

Dear Magothy Racers, Cruisers and Friends,

We will conduct an on-the-water ceremony, honoring our friend and competitor Ralph Reitan, prior to next Wed night's race on May 28th.

Everyone is invited to participate in this ceremony of remembrance, the details of which you can find below. We will also offer a start for an "honorary-class" for those who wish to participate in our race, but who are not registered to race in the Magothy River Wednesday Night Series.

I hope you all can make it.

Sincerely,

Ed Poe, MRSA Commodore  
Craig Coltharp, MRSA Rear Commodore  
Angelo Guarino, MRSA RC Chair

An Honorary Start and Finish in Memory and Appreciation of Ralph Reitan.

We will ask everyone to be in the starting area no later than 5:50pm.

At 5:54:30, an American Flag will be raised to full mast, a long horn will be sounded.

At 5:55pm, the American Flag will be lowered to half-mast and a gun will be sounded. The flag will remain at half-mast until the race is concluded.

At 5:56pm, a long horn will be sounded and the prep-flag will be raised. No class flags will be raised.

At 5:59pm, a long horn sounded and the prep-flag will be lowered

At 6:00pm a "starting" gun will be sounded.

The entire fleet will form a starboard-tack parade and cross the starting line in succession, preferably under full or partial sail if conditions permit. We would ask that crews stand shoulder-to-shoulder along the starboard lifelines ... hats in hands.

We would also ask that crews wear either solid white or solid navy blue shirts representing the hull-colors of 'WABBIT'.

To minimize faster boats overtaking slower ones, we will cross loosely grouped by our fleets.

'BEAGLE' will be first to cross, leading the parade in recognition to her skipper and crew for their valiant efforts last Wednesday night.

A-fleet should fall-in and cross behind Beagle, B-fleet fall-in behind Bella Donna, C-fleet fall-in behind Capricious.

Non-spin racing boats (other than Beagle) should join the fleet that they would be in if they were flying spin based on your rating.

Non-racing sailboats who wish to join this ceremony are welcome and should fall-in where their boat rates if they know their rating, otherwise follow the last racing boats. Our racing fleet is split as follows:

PHRF A Up to 117 9-flag  
PHRF B 118-171 6-flag  
PHRF C 172 and up 7-flag  
PHRF NS1 Up to 183 5-flag  
PHRF NS2 184 and up 8-flag

You might find the rating of a sister-ship by searching this document found here:

<http://www.phrfchesbay.com/rtgsvalst.htm>

Try to keep the parade groups relatively tight but also safe please. Please don't be any closer than a couple boat-lengths to the boat preceding you.

After the last boat crosses, an additional 1 min of silence will be observed with a concluding "finish" gun with no-one crossing, symbolizing our missing friend and competitor.

This will conclude the ceremony.

Following the ceremony, the RC will then commence their starting sequence and may signal a series of short horn-blasts indicating 1-min to "Attention" (F-flag).

An "HONORARY" class, signaled by a white-flag, will be offered a start after the NS2 start, which it normally the last fleet to start on Wed nights. Boats wishing to participate in this class should fly a white flag/cloth on both their bow and stern in a place clearly visible to other boats. No finish times will be recorded for this honorary class, only boat name and order-of-finish to record your participation. Boats in this honorary-class should monitor CH72 for starting instructions if you are not accustomed to the meaning of the starting flags being used by the RC. Also, boats in this class should stay well clear of the starting area and racing sailboats until the other fleets are off.