces depending upon the width of the boats to be stored. The board is considering assigning spaces in the meadow. There is not room to expand in the meadow area.



- **Mooring Field** – There are two mooring areas available for use, the field north of the docks and one south of the docks. The north field has 45 spaces and the south field currently has 4. Both fields have some room for expansion to the east.
- **Mooring Storage** – This area is being reviewed to implement angle parking at the request of the vendor that moves the boats not on trailers. This could mean relocating some boats from their current locations. With this in mind, we are working on a plan to improve the north side of the driveway next year after the boats in this area are launched in the spring. This area is also used for car parking during the summer.
- **Slips** – Several years ago, the board decided to try out the idea of slips for members with physical conditions that made it unsafe to climb from a dingy into their boat. The program has worked and is now and for the foreseeable future limited at six spaces.
- **Water Racks** – In the past, there were three rows of nine boats each along the shore between the south ramp and the Laser ramp. So there is room here for Hobie's, Kestrel's, Lasers, MC's, YFlyer's & Sunfish – basically boats that you get wet on. Expansion in this area could create more space or less congestion on the Lawn or in the Boat Park.

Overall, there are no plans to expand or reduce the current spaces as they exist. The board will be reviewing this information to see what may be the best approach to take in the future.

Here is a little background information on boat space use for the new members. The Boat Park, Dinghy Rack, Lawn, Lawn Racks, Meadow and Mooring Storage are the responsibility of the Fl. Lt Grounds. The Boat Park and Mooring Storage spaces are assigned by the Fl. Lt Grounds, all of the other areas do not have assigned spaces. The Mooring Fields, Slips and Water Racks are the responsibility of the Rear Commodore. The Mooring Fields and Slips are assigned spaces. The Water Racks are built by individual members but to the specifications of the Rear Commodore along with their placement along the shore.

**Safety** – If you are going out for a sail and there are no other boats on the lake, I strongly suggest that you carry a marine radio in case you get into trouble. One member recently capsized along the east shore and, had it not been for a couple of Good Samaritan boaters, he could have been in real trouble. Fortunately, they were able to get help from the club members to get him back to the club.

Last year, Tony Cannone (last year's Commodore) and I talked about how to get more members involved in the operations of the club. We believe the club board structure can accommodate more individuals working together in a committee-like structure to ease the burden on individuals that have plenty of other obligations. We will be looking to get members lined up in September/October who are willing and able in helping to keep the club going and growing. Specific areas where help would be appreciated for next year's sailing season: are Boat's (mechanic skills), Grounds (organization, mechanic for the lawn mower motors and property maintenance skills), House (painting, carpentry, cleaning) and Membership (being a mentor to new members). We are also looking for assistance with the sailing school programs. Any help you can offer to any of the board members will be appreciated. So, if you are interested in any of these areas, you can contact me or the appropriate board member for your area of expertise for more details.

The board in general and I personally, would like to thank all the volunteer members who help out throughout the year and we look forward to meeting those members who have a little more time to offer.

# **The ABC's of Learning to Race Your Sailboat at SLSC**

By Captain Terryble

When I was first learning how to race a sailboat it was both the best of times and the worst of times. Here are some of my ideas to help you have the best of times....most of the time!

## **So, you think you want to try racing your sailboat:**

- A) Never be embarrassed about finishing in the back of the fleet...or even finishing last. Almost everyone has finished last!
- B) Don't get upset if you are not sailing as well as other racers. Try changing a few things on your boat.
- C) On shore, walk up to the best sailor in the club and ask him for advice. Do it often...whenever you have a question. Remember good sailors really like to talk to anyone about sailing. Some of the best sailors don't mind being your personal "mentor."

## **Some basic ideas about sailboat racing at our sailing club:**

- A) We race for fun. We practice good sportsmanship and fair play.
- B) There actually is a rule against poor sportsmanship in the rule book.
- C) If ever you witness poor sportsmanship you should report it to your Flag Lt, Race. My number one job is safety, but my second job is to insure fair play.

## **Before you leave the dock:**

- A) Wear your lifejacket all the time when you are on the water. Put it on. Get comfortable wearing it. Other safety gear includes sailing gloves, sailing shoes or boots, and a helmet. In due time invest in the safety equipment you think you need.
- B) A whistle should be attached to your lifejacket. A sounding device on your boat is the law and for small boats a whistle is okay.
- C) You should have a countdown watch set to 5 minutes.

