Bull Session

news and comment of the El Toro Class
July, 2015 #547
www.eltoryra.org

El Toro 2015 North American Championship
Santa Cruz, California

The stage has been set for the Santa Cruz National Series, let the game begin. The Hawaiians are here with the 'best sailors' from the Islands.

Over 50 El Toro's have registered. The fleet is made up of over 30 Seniors and over 20 Juniors.

Today the No-Carbon Class Doubled in size,,,you guessed it,,,went from one to two!

Saturday the wind in Santa Cruz was ideal for El Toro's.

The weather pattern that has turned the wind into something very strange for the Los Angeles to Hawaii TransPac race Saturday start, with winds from the South instead of the North, has played havoc with Santa Cruz winds. The weather here is turned very "Hawaiian" hot.

The wind Sunday was out of the South-South-West 190-200 degrees in the 3 to 4 kts range and flat water.

Monday the wind direction moved a little West to 200-210 with wind approaching 20+ in very choppy short waves. Santa Cruz is a lee shore in these conditions and it made El Toro sailing survival not raceable. But many boats went out and practiced. John Pacolski said 'It is the Ocean out there".

The typical Santa Cruz weather pattern is an overcast sky early in the morning with a very light wind. When about 11:am the burn-off starts the wind fills from 260-270, West at about 12 -14 kts. With the California Coast land being the breakwater the sailing is great.

Right now, Monday evening there is a fog bank out in Monterey Bay not quite close to shore but it is there. The wind has moved around to the East-South-East, 100, a very typical early morning, 4am weather patter. For the practice race Tuesday, 10:am skippers meeting, the weather could be anything. How many times have we gotten to a championship and been told the weather is usually not like this!!!

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Sails for the Santa Cruz Nationals

So far the class rules have not been a problem for anyone entering this event. All the sails from all the sail makers have measured-in with a few minor things that can be easily corrected. All the boats seam to be in good shape. None of the questionable sails have shown up in Santa Cruz. There is only one boat that needs to be measured and that will be done Tuesday evening.

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2015 Senior and Junior North American Championship Santa Cruz

July 21, official practice day with RC, gathering upstairs at 10:AM
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

There is a great drone video of the El Toro fleet racing on Clear Lake taken by Chris Twirbutt, a professional drone-camera guy. It can be found on the El Toro web site, Norcalsailing.com and the Scuttlebut web site. It is very worth watching two or three times!
Try,,,http://vimeo.com/131362498,,,
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2015 Schedule,
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right now
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
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El Toro stories and video in archives:

,,,sailingscuttlebutt.com,,,
,,,pressure-drop.us,,,
,,,norcalsailing.com,,,

CHANGES in life
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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)