

Bull Session

news and comment of the El Toro Class
May, 2013 #465

Saturday : the Flight of the Bulls! Weather forecast is GOOD,,(not 'survival conditions). By popular request, this year, we're sailing the whole length of Foster City lagoon.

2013 FLIGHT OF THE BULLS 43rd annual Bob McKibben Memorial

Date: Saturday, May 11th, 2013 (held annually the day before Mother's day)

Location: Boat/Dog Park Foster City, CA. Corner of Foster City Blvd and Bounty Dr., Foster City, CA, 94404

On site registration: 10:00am

Skippers meeting: 10:30am

Start: 11:00am

The race will be held RAIN OR SHINE. Only electrical or thunder storms or sustained winds over 20 MPH at the start of the race will cancel the race. Awards, snacks and refreshments immediately after last competitor finishes.

THE QUESTION IS - Are you ready for the challenge? The Flight of the Bulls is the third race in the Senior El Toro Series and can be the most demanding and challenging of the entire Senior Series. Seniors will be scored separately for the 2013 series; however, this is an OPEN division race for El Toros and advanced Juniors are encouraged to sail along with the Seniors. Juniors and Seniors will be scored as one fleet for trophies.

Please Note - This is not a beginners race. To successfully finish this race, you must be capable of repeated short tacking in light and heavy wind, possess the ability to read a variety of wind current signs, be capable of quickly reacting to rapidly changing wind conditions, and have the stamina for a long (up to three hours) race.

- The race is for class legal El Toros only and must conform to all class rules.
- A dedicated attached 15 foot painter is required.
- The mast must be secured to the hull by means other than running rigging (you must have a mast tie down of some sort.)
- PFDs are required while on the water.
- 360 rule for infractions (one tack, one gibe)
- 360 rule for marks (one tack, one gibe)

There is no charge for the event. However, donations of \$15 for senior racers would be appreciated to help offset Foster City application and power boat permit costs.

THE SAILING CONDITIONS CAN BE ? ! ? !

The history of the race has repeatedly presented challenging conditions ranging from slight drifting air to sudden blasting gusts of wind coming from between houses and buildings, all

during the same race. Temperatures ranged from blazing hot and dehydration to rain and high winds. Some race days have drifted for a majority of the race to finish in a gale, while some started in a stiff breeze with wind building stronger as the race progressed.

The only constant has been the challenge of sailing under 4 different bridges with swirling zephyrs of wind coming at 360 degree shifts around the columns and from directly above. There is an open water lagoon that may have major wind shifts. There are channels that mandate precise multiple short tacking and concentration on choosing the right wind shifts. There are long runs directly down wind in funnels of wind. There are patches of dead calm with zephyrs of air swirling behind tall condos, buildings, and trees. Wind can be directly down, zephyrs floating through, to sudden shifts around the ends of the buildings. There are buildings on both sides of channels that can stop the wind completely, direct the air up, or funnel air currents directly between them. The physical conditions make zephyrs a norm.

Add to this, that the length of the race normally exceeds 2 hours in length making a skipper continue to concentrate for the entire race as they become fatigued. From the front to back of the fleet there are ample opportunities to pass and to be passed due to favorable wind and careful tactical opportunities. Positions have been gained and lost in the last portions of the race. Many times the winner was decided by less than a boat length with multiple changes in the lead throughout the race because of technical challenge of the course and changing conditions.

The BULLSHIP can be sailed with knowledge of bay currents, tides, winds and general sailing skills. The Corkscrew requires sailing in currents, general sailing skill but has minimal opportunity to pass. This race taxes your knowledge of wind currents, overall sailing ability, and stamina. Are you ready for the challenge?

from the East Coast,,

Due to a scheduling conflict, we had to change the regatta at Carol Jones' home on the Tuckahoe River in New Jersey, from Saturday, June 8th, to Sunday, June 9th. Arrival time would be best before 10:30 to give some time to get the boats in the water. Our website has been updated to reflect this change.