## **Intermission:**

There will be two starts. You should find out which starting "Division" your boat is in. Division One is five minutes before the Division Two start. Smaller boats like Lasers, Sunfish, Kestrels, Y-Flyers and MC scows are in the first start. Bigger boats like Flying Scots, Thistles, and Ensigns are in the second start.

## **Okay, back to the ABC's of learning to race:**

### **Get your boat ready and launch from the dock or the ramp.**

- A) It's best to get out on the water early to see if the wind and waves are to your liking. Safety is the number one concern. If you think the conditions are too much then it's best to sail back to the dock. Don't stay out on the lake just because other boats are staying out there. You be the judge for yourself.
- B) Locate the Committee Boat (Flat Top) out on the lake and sail to it. Flat Top will leave the dock ½ hour before the start of the first race after sounding the "Harbor Horn" once. That means the Race Committee intends to have racing as scheduled. If Flat Top sounds the horn twice that means racing is postponed for a while.
- C) The Committee Boat will be instructing the Safety Boats on where to put the marks as they set up the racecourse. Stay sort of close to Flat Top to keep an eye on what they are doing.

### **Flat Top has settled on the anchor. What's next:**

- A) Look at the left side of Flat Top for the code for the racecourse that is planned. Do this before every race because it could be a different course if there is a second race.

B) The other two placards have numbers that tell you the wind direction. If the number is 2-0 the wind is coming from 200 degrees on the compass. On the other hand if the number is 0-2 the wind is coming from 20 degrees on the compass. 1-8 would be 180 degrees, 0-8 would be 80 degrees, 1-0 would be 100 degrees, etc.

C) Races start by going upwind first. If you have a compass on your boat you can point your boat at the posted compass direction and it will help you locate the first mark (windward mark) that you are heading to. When turning your boat upwind do it carefully from a starboard tack and then fall back off onto starboard after you are done.

#### **Then comes the start sequence:**

A) While sailing around the start line with all the other boats it is customary that boats on starboard stay kind of close to the line while boats on port sail a fair distance behind the line. An oblong circle pattern develops. Never cruise along the start line on port tack. That is considered rude and sometimes might cause a dangerous situation.

B) There will be 5 quick horn blasts from the automated starting machine (the Ollie Box). This is to get your attention. Sometimes the Race Captain on Flat Top will manually push the horn button on the Ollie Box to get your attention that the automated 5 quick horn blasts will follow shortly.

At any rate, within a very few seconds the 5 minute countdown for the start will begin with a single long horn blast for 5 minutes to the start.

The next horn is at 4 minutes to go.

The horn after that is at 1 minute to go.

The next horn is the start. It is also the 5 minute horn for the Second Division.

C) If you are in Division 2 then at the beginning of the countdown for Division 1 it is time for you to leave the starting area to allow the Division 1 boats room to make their plans.

#### **The racing begins:**

A) While you are racing keep a very good watch for other boats no matter what tack you are on.

B) Open water rules are basically being a starboard boat is better than being a port boat. The port boat should yield but both boats should avoid a collision. When two boats are on the same tack being the leeward boat is better than being the windward boat. Windward boats should yield.

C) Going around marks. If boats are overlapped, or if you are in doubt, let an inside boat have room and ask for room from outside boats that are going around the circle. Ask ahead of time so you or other boats have time to turn away. For more detail about the rules check out the following:

#### **Suggestions:**

A) The Racing Rules of Sailing can seem complicated. There is a simplified presentation of the rules on our website under the "Racing" tab: **(paste and copy)**

[https://s3.amazonaws.com/ClubExpressClubFiles/337813/documents/Rules\\_presentation\\_4\\_30\\_777880145.pdf?AWSAccessKeyId=AKIA6MYUE6DNNCCDT4J&Expires=1597584806&response-content-disposition=inline%3B%20filename%3DRules\\_presentation\\_4\\_30.pdf&Signature=f6EQ6dw71Ui6b%2Brg6W8z14clXdk%3D](https://s3.amazonaws.com/ClubExpressClubFiles/337813/documents/Rules_presentation_4_30_777880145.pdf?AWSAccessKeyId=AKIA6MYUE6DNNCCDT4J&Expires=1597584806&response-content-disposition=inline%3B%20filename%3DRules_presentation_4_30.pdf&Signature=f6EQ6dw71Ui6b%2Brg6W8z14clXdk%3D)

B) Yelling on the racecourse is normal. You want to be heard for safety. But yelling insults is poor sportsmanship. Yelling untrue information to a less experienced sailor is not only poor sportsmanship but it is cheating.

