

The F C'S'LE

Hunterdon Sailing Club, Inc.

August-September 2018

Number 502

How many of these clouds have we seen this season?



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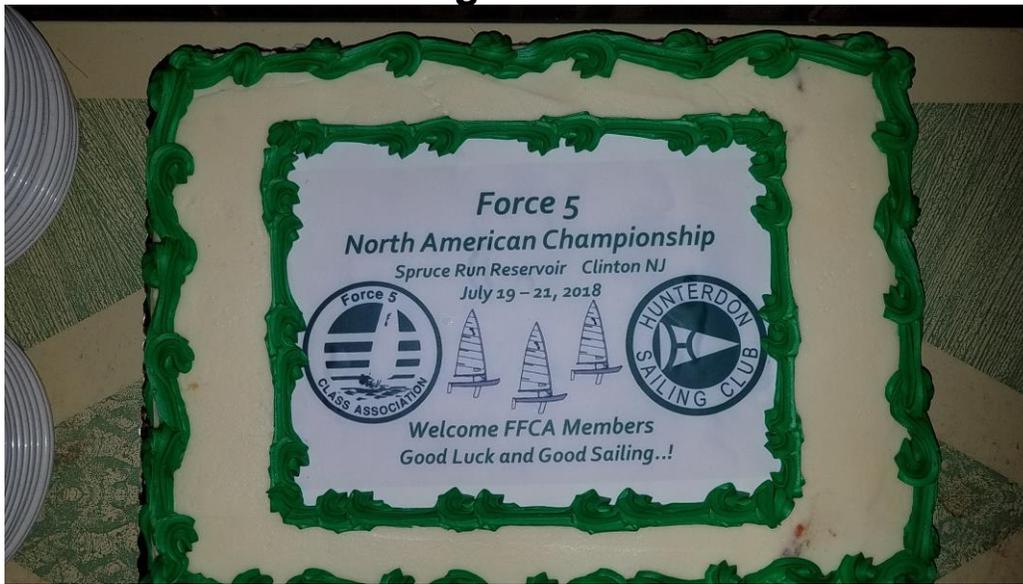
Upcoming Events

I Can't Believe it's Over
Regatta – 8/15

Labor Day Sunfish
Regatta – 9/3

Millard Fillmore Regatta
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Force 5 National Regatta at HSC – A Success!



We had an excellent showing for the Force 5 North American Championship Regatta with 38 sailors participating from across the country for this 3 day event on July 19th – 21st. HSC was well represented with 14 F5 sailors and others from near and far – with some travelling from Texas, Illinois, South Carolina and Georgia. Our HSC team did an outstanding job of supporting the event and making our guests feel welcome at Spruce Run.



The weather was 'almost excellent' with a welcome cool wave making for good camping at Spruce Run and favorable sailing breezes for the last 2 days of the regatta. The wind on Thursday was a disappointment, setting a new low bar for



the term 'light and variable breezes' with only occasional zephyrs across the lake. RC cancelled races for the day and all retired to Riley and Jakes for the Force 5 Class Meeting and libations.

On Friday at mid-day, the wind blew in from the South at 5 – 8 knots providing 5 lively windward-leeward races. Saturday made up completely for the no-wind Thursday by blowing 12 -15 knots out of the East with higher gusts. RC set a very long course extending from the eastern shore of the dam to the leeward gates placed to the west of camper's point. This area formed a natural vortex that concentrated the wind and intensified the gusts. Saturday's races abounded with tenacious full-rig sailing, collision avoidance and more than a few capsizes. This was an excellent adrenalin filled wrap-up to the event,

landing us back on shore by 2pm in time for lunch and awards.

We congratulate National Champion Division 1st place award winner Rob Scala of Waterford, CT, followed by Rich Chapman of Northbrook, IL, Josh Kerst of Ann Arbor, MI, Doug Brown of Annandale, NJ, and Doug Kinzer of Bloomington, IN. In the National Challenger Division Taggart Little of Deerfield Ohio took first place, followed by HSC's Scott Eigner of Flemington in second, and Linda Howard of Morris Plains taking third place. Linda Howard also won the award for the top-placed woman sailor in the regatta. Included in the top 10 Challengers were HSC's Rainer Dehe, Jeff Titman, Charlie Spademan and David Rawstrom.

Special honors for this regatta go to Courtney Young of Hertford, North Carolina. Courtney, at 80 years young, owned one of the first Force 5's out of the mold. He sets an example of a champion sailor who has been a mainstay of the Force 5 National Class Association since its inception. His years of time in the cockpit contributed to his cool handling of his boat on Saturday while others were scrambling for balance and capsizing around him. It is bitter-sweet that Courtney chose this year's North American Championship to retire from Force 5 sailing. Bitter, because we will miss him. And Sweet, because he donated his Force 5 to the HSC Fleet. We'll think of Courtney every Sunday. Courtney was honored with our 2018 Force 5 "Grand Master" and our "Most Remarkable Sailor" awards.