Bill Schneider
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CLEAR LAKE REGATTA 2013
NOTICE OF RACE

El Toro Regional Championship
DaySailor West Coast Championship
Lido 14 District II Championship
Windmill, invited class
June 15-16, 2013
Headquarters:

Clear Lake Cottages and Marina 13885 Lakeshore Dr. Clear Lake, CA 95422

<http://www.clearlakecottagesandmarina.com,,,707-995-5253,,,>

Sponsoring organization, The El Toro International Yacht Racing Association

1. Rules 1.1 The Regatta will be governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2012-2016.

2. Advertising

2.1 Advertising will be restricted to Category A.

3. Eligibility and Entry

3.1 The regatta is open to all members of the El Toro Class, DaySailor Class, Lido 14 Class and Windmill Class. Membership and adherence to class

rules will be the responsibility of the classes.

4. Entry Fee \$35 for the weekend of races, payable at check in.

5. Schedule:

5.1 Regatta registration and check in will commence at 10:00 Saturday, 15 June, 2013 at the Clear Lake Cottages and Marina, 13885 Lakeshore Dr., Clear

Lake, CA 95422.

5.2 Registration and check in will close at 11:30, June 15, 2013.

5.3 A skipper's meeting will be held at 11:30, noon, 15 June, at the Clear Lake Cottages and Marina. Participants should launch their boats and be ready to race prior to this meeting.

5.4 Racing will start at 12:00 noon Saturday, Weather permitting, four or five races will be sailed on Saturday and two on Sunday. The first race on Saturday will commence immediately after the skipper's meeting. The first race on Sunday will commence at 10:30. One completed race will constitute a regatta.

6. Sailing Instructions will be distributed at check in. Two windward marks will be used. There may be a leeward gate used.

7. Venue

7.1 Races will be conducted in the vicinity of the Clear Lake Cottages and Marina on Lower Lake, Clear Lake.

8. Races Courses.

8.1 Courses will be published in the Sailing Instructions.

9. Scoring

9.1 The Low Point System, Appendix A4, will be used to score races.

9.2 A boat's worst race score will be thrown out if all six scheduled races are sailed.

The Notice of Race and Entry form for the 2013 El Toro National Championship Series to be held on Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii has been published. They are now on the class web site.

We now have entries being sent in. Plan now,,,more time to get your boat measured in,,,more time to complete your paperwork

This is your rare opportunities to race your sailboat in Paradise. This may not happen again! I really must stress the fact that this may be your only opportunity to sail Hawaii. It has been ten years since the class went to Hawaii. No joke. Be ready for a fleet of 20+ Senior and 40+ Juniors racing!

2013 calendar

Flight of the Bulls May 11, Foster City

Fremont Relays May 19, Lake Elizabeth
boat measuring day May tbd

El Toros built in Santa Cruz are invited to "Made in Santa Cruz Race Week" celebration.

Clear Lake Regatta June 15-16, Clear Lake, NOR on the web site
Mayors Cup June 22, Lake Merritt
packing the container to Hawaii July Oakland, Fred Paxton

National Championship August 6-7-8-9, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii
[NOR and Entry Forms,,,,available on the web site,,,eltoroyra.org,,,](http://eltoroyra.org)

Pinesrest Worlds	August 24-25	Pinecrest Lake
Totally Dinghy	September 14-15	Richmond YC
El Toro Stampede	October 6,	Richmond YC
Cork Screw	October 19,	Redwood City

Fremont Sailing Club sailing schedule:

May 19th – Fremont Relay's

June 2 - Spring

June 23 – Summer

July 14 – Summer

July 28 - Summer

Aug 25 - Fall

Sep 8 – Fall

Sep 22 – Fall

El Toro 'Senior' National Championship Series locations

2013 Hawaii

2014 Clear Lake

2015 Santa Cruz

2016 Pincrest

2017 ?