



ROAD TO THE CUP – WEEK 8

7/12/26

What You Need To Know

- **Twilight 2-1** will be Thursday evening July 16th, first gun at 7pm.
- **MRA 2-4** will be on Saturday July 18th, and is expected to be a short course format on Brimbles line.
- **Race Week Starts July 23rd** – The centerpiece of our racing season will run from Thursday July 23rd through Sunday July 26th.
- **Race Week Party on July 23rd** – Our annual Race Week party will be hosted by **Jennifer & Steve Uhl** on Thursday evening July 23rd.

Last Week's Racing

Twilights – Five teams made it out for one of the more gorgeous summer evenings we can remember. Lots of commentary on this one, so we'll start, as we always do, with His Eminence, **John Casler**.

“After what seems like months of racing limited to the close in marks ‘19’, ‘21’, and ‘22’, this year and last, this was the second Thursday night in a row of absolutely beautiful Twilight conditions, and the RC took full advantage of the “smoky Sou’wester.” The course was out to the distant “23” in the direction of Bakers’, then over to “28” in the direction of Peaches Point, once around. The wind was around 10, but with very significant puffs, particularly prior to the start. From what I understand of the MRA days to date, these were absolutely the best 2026 racing conditions thus far.

*“Probably given the forecast potential for higher velocities, only five Rhodes turned out. This was **Jane Casler’s** first race, and second or third time on 1775, since the arrival of our daughter 44 years ago, so given the puffs, we chose not to mix it up at the start. We had a great evening sailing the course, but I have to turn the narrative over to Walter or Steve or Martha as to what actually happened among the lead boats.*

*“One particular feature of the race was passing **George Patton’s** ‘When and If’ out on the course. Also, the after-sunset view of Marblehead from the CYC porch was something out of ‘The Great Gatsby,’ and the shrimp dinner on the casual side of the menu is not to be missed.”*

Thanks John, and welcome back Jane. **Steve Uhl** picks it up from here. *“I concur with John’s recap. **Jay Wager** led at first mark followed by **Walter Colsman** sailing solo and **Clark/Steve Uhl**. We both got passed Jay at mark 2 and despite our best attempts, Walter held us off on beautiful beat back to harbor to take the bullet.”*

And Walter closes it out. *“Yep, agree with all that. Would note that Jay’s first leg was impressive. Navigation from 23 to 28 was a bit tricky, and I am glad that it was high tide. Was nice to see Clark and Steve out - they were in their usual form, and I am glad to have held them off on the beat.”*

Sounds like the rest of us missed a good one. So for the record, taking 1st was **Walter Colsman** sailing solo, which always impresses the hell out of me - well done! Taking 2nd was **Team Uhl** and finishing 3rd was **Team Martini**. Honorable mentions go to **Jay Wager** in 4th and **Team Casler** in 5th. Congratulations to all.

So with that, Series 1 is in the books. We ended up getting in five of the seven scheduled races, which is the magic number for enabling a throw-out, which is why many of the scores below are lower than last week. Taking 1st on a tiebreaker with 10 net points on the series, with a line of 2-4-3-(4)-1 was **Walter Colsman**. Nice Job Walter. Taking 2nd, also with 10 points, was **Team Martini** with a line 3-2-(4)-2-3. And finishing 3rd in his 50th year of doing this, was **John Casler**, who rolled a 4-1-2-(8)-5 for 12 net points. The complete Series 1 results are below.

Twilight Series 1

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Sail #</u>	<u>Points</u>
1st	Team Colsman / Lane	1210	10.00
2nd	Team Martini	1466	10.00
3rd	John Casler	1775	12.00
4th	Anne Marije Veenland	2651	17.00
5th	Team Lane / Heffernan	2623	18.00
6th	Team Gabriel	1137	19.00
7th	Team Taylor	1926	21.00
8th	Shoreman / Reynolds	722	21.00
9th	Team Uhl / Uhl	2585	21.00
10th	Jay Wager	1219	22.00
11th	Team Dittrich	1217	22.00

By the way, before we move on, I noticed in the WhatsApp feed that several people couldn’t find the Twilight SIs and chart. So for your convenience in advance of Series 2 (and as previously published multiple times earlier in the season), you’ll find them [here](#).

Out on the MRA line, those of us who chose racing over watching tall ships were rewarded with a spectacular summer day, replete with sunshine, warm temps and a SE breeze in the 8-10 range.

This was what I used to call a **Bill Heffernan** day, because he was so tough to beat in these conditions. We may now have to start calling it a **Wilson Kaznoski** day, but I get ahead of myself.

Eight teams showed up on the Brimbles line, including the long-awaited debut of **Rich & Rosy Denton**. Great to see them out there. Also out was **Team Regnault / Thibodeaux** making their season debut, as well as **Jim Taylor**, sailing with crew **Yati Harsono**, which marks the first time in a while that Jim has helmed an MRA race. And the MVP of the day goes to **Jim Gabriel**, who was out with his two sons **Calvin** (9) and **Teddy** (7). How awesome is that? He probably deserved a weight allowance for all the treats he certainly brought along.

PRO Ken Adam set up on the Children's Island side of the Brimbles day marker and ran three W4s of about 0.4 mile legs. The pressure was up and down and constantly oscillating in 2-3 minute cycles. All and all, perfect conditions for short course racing. Though unintended, the bricks at the day marker were an obstruction in the course, forcing those who started at the pin end to tack out before they were ready and, in some cases, preventing them from getting over to the favored left. That raised the bar a bit, and certainly in one or two case, resulted in some questionable risk assessment (i.e. I can get over that). But ultimately, it became just another component of the conditions. Anyway, we started at 1pm and were headed in by about 3:30 - perfect.

