



June 2008

Footnotes...

Commodore's Corner

Commodore: Lance Jones

The summer time is here! These are the days of a hot summer sun and light wind. Ideal conditions for a raft up! During these times, our races tend to move into the cooler, slightly breezier evenings. What's a Barefooter to do? Well, in July we have the second Boat Owners and Invited Guest Cruise July 18-20th and we have Evening Breeze #2 on the 12th and the Moonlight Race on the 19th.

So far, BFSC has been blessed with great cruising and racing weather this spring and we hope that luck holds. We definitely need the rain; but, that is what the weekdays are for. Speaking of rain, the Corps of Engineers has been given approval by the U.S. Department of Fish & Wildlife to keep the water releases from Lake Lanier at their present state. This is crucial for their new operating plan that is due out in the next three years. They did the research and found that the current level was not damaging to the Sturgeon and mussels downstream. Of course the State of Florida doesn't agree. Well, too bad. The CoE is now authorized to keep 50% of the water entering the lake as opposed to the current 20%.

Look for racing classes to start soon. In addition, if you have any ideas for cruising or general sailing type questions, please let your board members know.

Coming in August: THE BAREFOOT LOBSTER BOIL!!!!!!!!!!!!!! There will be great food, drink and friends. More details to follow; but, mark August 23rd, 4:30pm at the Aqualand Pavilion on your calendars.

Racing Updates

Racing Captain: Chris Webster

Risk management is the fine art of extracting the greatest gain from calculated, acceptable risks. The same is true for competitive sailboat racing. Risk management skills are learned through experience. Winning teams have a keen understanding of what the likelihood and consequence of success and failure are for each maneuver. Many don't have the luxury of this experience, but we can compensate by identifying situation that pose the greatest risk. In doing so, we build a mental database that we can build upon as we become more experienced. Here's a list of common high-risk situations we can draw from.

Before the Start:

- Going out to the racecourse without the right sails and gear. In this heat make sure you take plenty of water/Gatorade out to keep yourself and your crew hydrated.
- Knowingly sailing with suspect gear. Don't risk a failure – fix it or replace it.
- Arriving at the starting line area late. Why risk your performance by not giving yourself the time to tune-up, check the wind (shifting patterns), and check in with the race committee?
- Sailing too far from the starting line when a start is imminent. We've all done it. The starting horn sounds and you're still 100 yards away. Don't stray too far!

At the Start:

- Trying to win an end. A big crowd at the favored end usually means that only a small number of boats will get decent starts, if any at all. Most of the time it's best to start one-third of the way down from the favored end to avoid the mess.
- Port-tack approach on a crowded line. As the time to the horn winds down, boats tend to converge on the line leaving less and less room for a port-tack approach, especially near the favored end. The risks of fouling while trying to squeeze in somewhere or being pinned out entirely are great.
- Port tacking the fleet at the pin. A big left shift before the start might make this a great maneuver, but there are bound to be starboard boats very close, and it only takes one to spoil your party.

While Sailing:

- Tacking away from the heavily lifted or favored tack because of bad air. This is a particularly high-risk maneuver on Lanier due to the oscillating breezes. Hang in there on the lifted tack or foot or pinch to clear your air. Resist the temptation to tack, the gains are usually short-lived.
- Allowing a right-of-way boat to dictate your tactics. You're lifted and convinced you're in phase and going the right way. Why they would you risk spoiling your strategy by refusing to duck a starboard tacker? Duck and continue.

- Generally speaking, risk increases as you approach the laylines. Not only do you stand to lose in any shift while on or near the layline, boats will camp on your air as you get closer to the mark.
- Leebow a pack on the starboard layline. Can you make the mark after the tack? Will you foul during the turn? Know how well you turn the boat.
- Jibing after just rounding the windward mark with a pack of boats directly behind you. A jibe here can put you in a big zone of dead air, plus tight turns are slow. Have a good reason for jibing in this situation.
- Assuming you aren't required to give room to a boat close astern while in the 2-length zone. Once you reach the zone, it's best to clearly state to the boat that they don't have room. Communication can really reduce your risk here.
- Not covering your competition, especially while leading to the finish. As you approach the finish, reduce your opponent's opportunity to pass you by placing yourself between them and the finish line. The opportunity for gain and loss increases as boats separate, as does the inherent risk of such a move.
- Not exonerating yourself when someone protests you and you have the slightest inclination you fouled. Very few regattas are won in the protest room.

