



ROAD TO THE CUP – WEEK 4 6/14/26

What You Need To Know

- *MRA 2-1* will be Saturday June 20, first gun at 1pm. This is expected to be on North Line.
- *East Coasts* is just two weeks away. Register [here](#).

Last Week's Racing

Six teams showed up for our second Twilight of the season, including Twilight debuts from **Team Shoreman / Reynolds** and **Timmy Dittrich**. It must be summer because it was light, but they got the race in. Our report is again from His Eminence, **John Casler**, writing this week from the top of the podium.

“The very light wind prior to the start was coming up the harbor and across the starting line. The posted course was to Mark “21” the can off the mouth of the harbor, twice around. Commentary along the starting line was that “twice around” was highly optimistic.

*With a turnout of six Rhodes, there was a scrum of port tack starters at the pin. **Rob Ferro** and I in 1775 approached on starboard with good timing for a start at the pin, but no option but to duck the port tackers, which we did. Once we cleared them, we were able to come back to close hauled and barely squeeze past the starting mark, still on starboard. Just to keep the boat moving we stayed on starboard, ducked a moored cruising boat, and tacked as we reached a second moored boat. When we came out of the tack, we were laying Mark “21”, or even a little above it.*

*Boats which had tacked onto port earlier were in the tank, with less air and struggling to get out of the harbor. The air held for us all the way out, and we jibed around the can with a very significant lead over most of the fleet, some of whom were still down toward the lighthouse. **Martha and David Martini** in 1466 were our only real competition and we had a several boat length lead on them. We needed every bit of that lead. Halfway back toward the harbor, the*

anticipated “shorten course” announcement came over the radio. We barely held off the Martinis, who were closing fast. So - one tack only during the race, one jibe, and a lot of luck.”

So let me get this straight. As the lone starboard tackler, you ducked five port tackers? The dickens, you say! Did you hail protest? Did any of them offer to do a circle? I get that it was super light and beer can racing, but it’s still racing and the rules don’t change for light air. Imagine that same situation in 15-20. Of course, I haven’t heard all sides so don’t want to jump to conclusions, but honestly.

Anyway, congratulations to **Team Casler**, who collected their first bullet of John’s 50th year of Twilight competition. Taking 2nd was **Team Martini** and finishing 3rd was **Team Shoreman / Reynolds**. Honorable mentions go to **Walter Colsman** in 4th and **Team Lane** in 5th. Congratulations to all. And though it’s early, here’s a peek at the Twilight standings.

Twilight Series 1

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Sail #</u>	<u>Points</u>
1st	Team Casler	1775	5.00
2nd	Team Martini	1466	5.00
3rd	Team Lane / Heffernan	2623	6.00
4th	Team Colsman / Lane	1210	6.00
5th	Shoreman / Reynolds	722	8.00
6th	Team Dittrich	1217	11.00

Out on the MRA line, the forecast called for NW 8 - 11 becoming SSE 5 - 8 in the afternoon, under sunny skies, with temps in the high 80s. This was the perfect setup for the dreaded convergence, pitting a weak and dying northwesterly against an anemic developing sea breeze. The Thayer racers set up off the mouth and raced in the northwesterly all day. It moderated as the day wore on, but they never saw easterly. However, folks further out on the MRA line, and even the PHRF line, saw the two breezes fight each other, which made for one of those frustrating light air days. They got off just one race. Like several teams, **Team P.** missed this one due to Thayer. So our report this week, also from the podium, is from old friend **Charlie Pendleton**.

