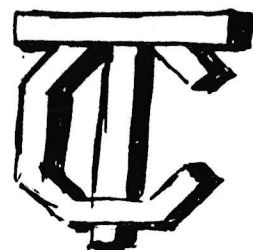




# NTCA

## NEWSLETTER



NEWSLETTER

MAY 1987

### SPECIFICATIONS UPDATED

During the off-season, the National Town Class Association formed a new Specifications Committee to update the specifications for the first time since 1971. Meetings began in early January and continued every other week through early April. The committee consists of Greg Linden (Chairman), Ralph and Joanne Johnson, Pert Lowell, Wilson Tibbo, Renne Michaud, John Russell, Arthur O'Neil, Mike Gaudette and Bob Tagliamonte.

Hopefully, the new specs will help to clarify some issues and make Townie Racing a little more fair and fun for everybody. The NTCA extends its gratitude to those who participated.

The new specs will for the most part be enforced in 1987 for local fleet racing and the National Regatta, including boat weighing and sail measurement. Each fleet will appoint an official measurer. Each active member of the NTCA will receive a copy of the new specs.

One of our goals for the 1988 season is to review and update NTCA by-laws. Fleets will be asked at the National meeting in July to appoint representatives to assist.

### UPCOMING NATIONALS

The 1987 National Regatta will occur slightly earlier than in years past. July 18/19 is the weekend and Marblehead's Corinthian Yacht Club is the place. Details and applications will be sent out later this spring.

### RESULTS OF 1986 NATIONALS

The 1986 Nationals were hosted by the Nahant Dory Club. As usual they went off very well. The first day the wind was very light - 5 to 8 knots. This proved to be John Russells day, sailing in WEASEL with wife Judy. He looked so good that day, most of us thought he had it wrapped up. He won two out of three races and placed second in the third. His closest competitors were Ron and Jan Geddes in ROSY and Bill and Renee Heffernan in SWEEP. Further back in the competition were Jane and Jim Cook in AUFBLITZEN and John and Lydia Cort in BLACK PRIDE.

The second day was another light air day - 5 to 8 knots. The first race of the day was won by Bill and Renee Heffernan in SWEEP. Ron and Jan Geddes were second in ROSY and John Russell fell back to seventh. This would be his throw out. Coming down to the last race it was a three boat contest for the Nationals. Racing for the cup were WEASEL, SWEEP and ROSY.

ROSY had the best start at the leeward end with BLACK PRIDE on her stern. SWEEP started in the middle of the line and was called over early for the second time. WEASEL was between SWEEP and ROSY toward the leeward end. At the first mark, ROSY had a commanding lead and things looked good for her. The wind was very light and on the final beat there was less than 5 knots of wind. ROSY was able to maintain her lead with SWEEP trailing in second, about 2 minutes behind.

Once again ROSY's legend lives on under the steady helmsmanship of Ron Geddes and his efficient first mate Jan. Congratulations to the Geddes!



## REPORT FROM MARBLEHEAD

The Marblehead Town Class celebrated its Fiftieth Anniversary during the 1986 racing season - a notable achievement for any one-design fleet and distinguishes the Townie as the oldest racing fleet in Marblehead.

A Fiftieth Anniversary Regatta was held to honor the occasion and was won by John Russell.

John, assisted by wife and crewmember Judy, was the overwhelming season's champion by winning the combined Sunday Series, the combined Twilight Series, Marblehead Race Week and the New England Championship Regatta. Needless-to-say, John was also awarded the season's most improved skipper. Russell achieved an amazing 1.83 average over 30 races. He was followed by Stan Levy in second place with a 3.07 and Jane Cooke in third place with a 3.32 average.

The season's awards banquet was hosted by Charm Blaisdel and Stan Levy.

The Marblehead fleet registered twelve boats and scheduled a total of seventy races over the season.

The Marblehead fleet is happy to complete a very successful 1986 season to commemorate fifty years of sailing and we are looking forward to the 1987 season where we will be hosting the Town Class National at the Corinthian Yacht Club. The Nationals will be held earlier than usual this year. It will take place the weekend prior to Race Week during mid-July. More details will be forthcoming.

## REPORT FROM NAHANT

Rex Antrim won the overall with consistent wins in the July and August Series leaving little doubt that his ancient boat grows better with age. John Cort took second and regrettably retired from competition, selling his boat, in fact. Bob Wilson, with much improved sailing, took third overall. The ever-present Wilson Tibbo took a second in the August Series. And Tom McGrath managed a third in the July Series. Rene Michaud dry sailed his boat in his garage, planning and making improvements which could prove to be unbeatable in the coming season. Captain Neil Sullivan, in his vessel, "OOPS", was a predictable threat in every race. Mike Gaudet became the proud father of a bonnie lass and cut the dead weight out of his boat. With a light boat and the light crew, he should give the front-runners some competition. Bill Gilday took a race with outstanding helmsmanship to show that there isn't a monopoly on winning. Bill Heffernan's splendid racing was impeded, unfortunately, by domestic obligations. Hopefully, he will realize that racing

takes some precedence, and the hell with home and happiness! Al Badger bought Cort's boat and is planning on racing two boats; another approach, outnumbering the competition. Harry Edwards officiously chased everyone around the courses. And SMALL HOPE remained true to its name. Bob Tagliamonte didn't get much respect in the July and August Series, but managed to assert his presidential status by grabbing a first in the September Series.

Now the proverbial specifications are going to hit the fan. We'll all be weighed, measured and inspected....no more too much of this---too little of that. By god, we may be left with only our ability! Somebody's trying to save the fleet from high-tech and revive sportmanship. Well, with good weather and fair wind, the coming season may be as exciting and enjoyable as the last.

#### REPORT FROM SHARON

The Massapoag Yacht Club last year scheduled two racing series on Sundays. There were not enough Town Class sloops to qualify for awards in the first series. The second series did, however, and the results were:

1st Place: Greg Lindin  
2nd Place: Elwood Willey  
3rd Place: Ira Gray

The annual MYC Regatta was held September 6th and 7th. The Town Class results were:

1st Place: Elwood Willey  
2nd Place: Betsy Goeke  
3rd Place: Greg Lindin  
4th Place: Ira Gray  
5th Place: Dick Nudd

In closing, keep in mind that to be a member of the NTCA one must own or be part owner of a Town Class sloop. Members are entitled to a set of specifications, by-laws and eligibility to compete in local fleet and Nationals racing.

If you are not a member but wish to become one or you are interested in buying or selling a Townie, contact an association officer.

Good luck and smooth sailing.

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