And while we are talking about Courtney – you could go to page 33-37 in our Handbook and will find that Courtney has served as HSC Commodore in 1994, has won the Force 5 NAC 3 times while a member, has won the Bluenose on 7 occasions, the Commodore's Cup on 4 occasions, and was given the Outstanding Club Service award. He has also served as Force 5 Class Association President.





These types of events do not succeed without the support of people in the organization, our friends, and our industry sponsors. HSC is a volunteer organization and many people pitched in to make this event a success; from the HSC Exec Team, to all the Force 5 Fleet Members, Doug & Susan for opening their home, and of course our friends at SR State Park. Special mention goes to Linda Zarnett for 'owning' breakfasts, brunch and lunches, set-up, clean-up, with help from Melissa, Liza, Erica, Scott and many others.

Our sponsors also dug deep to support our regatta and they are noted below. Please try to support their businesses.



HUNTERDON SAILING CLUB
Welcomes you to the
2018 Force 5
North American Championship



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John Kupsch
for his donation of a
Sailor's Tailor F5 boat cover

On a final note I'd like to thank Susan Mallows and Bill Foster for providing leadership as RC Chairs for the 3 days of this event with support from Angelo, Gordon, Chet, Mike, Linda, Albert, and Tom. Bill Foster wrote the original NOR and Sailing Instructions for the event we sponsored in 2015. Bill, Susan and Rich were instrumental in helping to update the course descriptions and rules for this year's regatta. While we had no protests or challenging incidents, I felt confident and assured that Susan and Bill could handle any eventuality in Force 5 NAC RC proceedings.

Hunterdon Sailing Club has received many notes of appreciation for a well-run and fun 3 day regatta from F5 sailors across the country. To which I say: Thank You and Well Done Team...!!!

Jay



The Force 5 is a Young Man's Boat

I bought a Force 5 last fall, not knowing at the time where doing so would lead me. I had not sailed any appreciable amount since my mid-teens, and was completely unfamiliar with dinghies, but felt that if I didn't act on my impulse right then, the experience would pass me by forever. I discovered HSC after buying the boat, and, also discovered that the Club raced them! Why I was confident that this was something I could do is a bit of a mystery to me, but again, if I didn't do it right then, the opportunity would pass. I have been competing in the Club series, and my goal since learning that it would be held at Spruce Run was to participate in the Force 5 Nationals. To say I had some anxiety about doing so, as the date approached, would be understating things. Starting with 40 other boats on the line, navigating the course without fouling anyone, let alone colliding....I also felt like I hadn't earned any right to be there.

I needn't have worried about any of this, as it turned out to be one of the best experiences of my life! Without exception, the competitors were welcoming, and eager to offer advice and share whatever knowledge they had that could be put into words. I saw the meticulous attention to detail some of the competitors put into their boats and couldn't help but notice that they were the same guys who finished up front. Once into the races, I discovered that there was a race within the race, and that I was sailing against the same people from one race to another. I found this to be surprisingly rewarding, even though I was well down the order. Finishing before the boat that had bested me the race before seemed a small victory; another skipper remarked after the race that he had been looking at my transom all day; I felt like I'd won.

My strategy throughout was to watch particular skippers, following their examples when possible. My most revelatory mentor in this regard proved to be Courtney Young. The wind on Saturday was challenging for me (I ended up capsizing five times), and I was curious how a skipper nearly 20 years my senior was going to handle his boat. Before the first start, I located him by his easily recognizable blue-tipped sail. He was sitting serenely in his boat; if his sail had not been luffing so furiously I would have said he was fishing...he appeared that calm. He maintained that demeanor as he approached the line, leaving me to do my utmost just to keep my boat upright. I've come to realize after contemplating this that, though strength may be an asset when sailing this boat, it is far from the most important thing. Now, if I can only learn that other thing...

There are many things I will remember from this event, but the one that will stick with me the longest is Courtney Young sitting serenely in his boat, but for a different reason. Courtney was National Champion for the first time in 1978, exactly 40 years before our event. It was not until after the races had concluded that I learned Courtney had donated his boat and all of his related gear to the Club, a most generous gift. When I was watching Courtney waiting for the start, he most certainly knew that these would be his last races; I can only imagine the range of thoughts he must have had....
Thank You for the lesson, Mr. Young

Charlie Spademan #22

HSC Learn to Sail



The 2018 Learn to Sail program is wrapping up another successful season with members old and new on the water practicing their skills and venturing to the race course. This season we had a combined total of 69 members participating in; 2 Learn to Race, 4 Adult Learn to Sail and 2 Youth Learn to Sail Classes. Supported by over 20 members providing instruction and support to these class. The Adult classes were in high demand with a

fourth class being added to give all interested the opportunity to get out and sail. There was an excellent turn out at the supervised practice sessions on Wednesdays and Sundays as well. The club strongly believes that the foundation provided in these classes is only the beginning and the chance to get on the water and practice the skills is where the learning continues. We hope all that participated this year will continue the processes next year with further classes, continued supervised practices or participation in club events. Each year I am struck by the depth of knowledge and Love for sailing in our club and our members dedication to share this with others. HSC is truly a great place to learn to sail and grow as a sailor. Thank you to everyone who supports this process.

