

Bull Session

*news and comment of the El Toro Class
March, 2015 #539
www.eltoroyra.org*

Indeed the BULLSHIP was last SATURDAY

A day of very confusing wind predictions. The forecasts, depending on the one you looked at, 1) variable conditions to 5 knots of wind, 2) light easterlies until the gate and a 5 to 7 South Westerly wind after 12 noon, 3) light Easterlies until 10:30 then westerly 15 to 17, or, 4) north westerly from 15 to 20 all day.

After a postponed start, to allow many of the fleet time to sail the .1 nm from the Sausalito Yacht Club to the starting line. It took one sailor 22 minutes all because of light air and a building flood that was going it to get stronger.

As in many Bullship races, the fleet went every-which-way. Some went for Alcatraz, some up-the-middle and, as it turned out, the smart way was with the boats that hugged the Sausalito shore for protection from the flood. Finding a very light Easterly this group that included Fred, Art, John, Deb, JV, Buzz, Chris, Dennis and Bruce crept along the beach. By the time this first fleet got to Yellow Bluff the wind had swung 180 degrees into a westerly and picked up to 12 knots. It did not bend around enough to save the boats that went left early and the building flood slowed down the up-the-middle boats leaving this shore group to face the big flood with a little more ability to crack-off, just a little bit, and get their boats really moving, for an El Toro, through a very nasty short San Francisco Bay chop.

Order of finish was almost the same order as when the parade left the light air Sausalito shore flood protection. Fred, Art, -, Buzz, John, etc.

Final results will be posted on the class website. Duncan Carter has sent all the results to the sailors by email.

(side-bar) Dan and Kelli Cook there there at the San Francisco finish line watching Mackenzie Cook race for his Hawaii University sailing team in a CFJ event.

David Leibenberg and Dan, his sailing buddy have indeed made the US Olympic Team. Dave is driving a 49er double trapeze high-performance dinghy.

His first World Olympic Regatta, as the US Representative, was in Spain.

The results on the regatta site are confusing so I cannot report on how well they did.

He needs to first, finish well enough in a Worlds' Regatta to qualify the United States for status 49er Class.

So far, in World Competition, the United States has not finished well enough to qualify his class for US inclusion into the Brazilian Games.

This Saturday

RYC Big Dinghy on April 11th. We have another Saturday Race and Saturday only. This is the second counter race for the Seniors and the first for the Juniors.

Sign-up on-line at,,richmondyc.org,,big dinghy regatta,,

There probably will not be a print "Shovel" newsletter this year because all our efforts and time are going into all the preparations for the Santa Cruz National Series. We also do not have a great 'front cover' photo.

El Toro 2015 North American Championship Santa Cruz, California

All the Series information, NOR, [entry instructions](#) and welcoming letter are now on the class website,,eltoroyra.org,,It is also time to enter this event. Santa Cruz Yacht Club is a "World Class" regatta club. The planning is easier when they know, sooner rather than later, who is registered. If you have any trouble call Kelli,,831-428-2875, email her,,kelliecook@comcast.net,,and/or the regatta registration site,,www.regattanetwork.com/event/9721.

2015 Senior and Junior North American Championship Santa Cruz

July 21, official practice day with RC, social gathering upstairs

July 22, three races, Big Boat bear Can & BBQ

July 23, three races, annual meeting and dinner

July 24, two races, trophy presentation and BBQ

2015 Schedule,

BullShip	April 4
Big Dinghy RYC	April 11 (Saturday counter)
Fremont Spring	May 3
Flight of the Bulls	May 9
Fremont Relays	May 17
Clear Lake	June 20-21
Mayors Cup	June 28
Sail Camp SSC	July 12 - 18
Santa Cruz Nationals	July 21-24
Pine Crest Lake	August 15-16
Fun Regatta SCYC	August
Totally Dinghy RYC	September 19
Stampede RYC	October 11
Cork Screw	October 24

National Championship Venues

2015 Santa Cruz
2016 Pinecrest
2017 Alameda Sailing Center
2018 Lake Yosemite
2019 Kaneohe Bay
2020 Clear Lake

CHANGES in life

CorkScrew , Sequoya Yacht Club's regatta will be **October 24th**, so it coincides with their year-end barbeque and party, This race is not as "High-Tide" dependent as it has been in the past (not October 18th)