



Happy Holidays

IOM USA Class News – December 2020

By Bob Wells, IOM Class Secretary iom@TheAMYA.org

I'm writing this in December, a time for reflection. Mama Mia! 2020 hasn't gone as planned! Like everything else in our lives, radio sailing was disrupted like never before. At least our 2020 national regatta season began well: with a hotly contested January R7 in Sarasota and then a superb February R5 in Corpus Christi, a new impressive venue for us. Then the pandemic response required rolling cancelations of our national regattas one by one, until it had canceled all of them. This included the highly anticipated return to Texas' Lake Ray Hubbard in October for our Nationals.

At the tail end of 2020, we began planning our 2021 season per usual. We did this in the hope that the pandemic will recede enough to allow us to sail in larger regattas again. We recognize the pandemic in the USA is surging to unprecedented levels, and at least the first half of our schedule is in doubt. The good news is the vaccines are testing very well and just began distribution to the USA public. Because Covid-19 is now so widespread in our country, I read that it will take a while for the vaccine to have a significant impact. Our 2021 national regatta schedule, although we are open to adding more (hint):

Date	Venue	Event Title	Rank
Feb 20-21	San Diego	Midwinters	1.0
May 1-2	Renton, WA	COW Cup	1.0
May 28-30	Foster City	R6 Championship	1.1
Aug 8-11	San Diego, CA	NCR - Argonauts Race Week	1.2
Sept 11-13	Kingston, ON	Canadian Nationals?	1.1
Oct 1-3	Parsippany, NJ	R2 Championship	1.1
Oct 22-24	Corpus Christi, TX	R5 Championship	1.1
Nov 6-7	Marblehead, MA	Harvest Moon Regatta	1.0
Nov 10-14	Marina Rupanco, Chile	South American Continentals	----
Dec 11/12	St. Augustine, FL	R7 Championship	1.1

Even years are reserved for World Championship years, and odd years are Continental Championships. For those of you that like to combine IOM radio sailing with international travel, November 2021 offers the South American Continental Championship in Marina Rupanco, Chile. This is the first time we have had a Continental Championship outside of Europe, so a hearty congratulations to the NCA of Chile. Bids to host the 2022 IOM Worlds are due 12/31/20.

Thank you to all our 2020 and 2021 regatta organizers who have struggled with how best to proceed in the evolving news on the pandemic. It was not fun. While no other ranking regattas proceeded, after February, Michel Roure (Lake Parsippany) and Eddie Wolfe (Harvest Moon) were

able proceed with their October and November regattas as smaller local club events. In December, Gary Winton added a 2-day regatta in Melbourne, FL; so IOM sailing is slowly returning in pockets. I also want to thank the Corpus Christi YC team for planning a 2020 IOM Nationals makeup regatta in January 2021, which was also canceled due to Covid. This wasn't officially advertised, but the effort was made and should be recognized. We have another chance to visit Corpus for our 2021 R5 in October. Also, Chuck Luscombe's Mystic regatta is not on the 2021 schedule due to the conflict with San Diego IOM Nationals. However, Chuck is holding his hard-to-get annual weekend for radio sailing and hopefully IOMs return in 2022. We are fortunate to have our many dedicated organizers.

Most of our IOM sailing is local club level. Even more so in a pandemic year, where it is easier for smaller groups to meet government restrictions. For example, in my Seattle area, when Parks finally opened in July, our semi-shutdown limited our regattas to just five skippers (with masks and spacing). 2021 has too eventually be better.

Registrar's report: Registered Owners: 651 (up 30 for 2020), Certificated Owners: 310 (up 10 in 2020).

IOM ICA 2020 AGM – Conclusion: Go to IOMUSA.org for our summary of our class associations recently completed Annual General Meeting, which includes the link to IOM ICA's official response. I also want to thank the IOM ICA volunteers that watch over our class, including our own members on the Executive Committee; Chairmen Fred Rocha and Secretary Gary Boell.

IOMUSA.org: Our website is the source for updates on our class. In Resources you can find a recent update on our Personal Sail Number (PSN) policy. We are working on updating our Measurer's list.

Happy Holidays, and here's to a better 2021.