



# Lake Mission Viejo Yacht Club

22555 Olympiad Road, Mission Viejo, CA 92692

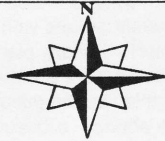
(714) 770-1313

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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

March, 1996

## COMMODORE'S CORNER



### RULES: WHO NEEDS 'EM??

Wouldn't life be great if we didn't have so many rules to put limits on us? Or, I wonder, ...would it?

Can you imagine if people were allowed to do whatever they pleased, whenever and wherever they pleased, without regard for others, how unsafe any activity could become? Simply driving, walking, and yes - even sailing -- could become life-threatening feats. No activity would be safe, nothing taken for granted.

That's the purpose of rules, after all, a prescribed guide for conduct agreed upon by a majority of people to ensure fairness and consideration for everyone involved. It is our obligation to learn the basic rules of boating, such as who has right of way in common situations, so that misunderstandings can be kept to a minimum, and we can concentrate on winning "fair and square"! To help you, future newsletters will include (space permitting) a "quiz" (and answer) on sailing tactics to sharpen your skills. Have fun!

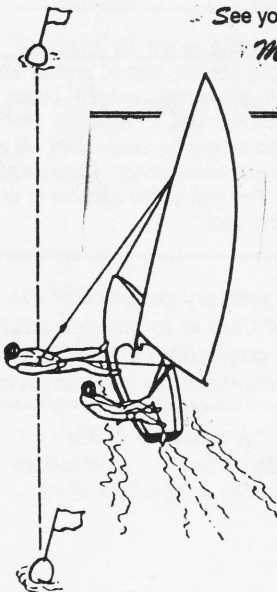
Jeff Wilson, 1996 Race Committee Chairman, has also expressed some thoughts on "Rules" in a separate article, which deserve our attention. As you've heard me say before, the "Golden Rule" is and still remains the number one guideline for friendly sailing at LMV!

See you at the lake!  
Milky Davies

### TACTICS QUIZ:

**Situation:**  
Starting line.

**Question:**  
Has the sailboat crossed the start line?



## ALL HANDS ON DECK FOR OPENING DAY, MARCH 31!

Sunday, March 31, promises to be a red-letter day for Lake Mission Viejo Yacht Club! Bob Milner, Jeff Wilson, and Don Schaffner will drop anchor and raise spatulas to take charge of the galley for cooking up breakfast vitt'les for the Commodore's Brunch. The remaining officers of the club will serve up hotcakes and sausage to members and guests, prior to the Opening Day Ceremony and Skipper's Meeting at approximately 12:30 pm.

We're especially pleased to announce that Bill Schwartz, Lake Mission Viejo Association's General Manager, will be on hand to greet and meet Yacht Club members and say a few words to encourage us to set our sails for a great sailing season. Any of the "old salts" who previously sailed with the club, especially in the early years, have a special invitation to come out and join the fun for a "mini-reunion". We will begin at approximately 11:30 am with the breakfast, and continue non-stop through the day, culminating in dessert and refreshments at the end of the regatta. There's lots of fun for everyone! A spectator boat will be arranged if there are enough non-sailors to warrant an on-the-water look-see!

The radio-controlled boat group will have their projects on display, and may even treat us to a mini-regatta! About ten of the fourteen boats being built are "seaworthy" at this time, and most will be available for a preview. These boats take the same skill and knowledge as their larger counterparts, as they have no motors - the sails and tiller are controlled by radio only. You'll be amazed at the talent in the club!

Fees are \$10 per family for the entire day (to cover cost of food and prizes), or there is NO CHARGE if the annual LMVYC dues of \$40 are paid prior to the event. A commemorative will be awarded to each participant in the regatta who completes all three races. Be sure and be on hand for this exciting day to kick off the 1996 sailing season! It'll be a great day to meet new friends and become reacquainted with old ones! Plan your schedule to save this special day!