C) Here's what I do when a racer in a nearby boat yells "where do you think you're going," or he yells for me to do what he wants me to do. I just yell back..."you drive your boat and I'll drive mine!"

**The more you race the better racer you will become.**

**Next month in Part 2 I'll talk about the ABC's of the flags of racing.**

## Sailing School Update

By Mark Welcome

The Sailing School has now wrapped up our season for 2020. While it was challenging this year, I am happy to report that our entire staff of Instructors and volunteers rose to the occasion and did a wonderful job running a safe and fun program all summer. I think it was an extremely educational experience for both students and instructors alike.

I'd like to acknowledge and thank all of our instructors who worked so hard all year to make this happen. First and foremost Head Instructor John Power who really started working in March this year. The amount of planning and preparation that went into this year was overwhelming and we can't thank John enough. Our senior instructors of Tim Hayes, Luke Newton and Jake Welcome spent a lot of time working with younger instructors to prepare them for taking over leadership roles down the road. Returning Instructors Sara Eberlin, Liam Enright, Senja Matson, Caroline Versaci did a great job designing and implementing new lesson plans. First year instructors Will Lenkowitz, Lewis Sulkin and Rosie Versaci had a trial by fire coming into this year with everything going on but performed fantastic. We were assisted all year by our new Sailing Counselors Izabella Czajkowski, Aidan Fahy and Ethan Murnan and we look forward to having them as instructors down the road. While the amount of staff we had may seem like a lot (it is) we couldn't have run this year without so many hands to take on the extra work.

On the adult instruction side we were blessed to have a number of members willing to teach adults in a private lesson model. Many thanks to Piotr Czajkowski, Rob Hayes, Allan Miller, Greg Northrop, Jen Tayne and Jerry Zell for all their work.

The new barn was an absolute godsend as there was no way we could have run programs this year without it. The barn allowed the school to set up all our safety protocols ( daily temperature checks, health screenings, socially distant chalk talks, etc) all while keeping the school separated from the rest of the Club. We will be talking with the board about the possibility of using the barn as our home base in the future as well.

At this point we have packed up all the boats and stopped all instruction. While normally we would continue to teach private lessons into the fall, that can't happen this year.

As always, we can't thank the entire Club membership for their support of the Sailing School. We know it was a leap of faith to allow the school to run this year given everything going on and we appreciate your trust in us to run a safe program and get people on the water. Thanks again and be well.

## Grounds Report

By James Symon, Flag Lt Grounds

This is probably my favorite part of the year but I think we need to cover a few things as we roll into the later part of the sailing season.

**Identifying Your Stuff** - It is very important to have your boat and trailer identified at the club. We have a number of boats and trailers that are unidentified and may have been abandoned at the club, We have limited space so some old stuff has got to go. Don't let your stuff get mixed in by mistake. People are coming up with some good ways to identify their boats and trailers such as hand painting with a small brush, stickers, sharpie. Please make your efforts look nice. Don't write your name graffiti style on the side of your boat with spray paint. The goal here is to identify things while keeping the place looking nice.

**Winter Storage** - I know it seems early but I have been asked about this a couple of times already. A good way to store your boat for the winter is to have the bow up so water can drain (remove the drain plug!), the boat covered with good condition tarps, and have the trailer frame supported with blocks. Maybe dust off the snow after a big snowfall. Make sure the tires are in good condition and are pumped up. Boats with ripped tarps, filled with water, and with flat tires are back breakers for the club members who volunteer their time keeping this club going.

**Garbage at the Club** - We have a great facility with a lot of members. With this comes a lot of garbage. So if you see stuff on the ground that is obviously garbage could you toss it in the dumpster. This would be coffee cups, ripped sections of tarp, random plastic, etc. If you are unsure if it is garbage, put it on the little wall behind the dumpsters. If we all work together on this the club will look so much better.

