

To all Comet sailors,

75th Comet Anniversary Celebration and Internationals

Definitions for the 2007 Anniversary Celebration:

A Fleet:

The A fleet is competing for the International Championship - any class legal Comet can join this group.

B Fleet:

If you would love to race (but not in the Internationals) and want to participate in our 75th anniversary celebration, you may elect to sail in the B fleet, which constitutes a concurrent regatta competing for the Commodore's Cup. The B and C fleets will start together on a shortened course.

C Fleet: (See below the definition of a Classic Comet extracted from the CCYRA Constitution and Appendix III)

At this time the Class has about 15 Classic boat members and we expect several more to join this year. As we have never had an event for these dedicated Comet owners, the 75th anniversary is an ideal opportunity for them to join us, and if they wish, to compete for separate trophies and for a best restoration trophy. As noted above, the B and C fleets will start together on a shortened course.

CLASSIC Comet – “In order for a Comet to qualify its owner(s) for Classic Membership, the yacht must have been built prior to 1965 (hull #3769); still retain its original brass, bronze or steel centerboard; been issued a CCYRA Measurement Certificate. The spars, equipment and hardware may have been updated or upgraded. A Classic Member may not compete in a Championship event such as the International, Territorial, North American, or Mid Winter Event, but is eligible to enter all other sanctioned Comet Events.”

Background:

In 2004 17 boats competed for the International Championship.

In 2005 14 competed.

In 2006 14 competed (2 of which were our loaner boats.) This was after a substantial phone campaign and despite an increase in membership of up to 20% per year.

This year we celebrate our 75th Anniversary and are doing so concurrently with the Internationals and our annual meeting for maximum participation. The concept of concurrent fleets to attract more competitors was discussed at last year's event and a phone campaign resulted in a significant number of additional sailors interested in attending. As defined in the CCYRA Constitution (see above), Classic Comets cannot sail in the Internationals, yet we certainly hope they will attend our celebration.

Goal:

We encourage all class legal Comets to sail in the A Fleet for the International Championship since, as some of our membership have pointed out, there is no substitute for this learning experience. However, by offering an option, many more will participate in the anniversary celebration and see what a great experience our Internationals are - perhaps convincing them to join us in the future.

Conclusion, Benefits, and Highlights:

Both for this year and for future International Championships, the 75th Anniversary provides the class with an excellent opportunity to attract more competitors. To be sure, there are many positive trends to celebrate, the reactivation of two fleets among them. Please join us!

- It's **free** to competitors who pre-register.
- Friday night prime rib/salmon buffet.
- Saturday night Chicken Chesapeake (crab stuffing).
- Dr. Stewart Walker is our guest speaker. He is the author of both books and Sailing World articles on racing strategy and tactics.
- If 25 boats participate there will be a door prize of a full set of Beaton sails.

With **your** support, this will be a great event.

HOWEVER, YOU MUST LET DAVE RODGERS KNOW ASAP (but before July 27) (410) 643-9516 SO WE CAN PLAN FOR MEALS, etc.

IMPORTANT!!!

The class needs your support:

- Comet sailors need to pay class dues and support the regattas.
- The last membership questionnaire sent to 120 members resulted in 5 replies.
- Typically, fewer than 5 Annual Meeting Proxies are returned for elections & other voting.
- No hands were raised during the call for volunteers at last year's annual meeting.

Finally, as I stated at the 2006 annual meeting, this is my 7th and last year as president. Nominations / volunteers are sought for:

- President
- VP Regattas
- Chief Measurer

Nominations, or the names of volunteers must be submitted ASAP to Mark Buruchian, Chair of the CCYRA Nomination Committee (973-764-7420, 4burufam@warwick.net) so that proxies can be sent one month prior to the Annual Meeting. TIME IS RUNNING OUT!!!

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