Good risk management is the result of good decision making, and good decisions get you around the course faster. Sailing in competitive fleets will improve your learning curve, and of course, the best way to limit risk is to be faster!

The racing line up for the next couple of races is:

Evening Breeze #1	Saturday	6/14/08	6pm start
Reggae Regatta	Sat & Sun	6/21-22/08	Check the LLSC website for NOR
Evening Breeze #2	Saturday	7/12/08	6pm start
Moonlight Scramble	Saturday	7/19/08	6pm start ICW SSC's Firefly
Evening Breeze #3	Saturday	8/2/08	6pm start
Evening Breeze #4	Saturday	8/9/08	6pm start

To avoid the heat and "slop & chop" of the summer boating, the BFSC Saturday and Sunday races the skipper's meeting will change to 4pm at the Aqualand Ship Store parking lot, and the races start in the vicinity of "X" mark at 6pm (weather permitting). Yes there is still plenty of navigable waters in the Chattahoochee Bay area (more specifically around/between the marks: X, B, C, D, & E). Please print out and review the 2008 BFSC Sailing Instructions from our website.

For anybody needing crew or trying to find a boat to race on, please feel free to contact me.

ALRIGHT EVERYBODY,...I KEEP TELLING YOU ALL TO PRAY FOR RAIN. IT'S NOT HAPPENING SO OBVIOUSLY YOU'RE NOT TRYING HARD ENOUGH. SO I GUESS I'M GOING TO HAVE TO PARADE AROUND THE AQUALAND DOCKS IN A SPEEDO DOING MY RAIN DANCE OR SOMETHING TO GET THE RAIN GODS ATTENTION! BELIEVE ME, THAT WON'T BE A PRETTY SIGHT,...SO GET BUSY!

Social Life

Social Captain: Linda Webster

Ahoy to all! Save the date of August 23rd for the annual Lobster Boil. Social hour starts at 4 pm with Lobsters being served at 6pm. There will be an alternate choice for those of you that can't have seafood, so plan to come on out and enjoy the good company! More details to follow.

Membership Drive Contest

Membership First Mate: Jimbo McKean

In order to increase our membership, we are calling upon those who know better than anybody, the value of BFSC membership: YOU! So, we are launching a membership drive contest. The rules are simple:

Any current, PAID, member who is responsible for signing up a new (paid) member, will have their name entered into a contest. Multiple new members will give you multiple entries. The prize is will be the winner's choice between a Garmin Handheld GPS or a West Marine Handheld VHF radio.

To enter a new member, all you have to do is submit their application along with a check for \$45.00 to any officer of the club. You will then receive an entry for the drawing to be held at the June membership meeting.

Brunch Cruise

By Commodore Lance Jones

What a great day for an event! Meeting at the Aqualand Marina Ship Store, Barefooters began the Brunch Cruise with a skippers meeting. There would be a total of ten boats and forty people for this years event.



The weather was perfect with light winds and sun until early afternoon. Billy Gray and his galley staff did a super job in setting up this event. His boat and Tom O'Shea were the designated cook boats. By 11:30, brunch was being served. A wonderful menu that consisted of scrambled eggs complimented by bacon, sausage and hash browns. Everyone brought a variety of great treats to share as well as specialty drinks.

As the temperature began to rise, people migrated from boats to the water. There were floats, noodles and floating coolers spread out behind the boats. Kitty and Lance's dog, Daisy, swam from member to member making sure they gave her the required amount of petting!

By 4:00, everyone was ready to sail! The winds had picked up and the boats were ready to go. Slowly, the raft up dissolved as every boat made

sail for the main area of the lake and open water to maneuver. The planning team, headed by Bill Gray, did a super job in planning, provisioning and executing a wonderful Fathers Day event. What an awesome day!



2008 Barefoot Sailing Club Board

Commodore	<u>Lance Jones</u> (770) 330-4010
Vice Commodore	
Racing Captain	<u>Chris Webster</u>
Cruising Captain	<u>Marie Graham</u>
Social Captain	<u>Linda Webster</u>
Membership 1st Mate	<u>Jimbo McKean</u>
Purser	<u>Tom O'Shea</u> (404) 788-3090
Yeoman	<u>Margaret Sherrod</u>
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