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## MILNER NAMED 1995 COAST CUP CHAMPION

Bob Milner, current Vice-Commodore of Lake Mission Viejo Yacht Club, was named winner of the Coast Cup B-Fleet championship for 1995. The local dentist began sailing the Coronado 15 class boat about three years ago after purchasing the brown beauty with no name formerly sailed

by Jim Lockwood. "The Driller", with Bob at the helm, and his brother as crew, successfully returned the perpetual trophy to Mission Viejo, where it has resided four out of the past five years.



The silver cup was awarded to Milner following the C-15 invitational held at the club on Saturday, March 16, by Colleen Dong, District Secretary. Fourteen boats from Southern California sailed with winds increasing throughout the day. Judy Reeves and Barbara Peasley took first in the A-Fleet with three wins - a difficult feat for non-lake sailors! Dan Gilboa and Mike Shea were second, and Don Cole and Betsy Cole took third place. Willi Hugelshofer and Ken Boullion, LMVYC members, solidly won the B-Fleet with three first place wins. Bill and Geri Lee took second, and Paul and Brian Rudolph in third place.

Schaffner, Davies, and Savage acted as Race Committee.

# HONOR CODE APPLIED TO SAILING AT LMV

By Jeff Wilson, Race Committee Chmn.

"The theme for this year, as enunciated in our Commodore's speech at the Officer's Installation, is having fun through fair competition. Sailing is unique from most other sports, in that it is self-policing. We rely on the integrity and honesty of our fellow sailors to follow the rules to the best of their abilities. If you foul a competitor during a race, and you know you were at fault, please take your penalties as soon as you can get clear (not when it's convenient). To not do so on the basis that the other skipper won't protest you undermines the trust everyone needs in each other for self-policing to work. Fundamental Rule C, Fair Sailing, of the IYRU racing rules expresses this idea:

*"A yacht, her owner, and crew shall compete only by sailing, using their speed and skill and, except in team racing, by individual effort, in compliance with the rules and in accordance with recognized principles of fair play and sportsmanship."*

Our club discourages the use of protests because we feel that fouls should be exonerated when they occur on the water. If there is still a disagreement on land, the affected sailors should consult the rules and come to an agreement with the sailor at fault withdrawing from that race. Finally, if an honest disagreement on the interpretation of the rules still exists, a protest committee composed of several disinterested sailors will be convened by the Race Committee. Note that if there is a question in your mind about whether you violated the rules, the safest course of action is to take your penalty turns anyway.

Despite all these legalisms, I want to remind everyone that our purpose is to have fun in fair competition, not to see who is the best rules lawyer. I don't expect everyone to know all the exceptions in the rules, but there are general principles behind the rules that, if understood, will make the rules easier to learn and apply. In future columns I will explain these principles."

## MORE ON RULES....

The March and April issues of "Sailing World" magazine contained 1996 updates on the "experimental" rules put in place in 1995 on a trial basis. Briefly, the major differences that pertain to our club are as follows:

"Avoiding Contact": (Rule XR1) Verbiage is added beyond "try ..." to state that a right of way boat entitled to room need not act to avoid contact until it is evident that the other boat will not keep clear or give room. If you have the right of way, you can hold your course until it becomes "evident that the other boat is not going to avoid you". This rule gives the Protest Committee some teeth, but doesn't do much for the guy or gal whose boat has been damaged!

"Opposite Tacks": (Rule XR 5.2) When a starboard tack boat ON A BEAT is within two of her hull lengths of a port tack boat, the starboard tack boat shall not change course if, as a result, the port tack boat would have to take additional action to keep clear. In other words, don't tack (when beating) unless you have room!

"Tacking at a Mark or Obstruction": (Rule XR 8.4) After two boats on opposite tacks have approached a mark or obstruction and one of them tacks within two hull lengths of it, the boat that tacks...(1) is not entitled to room if the other boat must sail above close-hauled to avoid her or (2) shall give room if the other boat becomes overlapped inside her.

