

# "Bull Session"

News and comments for the El Toro Class  
July 2007 #191

## Junior El Toro Championship Series:

Thirty-two junior El Toro sailors competed in the 2007 El Toro Junior North American Championship at the Stockton Sailing Club in Stockton, California on July 13th. The three-race, no-throwout regatta featured Gold and Silver Fleets and took place in beautiful sunshine, with shifty winds that ranged from five to fourteen knots. Patrick Tara had straight bullets in winning the Gold Fleet and overall championship, with McKenzie Cook in second and Marina Fennell finishing as the top girl in third. Carson Johnson and Jacob Abrahams finished fourth and fifth, respectively.

In the Silver Fleet, Peter Lansdale took first and Dalton Fernandez was second. Only three points separated the third, fourth and fifth place sailors, Jesse Kittle, John Canepa, and David Halman. For many of the sailors, this was their first big regatta and they should be proud of their accomplishments in competing in it.

Many thanks to Fred Paxton for his work as the principal race officer, and to Buzz Blackett for organizing the event. A special thanks to the Stockton Sailing Club for hosting the regatta as a part of the annual junior sailcamp jointly sponsored by the SSC, Santa Cruz Yacht Club, and Richmond Yacht Club. Finally, kudos to Paul Tara, who came up with the idea of holding the regatta as an integral part of the sailcamp to take advantage of the gathering of all the necessary ingredients -- El Toros, chase boats, parent volunteers, and enthusiastic kids. Let's all work to repeat and grow the event in future years.

## Observations:

Camp was very good this year. 67 or so kids (12 Optis). The Jr. NA's on Friday were deemed to be a great success by all. 36 boats raced in silver and gold fleets. Patrick won with 3 bullets, followed by Mackenzie and Marina. One point separated the latter going into the last race. I would just as soon someone other than myself took care of the press for obvious reasons. Two interesting comments I overheard. "Optis never capsize," from El Toro sailors (not true, there were three). And, "El Toros are a lot faster," from the Opti sailors. Paul

**Now on to Pinecrest for the Senior Gold and Silver North American Championship**

August 6-7-8-9

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2007 Calendar

August 6-7-8-9, National Championship - Pinecrest
August 11-12, Worlds - Pinecrest
September 22-23 Total Dinghy - Richmond YC
October 7, Stampede - Richmond YC
October 13, Corkscrew - Sequoia Yc
October 20, Jim Warfield Memorial, Stockton
December 2, RYC Midwinter
December 8, LMSC Midwinter

The HP Sailing season begins and ends with Daylight Savings Time.

http://www.hpsailingclub.org/notice.html

FROM THE RIGHT COAST

The next regatta will be August 11th at the Fry's summer place in St Indigo's Creek (St Mary's City, MD). We need at least 5 El toros to justify holding it (any less does not qualify for CBYRA and it isn't fair to Bill to hold it for less people) so please let Bill Fry know if you are coming to the regatta (email at wgfry@alumni.duke.edu or phone: Home 301-365-1325 or Work 703-595-1927). We certainly expect more, but please let him know so he can make plans. Skippers meeting 11am. Entry fee of \$6 per person to a max of \$12 per boat/family which will include food & fun. See his flyer, attached in pdf format or see it on the website www.toad.net/~mariners/eltoro

RESULTS: ATLANTIC COAST CHAMPIONSHIP - CAMBRIDGE YACHT CLUB - July 14th

The Atlantic Coast Championship was, as usual, part of the Cambridge Yacht Club annual regatta. The El toros shared the inside course with Penguins and Lasers and the race committee, as usual, did a superb job in fitting the classes together (the toros had a shorter weather mark which resulted in the classes finishing without waiting for each other. The winds were very light and Hank Muma led at the start of the first race. His superb light air techniques kept him there until, halfway up the weather leg the winds went left and increased to maybe 10 knots out of the west, blowing up the Choptank River. Bill Schneider lucked out

and took advantage of being far left to take the lead at the weather mark. He just managed to keep Brian Taliaferro from passing him and won the 1st race. He managed to stay ahead of Brian somehow (he hasn't a clue how) for the second race too, but Brian sneaked around him at the second weather mark for the third race. The winds were picking up through the morning and, after lunch ashore, they were a bit imposing for the El toros (some of us get them mixed up with submarines in higher wind gusts) and we decided that 3 races were enough for the day. Ironically, the wind lightened up soon after we had the boats put away.

Results: 1. Bill Schneider, 2. Brian Taliaferro, 3. Val Taliaferro, and the remainder of the results will be posted when I get them for Hank Muma, Chisolm McAvoy, Carol Jones (she was 3rd in the first race), and Geoff Schneider.