

“Get to the *POINT*”

Sodus Bay Yacht Club hosts the LYRA Annual Regatta
July 30th – August 6th, 2006

Newsletter #1

Dear Regatta Participants,

Sodus Bay Yacht Club is honored to host the LYRA Annual Regatta for the 10th time in its' 113th year. We believe the LYRA Regatta is the premier racing event on Lake Ontario and our membership looks forward to seeing all our racing friends and their families at this year's event!

This is the first of several Newsletters we will be sending via the LYRA email distribution list informing you of our planned activities. We will also post the Newsletter on the SBYC website.

The schedule of racing for this year's Regatta looks like this....

July 30th – Founder's Race from Oswego Yacht Club
August 1st - Centennial Race from Rochester Yacht Club
August 2nd & 3rd – Freeman Cup Races
August 4th, 5th & 6th – Course Racing (small one-designs on the 5th & 6th only)

In addition, this year we plan to schedule an additional feeder race from the Kingston area to Oswego on Thursday, July 27th. Participants of this race can participate in the SailOswego Regatta if they chose and then move their boats on to Sodus Bay by sailing the July 30th Founders Cup Race. Details on this additional opportunity will be available soon. Keep an eye on the SBYC website.

So far we've heard from the following Fleets....

8 Meter Fleet – the 8 Meters are planning on attending the Regatta and will stay over to hold their North American Championship on Aug 9th, 10th & 11th.

Soverel 33 Fleet – early on the Soverels designated this year's event as their Nationals! We're expecting every Soverel on Lake Ontario to show up and we've heard from several owners from outside our area... they want to come too!

Beneteau 36.7's and 40.7's – with the help of Don Finkle and Colin Andrews, we're expecting great turn out from these fleets. It's so exciting to see these “big” boats racing one-design...

J/35's – We've been talking the Regatta up with Russ Perry, J/35 Class President. Russ says he'd like to see the Fleet support LYRA and hopes to get several 35's to Sodus Bay. Already have a commitment from “Starry Night” out of Fair Haven and of course my boat, “Her Nibs”... Kurt Sertl wrote just the other day and says, “Tom, at this point you can plan on “Das Blau Max” being at the Regatta”!

PHRF Fleets – We're expecting a great turn out in the PHRF Divisions. With enough boats attending, we hope to keep the PHRF spread at a minimum! Actually, I just heard from 4 boats out of Annapolis that want to come to Lake Ontario and test their skills.

We're attending winter meetings most every week. We have talked with the Lightning Fleet, Ideal 18's, Stars and J/24's. As it looks right now, we could end up with great fleet racing for these classes on Sat & Sun.... We hope to hear from your fleet soon!

Race management will be the BEST....

Our Race Management Team, headed by Ed St.George is organizing race committees for up to 4 courses. Volunteer committees and assistance will be coming from Port Credit YC, National YC, Rochester YC, Oswego YC and Genesee YC.

RYC's very distinguished Helen Ingerson, International Judge, will be chairing Protest Committees for the event.

You won't want to miss the social scene...

SBYC is planning a very full schedule of social events for the 2006 Regatta. Our Committee has made a commitment to provide good food at very reasonable pricing.... Hot dogs and hamburgs will be available each day. Cocktail parties, entertainment and dinners fill the social calendar. In addition, the local Sodus Point community is gearing up to provide opportunities that should make the trip to Sodus well worth it for the whole family.

Final thoughts....

Our website (www.sodusbayyc.org) is already populated with important information about the Regatta. In addition to the listing of scheduled events, the site also includes information about marinas, lodging sites and links to area attractions. We will keep the site updated as the Regatta gets closer. From the SBYC site you will also have a link to the LYRA website (lyrawaters.org). There, by early spring, you will find the NOR and registration/entry form along with other important information.

Our Committee has an active Marketing Team. If you have been a Regatta sponsor in the past, expect a letter and phone call from a representative. If you haven't supported the Regatta in the past, we'd love to hear from you so that we can review our sponsorship opportunities with you.... You can contact our Marketing Chair, Ed Leroux, at eleroux@rochester.rr.com.

So, please mark your calendars to join us for a week of fun and spectacular racing at the LYRA Annual Regatta, July 30th thru Aug 6th. After all, **the POINT is RACING!**

Sincerely,

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