



Volume 1, Issue 2

February 2018

## COMMODORE'S CORNER

The month of February is the best time to begin your winter boat projects in preparation for the spring sailing season. Spring sailing begins next month and you want your boat and crew ready to go. Don't miss out on that occasional warm day when favorable winds make for perfect sailing.

The spring season racing program begins with the Spring Ahead 2-Weekend Series followed by the popular Cherry Blossom Regatta. Trophies are given out for these races for both Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker Fleets. This is a great time to practice with your crew and build skills to compete in the Tuesday evening KISS series races beginning in April.

Before the KISS series begins, there is a mandatory skippers meeting. This is required to ensure you have all of the updates and your questions answered before starting the 24 straight weeks of racing. It's incredible when you

think about the effort and commitment it takes from Skippers and Crews to engage in this fun and worthwhile program, however safety is a primary concern so please attend the Skippers Meeting on Tuesday, April 3rd, and receive valuable information.

Participation in our racing program is key to making these races fun. This year we will be offering assistance, providing seasoned and experienced skippers to help new boat owners and crews feel comfortable about racing. I encourage the use of the Crew Match feature on the website for those looking for a boat to crew. I encourage skippers with boats to invite someone new on Crew Match to get them out racing. There is usually always a boat looking for crew and crew looking for a boat. Don't leave crew at the dock! If you know someone in the marina with a boat that is interested, but they are not sure how to get started, please assist them

and encourage them to come out.

This club could not function without assistance of volunteers. Thank you to the great group of volunteers for 2018 making this program work. We need more too! Racers, please think about what race you will be signing up for; take your turn at Race Committee. Every Tuesday will need to be covered beginning Tuesday, the second week of April. Please send your email request for a date to [officers@discsailing.org](mailto:officers@discsailing.org). Get your desired Race Committee date. It is better to fill the dates earlier for our race planning purposes.

With that said, may Helios brighten your day and Anemoi keep your sails full.



Bob Brady  
Commodore

### Inside this issue:

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Meet the Spin Fleet Captain | 2   |
| Mandatory Skippers Meeting  | 2   |
| Message from PHRF           | 2   |
| Racing Rules and Sail Trim  | 2   |
| Welcome to 2018 Racing      | 3   |
| Spring Ahead 2-Weekends     | 3   |
| Cherry Blossom Regatta      | 3   |
| Test Your Rules Knowledge   | 3-4 |
| DISC Contact Information    | 4   |
| Officers & Appointments     | 4   |

### Special points of interest:

- Memberships
- Mandatory Skipper's Meeting
- New Racing
- Test Your Rules Knowledge
- Officers & Appointments
- Contact Information

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Now is a good time to become a 2018 DISC Member for only \$20.00.

Members enjoy the many dock parties, after race barbecues, a chili feed cookout, and of course

the popular end of year awards banquet & dinner, free for you and a guest.

A club membership is required to skipper a boat in any of the DISC sponsored races.

You can join DISC by going to the website at [www.discsailing.org](http://www.discsailing.org) and clicking on the Racing Resources tab and selecting the online membership form. We look forward to seeing you at one of the many events.

**Early registration is always encouraged.**

## MEET THE SPINNAKER FLEET CAPTAIN

**Craig Ekman was elected Spinnaker Fleet Captain for 2018.**

Craig grew up in Oregon and was involved in multiple sports including the early days of snowboarding. He happened across windsurfing in the Columbia River Gorge and the many lakes of the Northwest. Craig states with joy that "...gorge sailing in high winds makes the best wind days on the Potomac look rather mild." His first boat was a Hobie 16 and believes "sailing on the wire is still fun even though it is slower than windsurfing."

Craig started racing Olympic class sailboards in Colorado and at the Fern Ridge Yacht Club. He makes it known "racing replaced adrenalin" which he ties into "a much kinder way to talk about aging." Some may remember his Santana 20 keelboat, The OPFOR (Opposition Force). He did quite well on the Potomac and won the Santana 20 East Coast Championships. His current boat, Man-O-War, is a S2 7.9. Craig feels they do "OK" but his crew assured him they need to take racing a little more serious this year and now he feels his reputation as the "calmest skipper in the fleet" may be in jeopardy.



