

Laser Frostbite Week 6 – A real frostbite day finally

Steve Kirkpatrick - FC

THE DATE OF THE PETE MILNES REGATTA IS BEING CHANGED TO 4/9. The date had previously been listed as 4/16 in error.

Sunday was a great outdoor day if you were dressed properly. The air was chilly, but the 8-15 knot northerly provided great conditions. Andy, Will and crew did a great job with RC, providing longer courses which eased congestion at marks.

Scott Ferguson won the day again in a tight 43 boat fleet. Since Ferg has written the WOW so often he has earned a week off. This week's installment is courtesy of Nanno Schuttropes, our visiting Dutch Finn sailor who bulletted two races on Sunday. Boardsailing legend and multi-class speedster Platt Johnson also agreed to share his initial thoughts since joining the fleet.

The forecast for this week is – REAL FROSTBITING

Sunday: A slight chance of freezing rain and snow showers before 9am, then a chance of rain and snow showers between 9am and noon, then a chance of rain showers, mainly between noon and 3pm. Partly cloudy, with a high around 41. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Issues:

Our format places a big premium on race management. Thoughts people have shared with me include:

-The RC can act as a deterrent to general recalls by calling numbers as boats go over in the one minute pre-start.

-It is helpful to call sail numbers as they become visible rather than letting a huge bulge get away with it.

-The timer horn should be mounted so as to face down the line or on a pole for greater audibility.

Rules Review:

On the water rule:

THE RULE AT THE WINDWARD MARK

18.3 Tacking at a Mark

If two boats were approaching a mark on opposite tacks and one of them completes a tack in the two-length zone when the other boat is fetching the mark, rule 18.2 (overlapped at the zone) does not apply. The boat that tacked

- (a) shall not cause the other boat to sail above closehauled to avoid her or prevent the other boat from passing the mark, and
- (b) shall give room if the other boat becomes overlapped inside her, in which case rule 15 does not apply.

Off the water rule:

Please try to leave the foyer at Sail Newport as we find it, neat and clean.

This means not dragging water and mud in if you use the building to change of use the bathroom. If you do, please clean up after yourself.

WOW

Platt Johnson

Thanks for asking.

I am enjoying the racing and the fleet, the IYAC après-freeze is also great fun.

I can't wait to figure out how to start in the first row. That would be huge.

Are the past WOW's on file or archived on the web?

Tips on dressing, staying warm etc. would be very good.

It is great to be a part of it.

Thanks

Platt Johnson

WOW December 4th

Nanno Schuttropes

So this week I was asked to write the WOW, although I didn't finish in 1st place of the day. Let's just consider these words a guest appearance from the only Dutch sailor in the fleet. I shall quickly introduce myself by saying that I normally sail the Finn, but have the opportunity to sail a lovely green Laser (referred to as The Snot) at the 413 Frostbiting series.

Now to discuss the sailing of the day. It was a cold day, having had some serious snowfall in the morning, which made for a nice time rigging up the boats. The breeze was moderate, but thanks to the dense, cold air it made for some pretty decent pressure throughout the day.

The first race I started a little right of the middle of the line, and started sailing toward the middle/left of the beat. About halfway to the mark, me and some others enjoyed the benefits of a nice left-hand shift, putting us right onto lay line. This made me get to the top mark in fourth place and by working the waves hard downwind I managed to sneak into first place and hold it on to the finish. Nice way to start the day!

The remainder of the day the upwind advantage seemed to be consistently on the left-hand side of the course, where most of the guys first around the mark came from. Downwind there were some different strategies however. I noticed Dave and Scott going very low right after rounding the top mark and then coming up very late towards the bottom mark. I went for a different strategy altogether, staying high in the upper part of the downwind leg (making sure I'd keep a free wind lane), keeping the speed high and then going low as I was making the final approach to the bottom mark. I found the waves easier to catch/work closer to the bottom mark, thus ensuring I kept my speed. This seemed to pay for me, as I was making ground nearly every downwind run I enjoyed on Sunday.

The course was set-up very nice, with some good variation between windward/leewards, triangles and my new favourite, the Harry A! My thanks to the race committee for providing us with some great courses! By the end of

the day, Scott Ferguson sailed the most consistent, minimizing the damage of a high finish, to win the day.

To end this story: for the last race the committee had set the Z-flag, causing a 20% penalty for my last race (as I was over early and had to round the committee boat). Bummer, I had never heard of this rule and did not know what that strange flag meant. So the final WOW is: make sure you know all the rules/signals, especially if you're European and new to this style of racing!

Laser For Sale

2002 Vanguard Laser with Full Rig
Blue Hull/White Deck
Sail #173237

Comes complete with.

New control lines and setup i.e. Harken vang etc.
Full Rig
Centerboard, Rudder, Tiller and extension
Blade Bag
Custom top cover (Spars can be stored underneath cover)
Spar blocks (For storing spars on the deck)
Spout ride launching dolly
Custom Road Trailer (Dolly can be pulled up on road trailer. This is great for launching when no one is around.)

Boat has been sailed 12 times since purchased new in 2002. Owner has no time to sail it.

Price

\$4,475.00 with road trailer
\$3975.00 without road trailer.

Boat is in Portsmouth, R.I and can easily be viewed.

Contact: David Armitage
Ph 401 849 7700 (During work hours)
Cell 860 912 8145

Hi, my name is Kristen Ryan. I have sailed through sail newport for 9 years. I am currently selling my Laser. It has the complete upgrade system, dolly, spars for both radial and full rig, 1 racing sail and 2 practice sails, cockpit locker, and covers for both top and bottom. I am asking \$3,000 or best offer. Please spread the word around-maybe some sail newport members would like to frostbite!? Please call (401) 848-0782 for more info or to see the Laser!

Thanks,
Kristen Ryan