



August 19, 2020

This summer has obviously not been what we expected in all sorts of ways, and it has had a huge effect on the ways in which we have been able to support our sailing habit. Despite the best efforts of a whole lot of hard working volunteers, there was no safe and responsible way forward for our 2020 East Coasts, Race Week, and Nationals, and our MRA season had to be delayed and 'downsized' due to Covid constraints. In this context, a huge shout out is due **David Graham and his CYC Booth Team** for making Twilight and Sunday AM racing an option for us. One interesting result of the more relaxed and less competitive atmosphere evident in the racing that we have been able to do has been that some boats that have been less regular participants have felt comfortable coming out to play, and others have gotten their kids out on the course. Both of the developments are huge bright spots amid all the constraint, and they perhaps should tell us something about the format and the emphasis of the opportunities that we have been providing. But that is a discussion for the off season.

For now, the issue of the day is racing this coming weekend. The Storm Trysail Club's Ted Hood Regatta organizers were nice enough to open their entries up to our MRA One Design fleets this year, and so far six Fleet 5 members have signed up for racing Friday through Sunday. Inevitably, there were a lot of moving parts in making these decisions, however, and one detail that was missed was that the published MRA schedule still shows its Fall Series #1 as also taking place this Saturday, August 22.

Recognizing that this glitch has caused some confusion, and in the interest of getting as many boats out sailing as possible, **MRA Chairman Mark Toso has decided that Fleet 5 boats that have registered for MRA but not for the Ted Hood are welcome to race on the Ted Hood one design line on 8/22.** Those boats would not be included in the Ted Hood scoring, of course, and they should be sensitive to the fact that the others are competing in a three day regatta. Mixing scored and unscored boats together on one line isn't ideal, but getting as many boats out sailing as possible is the overarching goal. Thanks to everyone involved for their flexibility and understanding.

Going forward, a reminder that while there will not be a Labor Day Regatta this year, **there will be 'Fall Series' MRA racing on Saturdays, from August 29 through September 26.** There will also be **Twilight racing on Thursdays through September 17.**