*“Five teams made it out to the conclusion of MRA’s Series 1: **Team Lane / Heffernan** (with Mike’s youngest daughter **Molly** as a third), **Walter Colsman** with the better half of the Lane family - **Kathleen, Timmy D.** (sailing with **Josh Wheeler!**), **Team Martini** and rounding things out were **Team Pendleton / Raisides**.*

Any forecast that includes sun, no clouds and a 10-15 knot (light) Northwesterly... we know the punchline. Starts well, doesn’t end well. We were able to get off a shortened race 1 before watching the equivalent of “wind tennis”. Northwesterly to Sea Breeze and back to Northwesterly - with long patches of calm in between. It still beat being on land gardening or watching lacrosse all day! Thank you EYC race committee for doing the best you could under the circumstances, and then towing us all back with plenty of time for a drink and a little social time. All in all, not a bad way to spend a Saturday.”

Thanks Charlie, and welcome back to **Josh Wheeler**, who we're all delighted to see back on our line. So taking 1st on the day was **Team Pendleton / Raisides**, collecting their first bullet since their return. It won't be their last. Finishing 2nd was **Team Lane / Heffernan** and taking 3rd was **Team Colzman / Lane**. Honorable mentions to **Team Martini** in 4th and **Team Dittrich** in 5th. Congratulations to all.

So believe it or not, that closes the book on MRA Series 1 – and that after just four total races over five scheduled race days.

MRA 1

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Sail #</u>	<u>Score</u>
1st	Team Lane / Heffernan	2623	12.00
2nd	Team Pandapas	982	12.00
3rd	Team Pendleton / Raisides	1680	14.00
4th	Team Colzman / Lane	1210	17.00
5th	Team Uhl / Uhl	2585	19.00
6th	Team Martini	1466	19.00
7th	Shoreman / Reynolds	722	19.00
8th	Team Cooke / Kaznoski	2648	24.00
9th	Team Dittrich	1217	25.00

So in Cup competition, the combination of a few missed race days and the fact that more than half the fleet hasn't made it out yet have kept things close. The top 10 are listed below.

Top 10

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Sail #</u>	<u>Points</u>
1st	Team Lane / Heffernan	2623	18.00
2nd	Team Colzman / Lane	1210	23.00
3rd	Team Pandapas	982	24.00
4th	Team Martini	1466	24.00
5th	Team Pendleton / Raisides	1680	26.00
6th	Shoreman / Reynolds	722	27.00
7th	John Casler	1775	31.00
8th	Team Uhl / Uhl	2585	31.00
9th	Team Dittrich	1217	36.00
10th	Team Cooke / Kaznoski	2648	36.00

Week 5 racing will include Twilight 1-4 on Thursday evening June 18th - first gun at 7pm, and the 2-3 races of MRA Series 2 Day 1 this Saturday June 20th.

If You Spin, Send It In – We heard of one spin this week though perhaps there should have been more (see twilight rant above). Tip of the cap to **Team Martini** for their spin after hitting a mark. If you spin, please send an email after racing to kpandapas@comcast.net and let me know how many fouls you committed for which you exonerated yourself.

2026 Spin Tracker

<u>Team</u>	<u>Foul</u>	<u>Hit Mark</u>	<u>Resigned</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Team Martini		1		1
	0	1	0	1

The G.O.A.T. - The G.O.A.T. (Goes Out All the Time) tracks the number of race days each team sails over the course of the season, including MRA, Race Week and Twilights. The winner will be appropriately recognized at our year-end awards. As of June 14th, of eight scheduled race days (five MRA, three Twilight), the top 5 are listed below. Who will be the Goat?



The G.O.A.T.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Sail #</u>	<u>Race Days</u>
1	Team Colzman / Lane	1210	5
2	Team Lane / Heffernan	2623	5
3	Team Martini	1466	4
4	Shoreman / Reynolds	722	3
5	Team Pandapas	982	2

Other News, Notices & Miscellaneous Scuttlebutt

Race Week Registration Reminder – The Helly Hansen Sailing World Regatta, will be Thursday through Sunday, July 23-26. Register [here](#). Your MRA fee covers the entry fee, so you don’t have to pay an additional fee, but you do have to register. Here is a recent update from MRA Chair **Dan Himes**.