Katie Kiernan, Training Coordinator



Photos from July 14 Learn to Race.

Jet 14 NAC News Flash

Three crews from HSC travelled to Lake Norman, NC this week to compete in the Jet 14 National Championship. They were: Susan Mallows and Doug Brown, Nick Reyes and Elizabeth Kiernan and Nicky Einthoven and Teri Fosmire.

The news is that Nicky and Teri won the Women's Championship on Wednesday. Congratulations!

The amazing news is that Nick and Elizabeth took home all of the hardware shown below.



1st place Juniors Nationals (Jrs only)
1st place Presidents fleet in the Open event
1st place Juniors in the Open event
Highest place first time skipper in the Open event

By the way, this was their first Jet 14 event. They started practicing in the boat just 3 weeks ago.
"Coach Brown" should be proud.

Wednesday Sunfish

This past Wednesday, I had Race Committee duty, along with Luis Mendez. As we hadn't spent much time together, it was a pleasure to get to know a newer member. This was also the last of the second series and we were fortunate that it wasn't too hot, there was adequate wind for 4 races and we got to watch the experienced sailors and we tried to coach some of the newest. As usual, I take pictures after setting courses.



Force 5 NACs – a view from the RC

The wind blew and it didn't – this was lake sailing at Spruce Run in the summer at its finest and most variable. Wednesday was a beautiful clear day with moderate winds in the afternoon and multiple practice races – a great way to start the regatta! Thursday was a different story – water like glass and 'sucker' puffs lasting about 20 minutes from any direction – something HSCer's would love to sail in short races on a Sunday afternoon, but not quite Championship racing level. Several people unable to sit still went out and drifted around before taking advantage of one of the puffs to make it back to shore. The fleet sat on shore all day and cheered when the abandonment flag went up.

The next day dawned still as glass and the races were postponed until 11:30 when the wind just clocked right in and a stiff breeze played all day. The fleet really seemed to enjoy the racing – the race course was set as a WL with an offset mark at the top mark and a gate at the bottom. This worked out well to divide the fleet on the course. The first race was a WWW and the rest were WW all day. Breeze oscillated back and forth for a nice shifty day on the water.

The third day roared. The course was set slightly longer to make up for the increased wind speed and the WL gate was used again. It was so breezy (how breezy was it?) that the chairs kept blowing off the Sea Which and had to be rescued several times by a safety boat. There was carnage and people in the water all over the course and by the third race about ½ the fleet had retired so we called it a day.

It was quite an effort to run the races and full use of the crew was made each day – thank you to Mike Wheeler for his excellent handling of the windward mark and offset, to Ray, Jay, Gordon and Albert for managing the bottom half of the course, to Linda and Angelo for the massive scorekeeping, to Chet for his good eyes on the course and the wind and to Susan and Bill for PRO work. All the efforts helped to keep everyone safe through the big winds and the course at a challenging level. (Plus it was really fun)

Sunfish Fleet

The fleet is growing in leaps and bounds! Thanks to the efforts of many club volunteers 4 Adult Learn to Sail classes, 2 Youth Learn to Sail and 2 Learn to Race courses have been held and many of the participants, both adults and youths, are coming back for supervised practices on Sunday and Wednesday and are joining in the racing! On July 18th there were 30 Sunfish on the water – most of the club boats were in use and this was with some of the fleet in Force 5's. The racing will continue on Wednesdays until August 15th – we will use the racing on that day to conclude the summer series as we have been rained out and missed July 4th. This is also the 'I Can't Believe it's Over Regatta' which is scored as a stand-alone event and awards given out after racing during pizza for the Championship, Challenger and Jr winners. Don't miss this event!

Sunfish Youth

August 18th is the date for the Sam Nelson and Walter Finne regatta. This is an event for Youths only – don't worry if this is your first year for racing! – it's the first year for other people too! Awards go 3 deep in each division The Sam Nelson division is for youths who are under 18 this year (or for much of it) and the Walter Finne is for youths under 15. The skippers meeting is at 11:00. Bring your lunch and hang out with friends at HSC.

Susan Mallows