



ROAD TO THE CUP – WEEK 7

7/5/26

What You Need To Know

- **Twilight 1-7** will be Thursday evening July 9th, first gun at 7pm.
- **EYC Pursuit Race 2** will be Friday evening July 10th.
- **MRA 2-3** will be on Saturday July 11th, and is expected to be a short course format on Brimbles line.
- **Race Week Reminder – Sign up by July 8th or pay full price** - Get it done.
- **MRA's Post Race Party** will be at the CYC after racing on Saturday July 11th.

Last Week's Racing

East Coasts Update – Before we get to our regular racing, **Jeff Shoreman** provides this summary of last week's East Coasts.

“Last week, New Bedford Yacht Club hosted the 2026 East Coast Championship over two days of beautiful sailing on Buzzard's Bay. A huge thank you to NBYC for putting on a great event and welcoming the Rhodes 19 Class back to Padanaram.

*“Please join me in congratulating **Dave Nelson & Ken Delpapa**, who sailed fast and smart and successfully defended their title. Eight teams competed, including three from Cottage Park, three from Pandanaram, **Nelson/DelPapa** from Hingham/Hull and **Team Shoreman/Reynolds** from Marblehead which included **Ben Shoreman** for this regatta.*

*“Saturday's forecast called for cloud cover and light breeze from the east at 5-10. Fortunately, the skies cleared before we left the harbor, and we sailed four nice races in breeze that ranged from 6-14 and shifted between 100-155 degrees, requiring teams to change gears and manage risk well. On Saturday, we shared our line with the John Bentley ILCA Regatta. Fleet 5's own **Anne Marije Veenland** competed in the ILCA event, winning race two and finishing 11th overall out of 35 boats.*

*“On Sunday after a brief AP onshore, we sailed out and waited for the breeze to fill. While it didn’t look good early, the breeze did come in at about 12:30 from the south and built to 6-8. To ensure we could get in a third race ahead of the cut off time, the RC wisely finished us at the leeward gate in race 2. **Team Shoreman/Reynolds** welcomed the last race as we were on the wrong side of a tie breaker for 2nd place. It took all 4-legs and a well-executed final jibe, but we got by **Nelson/Delpapa** by a nose to take race 7 at the finish line which made for an exciting finish to the event.*

*“In the final standings, **Nelson/Delpapa** took 1st with a line of 1, 2, 1, [4], 1, 2, 2 for 13 points, **Team Shoreman/Reynolds** finished 2nd with a line of 3, [6], 2, 3, 2, 3, 1 for 20 points, and **Ryan Walsh** finished 3rd with a line of 5, 1, 5, 1, 5, 1, [6] for 24 points.*

*“A few notes: **Cheryl Siebert** and **Richard Dunn** flew out from Chicago to sail with measurer **Stefan Thibodeaux**. This pair also competed in last August’s Nationals, and it was great to have them sailing with us in saltwater again. Old friends **Brianna Grenier** ran the regatta as NBYC’s Sailing Director and **Stephen Jeffries** served as PRO. Two junior sailors competed in the regatta - **Ben Shoreman** and **Ryan Walsh**’s son, and both finished on the podium!”*

Thanks Jeff, and congrats to **Team Shoreman / Reynolds** for their hard-fought 2nd.

Twilights - It was family day on the twilight line, and conditions couldn’t have been better. It was blowing SW about 10-12 with puffs a bit higher, and with sunny skies and temps in the 90s. Eight teams made it out, which is one more than our best attended MRA day so far. Imagine that! Several of those teams included kids. **Jim Gabriel** came out with his two boys, **Team Lane** included **Molly Lane**, and **Team Taylor** included young **Ellis Taylor**. Awesome, right? Anyway, our summary tonight is a journey, starting with His Eminence, **John Casler**.

“I was OCS, and by the time I cleared I could not see enough of the "25" "23" race to give you a narrative. Perhaps Walter or the Martinis can give you a write up. Even from the DFL position, it was a beautiful sail.” Okay. Not entirely what I was looking for, but it’s a start.