“As always, your MRA membership covers your entry fee, but we can only do so if you register by July 8. After that, you must pay the published entry fee. In years past we have been able to work around this deadline. But we cannot this year.

“When you register you will be asked for payment. Ignore this request if you are an MRA member. You will be on the entry sheet even if you don't pay, and the MRA will submit your name and pay your early entry fee. Again, after July 8 you are on your own.

“You may not know your crew that far in advance: That's ok. Put in your best guess. Race officers will approve crew changes for racing that they receive before 1700/5PM on Wednesday 22 July.

“This is a change from the past: In the past there was no penalty enforced for not registering by the early registration deadline (July 8 this year). This year there will be, as the entry fees are higher after that date.”

Fall Classic Nominations – New this year on September 19 will be a Marblehead Harbor sailing championship, which will bring together the top finishers from each of the MRA fleets for a day of fleet racing in Sonars. The notice of race is [here](#). Fleets are asked to nominate two teams to compete in the event, and nominations are due by July 27th.

After a healthy amount of input, we've arrived at an objective mechanism for nominating two team to represent Fleet 5 in the Fall Classic. Here are the basics.

- The top two Fleet 5 skippers in Race Week will be nominated. If one of the top two defers or can't do it, it will fall to the next best finisher.
- Participating skippers must assemble their crew entirely from active Fleet 5 sailors.
- As nominations are due July 27th (one day after Race Week), skippers must accept or defer by 5pm on Monday July 27th.

Rob Hallawell Wins Laser Masters – Old friend **Rob Hallawell** just bagged the big one, winning the overall Grandmaster division (55-64 years of age) at the 2026 ILCA 6 Masters World Championship sailed a week ago in Athens. In a fleet of 47 and over ten races, Rob finished with an impressive 28 net points. Here is his line. Congrats to Rob.



2026 ILCA 6 Masters World Championships

FINAL RESULTS ILCA 6 GRAND MASTERS

30 May - 7 June 2026

WS ID	MNA Sail No	Competitor	1st Day		2nd Day		3rd Day		4th Day		5th Day		Net Points	Pos
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
USARH39	USA 210690	Hallawell Robert (M)	2	6	2	6	3	7	2	1	3	3	28	1



West Marine Closing Marblehead Store – Say it ain't so. You may recall that West Marine filed for Chapter 11 a few weeks ago and is reorganizing its business. As a part of that initiative, the company is closing 59 of its most underperforming stores. Not surprisingly, the Marblehead store is among them. You'll find more [here](#).

Notices

For Sale - 1973 O'Day Rhodes 19 #2253 - Ribs & Rudder pintle reinforcement blocks replaced by Waterline with Airex Pensk & G10. **Chris Small** installed deck reinforcements and knees. Topsides Interlux Brightside. Keel was sandblasted and recoated with six coats of Interprotect 2000. Underwater is dark grey VC offshore. Chris Small installed control console for jib & spinnaker halyard, twings. New main halyard & cleat on floor. Aft main sheeting with Barney post installed by Chris Small and Harvey Rigging. Tapered mast by Harvey Rigging (2010) and new (2023) standing rigging by North East Rigging. Original wooden rudder. Single point lifting system. Includes practice sails, spinnaker pole, whisker pole. Boat is in good condition and ready to sail. Long shaft outboard motor available. 2003 "on the road" trailer new lights. Full title. Asking \$5000. Contact **Jack French** at ruddernose141@comcast.net.

MYC Club Rhodes Needs Sails – Marblehead Yacht Club has launched a club boat program with Rhodes 257 and needs sails (see mailbag below – more info [here](#)). If you have old sails to donate, contact **Eliot Shanabrook** at eliotshanabrook@gmail.com, or 617-653-8358.

Mail Bag

No mail this week.

Complaints Department

Got Gripes? Don't be shy. Unload at kpandapas@comcast.net. The buck stops here. -kp