**Craig Ekman,**  
**2018 Spinnaker Fleet Captain**

### Please Update Your Calendar

#### SKIPPER'S MEETING

#### ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY

**DATE:** Tuesday, April 3rd  
**LOCATION:** Murphy's Irish Pub  
**TIME:** 5:30PM—7:30PM  
**ADDRESS:** 713 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314

- Prepare for the season.
- Discuss how we are trying to streamline the processes.
- Smooth out issues.
- We will have new score sheets so if you want to have easy scoring register for racing early!
- Talk through protest procedures.
- Warning: Race Committee sign ups will be held. If you don't sign up we will put your name in a hat and draw for open dates.

### An important message from PHRFI

Important web site login information is found below:

The new website is now live! You can now renew your most recent PHRF of Chesapeake Bay certificate, or apply for a new rating for the upcoming racing season. You may also apply for a new/non-renewal certificate. PHRF of Chesapeake Bay is utilizing an all new and online application system to facilitate this process. A credit card is required during the application process and Visa, Mastercard, or American Express are accepted.

**Website:** <http://www2.phrfchesbay.org/page/certificates>

Should you have questions, please contact your club's handicapper or any of the executive committee at the numbers listed at:

#### Handicappers:

<http://www2.phrfchesbay.org/page/organization/handicappers>

#### Executive Committee:

<http://www2.phrfchesbay.org/page/organization/ExecBoard>



### Racing Rules/Sail Trim Clinic

- We are discussing a Racing Rules Clinic combined with a Sail Trim Seminar. This would be a great time to bring crew, trimmers, tacticians, Seeing Eye dogs, and anyone who helps you get around the course.
- Stay tuned for date, time, and place.

# WELCOME TO 2018 RACING



## Spring Ahead 2-Weekend Series and the Cherry Blossom Regatta

(Reprinted from the 2017 Cherry Blossom Regatta wrap-up)

*Getting ready for spring time racing is on every DISC Skipper's mind as the weather changes from winter temperatures in the low 20s, then seemingly overnight jumps to the mid 70s. Boat owners begin a scramble to assemble their crews and start making a wish list of gear, rigging, equipment and supplies needed to go racing.*

*Each year DISC kicks off the sailing season with a two weekend series of racing, preparing the most dedicated and committed racers a time to tune-up and prepare their crews and boats for the best spring racing on the North Potomac River, the "Cherry Blossom Regatta".*

This year the prelude to the Cherry Blossom Regatta is the 2-Weekend Series races; kicking off spring racing beginning 2-Saturdays, March 24th and March 31st. The race fee is \$20 for both weekends.

The Cherry Blossom Regatta is free and held on Saturday, April 14th. The Regatta will have trophies presented for Spinnaker and Non-spinnaker Fleets for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place and awarded at the after-race cookout, held in the grove.

Trophies are awarded for both Spinnaker and Non-spinnaker fleets for overall 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers of all 3 weekends. The notice of race and sailing instructions are being prepared now and will be provided soon.

**Let's make an effort to have good participation and create some fun!!!**

### HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW THE RACING RULES (answers are on the last page)

1. The Racing Rules of Sailing begin to apply between boats before their warning signal. (True or False)
2. A boat cannot be penalized under the racing rules unless she is racing. (True or False)
3. When you are racing and you witness a competitor foul a cruising boat, you are permitted to protest the competitor for that incident. (True or False)
4. When a boat that is racing meets a boat that is cruising under sail, the racing boat has right of way. (True or False)
5. When two boats are tacking at the same time, the one that passed head to wind first has right of way. (True or False)
6. When a port-tack boat (P) crosses ahead of a starboard-tack boat (S), S is not permitted to change course if, as a result, P would have to change her course immediately to keep clear. (True or False)
7. If a right-of-way boat fails to avoid contact when possible, she will not be penalized under rule 14 (Avoiding Contact) unless there is damage or injury. (True or False)
8. When a boat obtains *right of way* by her own actions, she must initially give room to the other boat. (True or False)
9. A right of way boat must initially give the *keep clear* boat *room* when changing course. (True or False)
10. On a reach, if a boat *clear astern* that becomes *overlapped to leeward* of a boat on the same *tack* within two of her hull lengths she must continue to keep clear even if she has to sail below her proper course as long as they are overlapped. (True or False)

# DISC Sailing

DAINGERFIELD ISLAND SAILING CLUB  
Washington Sailing Marina  
1 Marina Drive  
Alexandria, Va. 22314

Website: [www.discsailing.com](http://www.discsailing.com)  
Email: [officers@discsailing.org](mailto:officers@discsailing.org)



