### Get Boats Out of the Parking Lot

Handicapping Dinghies

Bob Adams Dave Reed Nathan Titcomb



# Do you have a boat like this in your garage?





#### Do you remember these?

- Zuma
- Johnson 18
- Millimeter
- MX Ray
- BYTE CII
- ZIM 15



## What if all classes of boat could race together some how?



#### Leave it to the Brits the SailJuice Winter Series



#### SailJuice Winter Series

"The GJW Direct SailJuice Winter Series is based around the UK's biggest winter handicap events. Sailors from many different dinghy fleets now consider this series as one of the main goals of their winter racing."

- Seven events from November to February
- To date: 217 entries
- Managed by SailRacer





#### 2016/17 GJW Direct SailJuice Winter Series Record numbers 1000+ sailors | 660 boats 278 clubs | 89 classes







#### It's Already Working Here







#### " It's just . . . Wednesdays. "

Flying Scot sailor shows up unannounced at the club for the Rum Race.

He gives it a try. Now, he's a member.

"It's what we do...In our area, outside of the sailing centers like St. Pete, Miami and Sarasota, to get 20 boats out on the line on a Wednesday night is pretty amazing. It's a different kind of animal, and I love it."



**Tom McNally**, in Scotland, with his family. Tom grew up in St. Pete Beach, but now lives in Winter Springs, Florida.



### It's PY Rum Racing

- No race committee required Ο
- Fixed navigation markers in the lake Ο
- By the late afternoon, the fleet captain 0 décides on the course for the day.
- 45 minutes to an hour to sail the course; one upwind leg somewhere along the way.
- Start/finish line right off at clubhouse. 0
- Sail through the gate. Ο
- Five-minute start window: 6:00 to 6:05 0
- Start your watch Ο

Lake Monroe

Start/Finish Line Flag

- Sail the course. Stop your watch. Record Run Race Market 14 ORam Race Market 17 your time Rum Race Marker '15
- Text in your time to the scorer 0
- Take a sunset lap, because life's too short. Ο
- Head over to the Breezeway (that's the local 0 bar of choice); give your time to the scorer
- Scorer plugs times into Sailwave, out come the results 15 minutes later
- Drawing for a bottle of Goslings and Dark and Stormy mixer.
- Every entry eligible. Must be present to win. 0



#### And, it's working here...







#### Sweet Home Alabama, with Harry Reich

SAILING LEADERSHIP



- Birmingham Sailing Club, founded in 1963 by two Thistle sailors, initially incorporated with 40 members.
- Early days: Thistles, Windmills, Snipes, Shark catamarans, Flying Scots, etc.
- Adopted PY to encourage all members, regardless of their type of boat, to compete on a single starting line, and have a sense of how well they were sailing their particular class of boat, even if they finished several minutes after the rest of the competitors.
- Gave them a target for improving their skills, and also seeing other classes of boats perform, very often leading them to buy a boat of one of the more popular fleets.

- "In the past few years, Wetas, VXONEs, EVOs, all competing on an equal basis with our older fleets, using Portsmouth ratings. "Last month we saw our first MC Scow compete, and when handicapped, finished among the top Thistles, encouraging some other members looking for a single handed boat."
- Now have 140 Club members, and schedule 57 race days a year, with 37 of those being Portsmouth



#### Portsmouth Yardstick

- US adaptation of the British Portsmouth Yardstick in 1960
- US Sailing started management in 1973
- Primarily for small boats (dinghies) although ratings exist for small keel boats and catamarans a like
- Over 450 classes of boats with ratings, with new classes being actively added.



#### Portsmouth Yardstick

- Statistically based ratings calculated from results
- Ratings for each class are updated on an annual basis
- Formulas for new or unrated boats to establish base ratings on day of racing
- Time on time ratings
  - Ratings for three windspeeds to capture performance differences between windspeeds



#### Portsmouth Yardstick

- Race committees record finish times for each competitor.
- Supported by multiple scoring solutions, some free.



#### Portsmouth Yardstick- Updates

- Ratings made available to all sailors in 2017
- Handbook re-formatted and made available as a PDF
- Working with Sailwave, Yacht Scoring, Regatta Network to simplify results reporting process
- Major updates to the ratings tables to provide ratings for the latest crop of new boat classes
- For More go to offshore.ussailing.org



### What are you doing?

- What does your club doing?
- What type of boats are they using?
- Could this work at your club?



#### Questions???



### **Your Opinion Matters**

Please open the Sailing Leadership Forum app and complete the session survey found in the menu bar for a chance to win a free drink ticket!

Thank you for attending this session