This is a constant battle to reduce the amount of stuff at the club and help keep things looking nice. If you have an old boat or trailer you no longer use please remove it from the club. Resist the urge to buy another something from Craigslist. Finally, while it is appreciated, the club probably does not need your random item from home as a donation. Thank you in advance for your efforts to reduce the amount stuff at the club and keeping things tidy.

## On the Block

Please visit our website to view more details and/or pictures of the following boats for sale.

### '86 Catalina 22..... \$5000

6 hp Yamaha OB  
Main, 110 Jib, 150 Genoa,  
Trailer

Howard Ghee  
**518-283-3203** (Leave a message)  
Or email [gheehe1@twc.com](mailto:gheehe1@twc.com)

### Beach wheels.....\$200

Will fit a Hobie 16.

**Contact** Scott at [ScottMeyerone@gmail.com](mailto:ScottMeyerone@gmail.com)

### Thistle.....\$12,500

#3848, Built by Great Midwest  
John Baker custom made trailer w/spare  
Sheets, halyards etc., all in good condition  
Primary suit of sails in good/very good condition  
Located in Utica, NY

For pics & more info  
**Email** Jonas Kelly [jkelly@usawood.com](mailto:jkelly@usawood.com)

### Standard Horizon Eclipse + VHF Marine Radio

Price: \$45

This is a fully functional dash mounted, high output (25W)  
marine VHF radio that was in an  
Ensign I purchased last year.

The package contains:

- 1) The radio + handheld microphone.
- 2) A whip antenna.
- 3) Coax cable + VHF connectors.

**Contact:** Jeff Robinson 518-310-9606.

### Kestrel.....\$450

Great boat! Comes with a great fleet of other boats and friendly, competitive sailors. This is a great opportunity for someone to get started in racing at Saratoga Lake Sailing Club or to join the "Frost Biters" Boat is priced to sell \$450. Many accessories are also available and are priced to sell as well.

This good old boat has a story.  
See online listing at SLSC web page for more details

**Contact** [gmcnallyd68@gmail.com](mailto:gmcnallyd68@gmail.com)

### Outboard motor.....\$400

2.5 hp/ 4 stroke Yamaha long shaft. Excellent condition.

**Contact:** Charlie 518-858-3337

### 4 Kestrels for sale

#### #1635, Black.....\$9975

Winner of 2017, 2018, 2019  
Kestrel North American Championships.  
Who will sail her and win it in 2020?  
This is the boat featured on the builder  
website, [hartleyboats.com](http://hartleyboats.com)

#### #1559, Red .....\$7000

Owned by sailing school.

#### #1550, White.....\$7000

Owned by sailing school.

#### #823.....\$2500

Winner of 2016  
Kestrel North American Championships.

**Contact** Larry King 518-421-7597  
or Mark Welcome 518-928-6187

## SARATOGA LAKE SAILING CLUB

The Saratoga Lake Sailing club promotes and develops interest in sailing and sailboat racing.

The Club cooperates with and aids individuals and groups interested in sailing and requires in return, observance of such rules and regulations as are set forth by this organization.

## SANCTIONED FLEETS

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Ensign.....	Tony Cannone 271-0246
Flying Scot.....	Shirley & Paul Waterfield 584-5552
Kestrel.....	Tony Bianchini 877-5062
Laser.....	Leslie Rafaniello 301-4109
MC Scow.....	Andrew Murnan 420-5368
Thistle.....	Jerry Zell 767-9216
Y-Flyer.....	Terence Fraser 495-4037

## 2020 OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

Commodore.....	John Smith slsc_commodore@sailsaratoga.org.....	786-1340
Vice Commodore.....	Scott Meyer slsc_vicecommodore@sailsaratoga.org.....	248-1229
Rear Commodore.....	Dave Hudson slsc_rearcommodore@sailsaratoga.org.....	370-4894
Secretary.....	Anthony & Laura Massa slsc_secretary@sailsaratoga.org.....	526-9121
Treasurer.....	Jeff Robinson slsc_treasurer@sailsaratoga.org.....	310-9606
Flag Lt. Boats.....	Jake Greiner slsc_boats@sailsaratoga.org.....	203-767-8783
Flag Lt. Grounds.....	James Symon slsc_grounds@sailsaratoga.org.....	316-1190

Flag Lt. House.....	Barbara & Allan Miller slsc_house@sailsaratoga.org.....	885-5510
Flag Lt. Race.....	Terry Fraser slsc_race@sailsaratoga.org.....	495-4037
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