## 2018 OFFICERS & APPOINTMENTS

Commodore—Bob Brady  
Vice Commodore—Nelson Pemberton  
Secretary—Greg Dupier  
Treasurer—Anna Brammer  
Race Director—Pete Fanta  
Spinnaker Fleet Captain—Craig Ekman  
Non-Spinnaker Fleet Captain—Henry Cheng  
Past Commodore—Karl Hobart

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Protest Chairman—Nelson Pemberton  
Alternate Protest Chairman—John McPherson  
Race Scoring Official—John Tucker  
Website and Social Media—Scott Moore  
Social Coordinator—Bruce Baker  
Membership Coordinator—Carolyn Guy  
PYRC Delegate—Karl Hobart

### Membership and Race Fees:

You can use the online membership and race form on the website to submit your payments.

### Coming Soon

Look forward to the March Newsletter.

This Newsletter needs a name: Send your ideas to

## HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW THE RACING RULES (Answers)

### 1. True

Preamble Part 2. The rules of Part 2 apply between boats that are sailing in or near the racing area and intend to **race**, are **racing**, or have been **racing**. However, a boat not **racing** shall not be penalized for breaking one of these rules, except rule 14 when the incident resulted in injury or serious damage, or rule 24.1.

### 2. False

Preamble Part 2, The rules of Part 2 apply between boats that are sailing in or near the racing area and intend to **race**, are **racing**, or have been **racing**. However, a boat not **racing** shall not be penalized for breaking one of these rules, except rule 14 when the incident resulted in injury or serious damage, or rule 24.1.

### 3. True

Preamble Part 2, *When a boat sailing under these rules meets a vessel that is not, she shall comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS) or government right-of-way rules. RRS 60.1 A boat may (a) protest another boat, but not for an alleged breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 unless she was involved in or saw the incident;*

### 4. False

Preamble Part 2, *When a boat sailing under these rules meets a vessel that is not, she shall comply with the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCAS) or government right-of-way rules.*

### 5. False

RRS 13 **WHILE TACKING**, After a boat passes head to wind, she shall *keep clear* of other boats until she is on a close-hauled course. During that time rules 10, 11, and 12 do not apply. If two boats are subject to this rule at the same time, the one on the other's port side or the one astern shall *keep clear*.

### 6. True

RRS 16.1 When a right-of-way boat changes course, she shall give the other boat *room to keep clear*.

### 7. True

RRS 14 **AVOIDING CONTACT**—A boat shall avoid contact with another boat if reasonably possible. However, a right-of-way boat or one entitled to *room* or *mark-room* need not act to avoid contact until it is clear that the other boat is not keeping clear or giving room or mark-room, and (b) shall be exonerated if she breaks this rule and the contact does not cause damage or injury., and don't forget RRS 2, and damage and injury can be loosely defined.

### 8. True

RRS 15 **ACQUIRING RIGHT OF WAY** -When a boat acquires right of way, she shall initially give the other boat *room to keep clear*, unless she acquires right of way because of the other boat's actions.

### 9. True

RRS 16 **CHANGING COURSE** 16.1 When a right-of-way boat changes course, she shall give the other boat *room to keep clear*.

### 10. False,

RRS 17 **ON THE SAME TACK; PROPER COURSE** clear astern becomes overlapped within two of her hull lengths to leeward of a boat on the same tack, she shall not sail above her proper course while they remain on the same tack and overlapped within that distance, unless in doing so she promptly sails astern of the other boat. This rule does not apply if the overlap begins while the windward boat is required by rule 13 to keep clear.

Case 7, When, after having been clear astern, a boat becomes overlapped to leeward within two of her hull lengths of the other boat, the windward boat must keep clear, but the leeward boat must initially give the windward boat room to keep clear and must not sail above her proper course. The proper course of the windward boat is not relevant.

## PHRF Racers: Don't let your PHRF rating expire! A number of racers have rating certificates that will expire on **March 31, 2018**.

Expired ratings will not be allowed in the upcoming season. Check your certificate expiration date if you have doubts. The same applies for boats new to the area without a PHRF of the Chesapeake rating certificate. Based upon new Chesapeake Bay PHRF numbers, 5 DISC boats in the Fleet gained 3 seconds a mile on time against the fastest boats. Please check your rating to see if you need to renew or change your rating.

Here's the link:

[http://www2.phrfchesbay.org/page/ratings/apply\\_online](http://www2.phrfchesbay.org/page/ratings/apply_online)