"Obstruction (Definition)": (XR) Something a boat could not pass, if she were sailing directly toward it and one of her hull lengths from it, without changing course substantially...However, a boat racing is an Obstruction to other boats ONLY if each of them is required to keep clear of her and give her room.

# THIS 'n THAT!

Beautiful Black Cloud was selected from many other Thistles in a "casting call" for a commercial for Virginia Slim cigarettes recently. Don said he would have preferred it to be Marlboro's, but hey...it's pretty cool at that! We will not be able to see the commercial locally, however, Don was promised a finished cut of the film made at a private lake north of LA. Don did not get to sail the boat during the commercial, but thoroughly enjoyed watching from the sidelines, and he and Linda were able to capture most of the activity on video camera for us to enjoy at a later date.

John and Joy Jones are enjoying their retirement more these days now that they have completed their ocean-view home near Ensenada in Mexico. They brought in a scrapbook to show the progress on their labor of love from the ground up. Both look tanned, relaxed, and happy! Retirement certainly agrees with them. The trip to Europe last Summer didn't hurt either! Visitors planning to be south of the border were invited to call and come have a look-see.

Harts and Ruthie like the minute-by-minute change of scenery from their new vacation abode - a beautiful brand new motor home (or does one say RV?) complete with TV, microwave, and all the comforts of home! They brought in pictures of their latest outing to sunny Arizona along with the other snowbirds.

The Pre-Season regatta was rained (and hailed!) out, but a cozy number of those who came wound up enjoying long conversations over dinner. During a brief clearing in the cold, stormy afternoon, Horst and Willi ventured out to check the wind, and Willi's pleasant laugh could be heard all over the lake. We asked him if he wasn't afraid he would freeze his knees in the shorts he was wearing, but he said it wasn't knees he was worried about!

Mike Farina brought in pictures to show the progress of his wooden boat building project. He's applying fiberglass to the outside of the hull prior to painting it. Sometime in April we will journey to his house for a flipping party -- to turn the boat hull down so he can work on the top and inside portions. We'll also take a peek at little Madeline Jean to see how much she's grown since her "coming out" party in November.

Sunset sailing starts on Wednesday, April 17. Be sure to arrange your work schedule now so it doesn't interfere with your fun! At least that's what Horst always says! Anytime after 5 pm, pick up racing and intermediate sailing skills practice begins. EVERYONE is welcome. Rentals available, or bring your own boat.

Those of you who have missed Tony Contino's wit and stories of misadventure have a real treat in store! He and Harts Hobbs will present a seminar on "Team Coast Guard: Friend or Foe?" Sunday, April 14th at 1 pm. Perhaps he will explain what's been keeping him and Harts so busy these last two or three years! Tony recently gave a talk at a San Fernando Valley Yacht Club, and their only complaint was that it wasn't long enough! Put it on your calendar now and save the date!

San Diego Harbor Day-Sailing is set for Saturday, June 15. Shared cost is approximately \$25 per person; size of charter will depend on number of people going. If interested, submit check to Willi Hugelshofer, Club Treasurer, to hold your place. Space is limited. We'll carpool down, set sail about 9 am, go ashore for lunch. We will cruise the harbor til sunset! Bring drinks and goodies to share. More details later.

QUIZ ANSWER: YES! Any part of the sailboat or crew in the normal positions counts as part of the boat.

1996

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Remember : Save the last Sunday of each Month for Yacht Club activities!**

- Wednesdays, 8 pm....."Keep in Shape" Walk around Lake
- 7 :15 pm: .....Roundtable Pizza, LaPaz/Marguerite
- March 31, 11:30 am.....Commodore's Brunch/Opening Day Regatta
- April 14, 1 pm.....Seminar by Tony Contino/Harts Hobbs:  
" Team Coast Guard: Friend or Foe?"
- April 17, 5 pm.....Sunset Sailing begins
- April 28, 12:30 pm.....Spring Regatta I



*"The primary purpose of the Yacht Club is to provide social and competitive interaction opportunities for its members."*

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