So as I mentioned, there is absolutely zero question as to who the class-of-the-class was on this day. **Wilson Kaznoski**, sailing with his dad **Pete Kaznoski**, went out and simply crushed it. He got great starts, sailed fast and made smart tactical decisions. He led wire to wire in all three races, rolling a 1-1-1 for 3 points to win the day handily. An impressive performance – really well done! All you out there eyeing a run at that spittoon would be well served to keep an eye on **Team K**. Taking 2nd was **Team P**. with a 2-2-2 for six points, and finishing 3rd was **Team Taylor / Harsono**, with a line of 3-4-3 for 10 points. Honorable mentions go to **Team Denton** in 4th with a 4-3-4 for 11 points, and **Team Regnault / Thibodeaux** in 5th with a 7-5-5 for 17 points. Congratulations to all.

So in Cup competition, astonishingly, **Team P**. managed to climb into 1st on the strength of their 2-2-2. Go figure. The top-10 are listed below.

Top 10

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Sail #</u>	<u>Points</u>
1st	Team Pandapas	982	46.00
2nd	Team Colsman / Lane	1210	48.00
3rd	Team Martini	1466	52.00
4th	Team Cooke / Kaznoski	2648	55.00
5th	Team Lane / Heffernan	2623	57.00
6th	Team Taylor	1926	60.00
7th	Team Denton	2003	65.00
8th	John Casler	1775	66.00
9th	Team Pendleton / Raisides	1680	67.00
10th	Shoreman / Reynolds	722	68.00

Week 9 racing will include Twilight 2-1 on Thursday evening July 16th, first gun at 7pm, and the 3-5 races of MRA 2-4 on Saturday July 18th, and is expected to be a short course format on Brimbles line.

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 12th, of fifteen scheduled race days (eight MRA, seven Twilight), **Team Colsman** holds a 2-point lead over **Team Lane / Heffernan**. The top 5 are listed below.



The G.O.A.T.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Sail #</u>	<u>Race Days</u>
1	Team Colsman / Lane	1210	10
2	Team Martini	1466	8
3	Team Lane / Heffernan	2623	7
4	John Casler	1775	5
5	Team Pandapas	982	4

If You Spin, Send It In – There were no spins this week (that we heard of), so the totals remain unchanged. 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 Colsman	1			1
	2	1	0	3

Other News, Notices & Miscellaneous Scuttlebutt

Welcome to Jane Moore (Loutrel) – Jane just acquired **Jeff Dinsmore's** boat and plans to race it with her son **Parker Moore**. Jane used to crew with her dad **Charlie Loutrel**, and is now paying it forward by getting the 3rd generation into the act. How awesome is that? We couldn't be more excited to welcome them. Here's a shot of Jane and her new boat.



Sage Wadlow & Ben Fava Win Hingham – Sage Wadlow and Ben Fava crushed a fleet of 33 420s with a line of 2-(4)-1-1-1-1 for 6 net points. Well done, and congrats to them both. You'll find the rest of the results [here](#).

Jelly Fish, Jelly Fish Everywhere – Have you noticed all the jellyfish around this year? Certainly the RC patrol boat crews have noticed as they've been getting stung when hauling marks. They're called Lion's Mane jelly fish and you can read up on them [here](#).



A *Visit From Rebecca* – Alert readers might recall a quiz we ran back in the April 2023 newsletter, instigated by old friend **Alex Felton**, asking readers to identify the boat on the right in the photo below. At the time, both **Jim Taylor** and **Forbes Barber** correctly identified her as Rebecca, a boat that spends her winters in the Caribbean and summers in Maine.



Last week, this beautiful boat paid a brief visit to Marblehead, where we caught her getting ready to douse her sails. Take a look.



I happened to be in Provincetown a couple of days later, and guess who showed up there too?



Notices

Looking for a Crewing Opportunity – Ramey Kleinpeter is looking for a crewing opportunity. *“I’m inquiring on if I could be added to an available crew list for your Thursday night races. I’m interested in getting back into sailing after years away. I completed the US Sailing Basic Keelboat program from courageous sailing in Charlestown about 15 years ago. I also have limited racing experience in both the Rhodes 19 (in Boston harbor) as well as bigger boats. In Maine years ago As a kid I owned a Vanguard 15 which I sailed regularly on local lakes. I’m now getting older and missing sailing. I’m a capable as a ballast at 6’7” 235lbs, and can also manage a headsail - but have no experience with flying spinnakers.”* Contact Ramey at rameyk@gmail.com.

Also Looking for as Crewing Opportunity – Bettina Sluzar is also looking to crew. She writes, *“I am in Marblehead, have some boat skills but limited racing. Do you guys have anyone who is looking for crew like me, or know how to connect me?”* Contact Bettina at bettina.sluzar@gmail.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.

Mail Bag

Dave Reynolds wrote in with this comment about Fleet 5’s attendance at East Coasts. *“Got gripes? Boy do I. Where to start Fleet 5? I fondly remember McLovin’s 1st ECC event in 2008. Fleet 5 took 4 of the top 5 spots. (McLovin was 9th.) The following year Fleet 5 took 5 of the*

top 6 spots. It feels great to carry the flag for Fleet 5, and, thankfully, McLovin has improved a bit since those early years, but jeez, where were you Fleet 5? With love. Get Off your Ass and Trailer

“P.S. Shout out to my all-time favorite boat partner and the best new foredeck crew in the fleet. Thanks for making it happen.”

Thanks Dave. I couldn't have said it any better myself.

EC's Wrap-up – And speaking of ECs, the class sent out a wrap-up of the ECs, which included this picture of the podium. Congrats again to the winners.



Complaints Department

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