Let’s try **Martha Martini**. *“I can talk about the first two legs but the final beat and especially the finishing order is largely a mystery to me. I know that the **Gabriels** won (1137) and that we finished second, but that’s it. Perhaps Walter should do the honors.”*

Awe, come on guys. Okay Walter, what do you got? *“Spirited westerly (7-8 knots?) with plenty of gusts to 15? We had eight boats out. Course of marks 25 - 23, perhaps a first. The start was chaotic (I personally missed the starting gun - did not hear it - which was then further complicated by several misquoted countdowns on the radio. I was on the line, **Anne Marije** was over the line at or around the start, she luffed / surprised me, question is whether she had rights to do so if the gun had gone off. Both of us re-rounded, I did circles after clearing the harbor as I was unsure. **John Casler**, single handing, was OCS and far behind).*

*“On the first leg, a broad reach, **Mike Lane**, sailing with **Kathleen & Molly Lane**, took an early lead. Three generations of **Taylor**s were also out front but headed towards the wrong mark (and I was following them - lol). Amazingly most boats converged on 25 around the same time with*

Lane and Martini in the lead, Colsman and AMV close behind, Jim Gabriel with kids and Taylors not too far behind them for a dead downwind run to 23. (The Townies had a course of 23 which meant they would be rounding 23 in the opposite direction, though PRO Dave Graham correctly predicted the fleets would not converge.

“The order flipped to AMV, Lane, Colsman, Martini around 23. Quite a bit of close sailing, tacking, covering, etc., all the way back home with multiple lead changes. Wind was streaky in the harbor which kept things tight with multiple lead changes such that it was hard to track the finish. Jim G. stayed out of the fray and headed towards Salem which paid off. Powered by kid enthusiasm, he took first. How awesome is that! He was followed by the Martinis in 2nd.”

Thank you Walter! And finally, one last thought from **Martha Martini**. *“I want to add the following to Walter’s otherwise excellent account: the night was hot, very hot, and humid. The temperature at the 7 pm start was 97, with a gusty SW wind — gusting into the high teens — that did nothing to mitigate the heat.*

“I have never experienced anything quite like it. I doused my head before leaving the dock and brought along a cup for emergent dousing mid race if need be. I wonder if the heat did not contribute in some measure to the confusion associated with the race?”

Well, I think that about covers it. But before I get to the scores, let’s hear from **Jim Taylor**, who wrote in to introduce young **Ellis Taylor**.

“Ellis Taylor experienced his first yacht race on Thursday. His elders (Nat and Jim) were focused more on being sure that he enjoyed it than they were on the course to be sailed (and his Papa failed to have a mark list aboard), so they had Ellis steering - quite well for a not quite 6-year-old! - for the red nun in line with Eagle rather than for the green can a bit further west. Turns out Ellis would have enjoyed the racing a lot more if we hadn’t coughed up his good position and spotted the fleet a 75-yard head start at Mark 23. We did dig our way back to 3rd on the puffy, shifty beat back home, but it appeared that for Ellis, if you’re not first, you’re last; no moral victories for him! Despite the shoddy navigation, if things go as planned, Thursday was just the first step in luring a third generation down the sailboat racing garden path ;-).”

How awesome is that? Welcome Ellis. Hope to see more of you (and your dad).

So for the record, taking 1st was **Team Gabriel**. Well done! Finishing 2nd was **Team Martini** and taking 3rd were three generations of **Team Taylor**. Honorable mentions go to **Walter Colsman** in 4th and **Team AMV** in 5th. Congratulations to all. Below are the Series 1 standings with one race left in the series.

Twilight Series 1

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Sail #</u>	<u>Points</u>
1st	Team Martini	1466	11.00
2nd	Team Colzman / Lane	1210	13.00
3rd	John Casler	1775	15.00
4th	Anne Marije Veenland	2651	18.00
5th	Team Lane / Heffernan	2623	19.00
6th	Team Gabriel	1137	20.00
7th	Team Taylor	1926	22.00
8th	Shoreman / Reynolds	722	24.00
9th	Team Dittrich	1217	25.00
10th	Jay Wager	1219	25.00

There was no MRA racing on Saturday.

So in Cup competition, because there was no racing on Saturday, updates to the top-10 reflect only Thursday's Twilight scores. The top-10 are listed below.

Top 10

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Sail #</u>	<u>Points</u>
1st	Team Colzman / Lane	1210	31.00
2nd	Team Lane / Heffernan	2623	33.00
3rd	Team Martini	1466	33.00
4th	Team Pandapas	982	43.00
5th	John Casler	1775	44.00
6th	Team Pendleton / Raisides	1680	45.00
7th	Shoreman / Reynolds	722	46.00
8th	Anne Marije Veenland	2651	47.00
9th	Team Gabriel	1137	49.00
10th	Team Uhl / Uhl	2585	50.00

Week 8 racing will include Twilight 1-7 on Thursday evening July 9th - first gun at 7pm, and the 3-5 races of MRA 2-3 on Saturday July 11th, which is expected to be a short course format on Brimbles line.

If You Spin, Send It In – **Walter Colzman** mentioned a spin in his Twilight summary, so we add him to the list and thank him for leaving it on the course. From the sound of it, there may (should?) have been 1-2 more, but so far no one has mentioned it. 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
Team Dittrich	1			1
Team Colzman	1			1
	2	1	0	3

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 Sunday July 5th, of thirteen scheduled race days (seven MRA, six Twilight), **Team Colzman** continues to hold a 1-point lead over **Team Lane / Heffernan**. The top 4 are listed below with four teams tied for 5th.



The G.O.A.T.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Sail #</u>	<u>Race Days</u>
1	Team Colzman / Lane	1210	8
2	Team Lane / Heffernan	2623	7
3	Team Martini	1466	6
4	John Casler	1775	4
5	Shoreman / Reynolds	722	3
5	Team Dittrich	1217	3
5	Team Pandapas	982	3
5	Team Pendleton / Raisides	1680	3

Other News, Notices & Miscellaneous Scuttlebutt

Race Week Reminder – Sign up by July 8th or Pay Full Price - MRA members must register for Race Week, though don't need to pay anything unless they procrastinate past July 8th. Get it done.

Welcome Theodore Cooke – On June 26th, **Wyn Maling-Cooke** and husband **Evan Cooke** welcomed to their family **Theodore Grey Cooke**. We don't have the details yet as the new parents surely have more to do than send emails to RTTC. But on behalf of the entire Fleet 5 family, huge congratulations to Wyn & Evan, and a heart-felt welcome to Fleet 5's newest (and youngest) member.



Notices

Anyone Have an Old Mast Section – **Jeremy Bloxham** is building his mast and could use an old mast section. In his words, *“Do you know if there’s an old bit of R19 mast kicking around somewhere. I only need a bit from the mast step to just above the gooseneck. Will take some of the guess work out of rigging control lines.”* So if you happen to have an old mast section buried in your basement or garage, please contact Jeremy at jeremy_bloxham@mac.com.

Need a Used Cover – **Alix Houldan** is looking for a used R19 cover. *“Does anyone have any leads on a spare Rhode 19 cover we could borrow for a bit or buy? Ours got really torn up with the recent high winds and The Sailor Tailor is looking like an 8-week lead time.”* If you have or know of an old cover that’s not being used, please let Alix know at alix.s.houldin@gmail.com.

Need a Used Main – **Jay Wager** is looking for a Main. *“I plopped ‘Shake Your Buoy’ in the harbor yesterday and am seeking a new (to me) mainsail to replace my sad baggy one. Anyone looking to make a few bucks off their Rhodes 19 sails in the basement collecting dust?”* You can email Jay at jtwager@live.com, or call 781-576-9360.

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

Aside for all the Twilight stuff above, no email this week.

Complaints Department

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

