

# C.R.A.N.N.E

Catamaran Racing Association of Northern New England



## 2009 Sailing Season Letter



## Table of Contents

Letter from the Commodore.....	1
2009 Catamaran Schedule.....	4
CRANNE Racing Tips.....	5
CRANNE Tech Tips.....	7
New England Catamarans.....	8
2009 CRANNE Fleet Officers.....	9
2009 CRANNE Event Primary Organizers.....	9
CRANNE Membership Form.....	10

## Letter from the Commodore:

Welcome to the kick off of the 2009 Sailing Season! A lot has changed in the world since our fall meeting but a few things: Wind, Water, Friends, and the fun enjoyed by sailing these little catamarans. Now is the time to get the cats out and ready for the season. I always like to remove the trailer wheels and grease the bearings. Removing the trailer wheels help ensure if or should I say when you get a flat, that you will have a better chance of being able to get the lug nuts off. This came in handy two seasons ago while driving up to the Homeport regatta.

News Letter: The news letter is taking on a new form in that it will be created and mailed out three times during the season. Taking from the example of the Winter Ice Boating news letter, each

# C.R.A.N.N.E

Catamaran Racing Association of Northern New England



news letter will have articles written by fleet members on everything from Fiberglass repair, Starting technique, Go Fast Tips, Event Recaps and Results. This news letter has articles written by Tom Schwandt. Next Month's article is by William Bartlet.

Schedule Part (I): The fleet members had a healthy debate over the events for the season at the spring meeting held this past April. It was voted on by the group and decided to continue to hold racing regattas at 2 of the 3 Sebago events. The fleet has lost a few key volunteering members in (Tom and Amy) and (Al and Jane) do to temporary relocation out of New England. It was nice to see members who wanted to continue the racing events step in to fill volunteer to run the events.

Schedule Part (II): The CRANNE event schedule is for the most part similar to what is has been in the past. One notable change is the Pine Point regatta to be held the weekend of July 25-26 will now also be the Alter Cup Qualifier for the New England Area. For those who are not familiar with the Alter Cup, it consists of a group of 10 regattas held across the US with the winner of each of the qualifying events getting a spot in the Alter Cup Championship.



Then, ten other teams also go the championship, these teams consist of teams representing manufactures, National Championship Winners, and Past Alter Cup winners. Dave Fortier and I were lucky enough to go to the Alter Cup Championship held in Long Beach California in 2000, it was a great experience. I always remember one of the final races, Dave was skippering and I was crewing. We were leading the fleet and I was in constant communication with Dave keeping him informed of what was going on around us and how we were doing. Basically trying to keep him cool. I turned back to see where the competition was and my eyes almost popped out of my head. As we were blasting downwind at 15 knots, there was a pack of 5 Hobie 20s all within inches of us on Port Side, Starboard Side, and Stern. I remember being not so honest with the skipper in stating, "Don't look back, you are doing great, just keep it up." Later on in the race we had only a few hundred yards to go to win the race and achieve a huge victory for our team when we experienced one of the most heart wrenching slow capsizes I have ever experienced. Nothing like while capsizing having Randy Smyth yell over to you, "Thank You Guys, Ha Ha..."

# C.R.A.N.N.E

Catamaran Racing Association of Northern New England



So the Pine Point event will also be an Alter Cup Qualifier. Nothing really changes, except if you wish to participate in the Alter Cup portion of the regatta you will need to meet the requirements which can be found at: <http://championships.ussailing.org/Adult/USMHChampionship.htm> The regatta will be the same as always only one class will be racing for the Alter Cup Qualifier. The Alter Cup Championship regatta will be held in Clear Water Florida October 18-22 2009.

Schedule Part (III): Some new events will be on the New England Schedule this summer. The F18 class has been invited to the prestigious Hyannis Yacht Club for their 3 day regatta at the end of July.

I highly recommend the Hyannis Event for our group of F18 sailors, great wind, incredible yacht club, bands, food & drinks all right on the Cape in the middle of summer. The F18 also have been invited to the Buzzard Bay Regatta. The New England 100 distance race will be in the Narragansett Bay as always but this year the regatta headquarters (start/finish) will be Fort Adams Park in Newport RI.

Looking forward to seeing you all out on the water soon. Commodore Craig

---

# C.R.A.N.N.E

Catamaran Racing Association of Northern New England



## 2009 Catamaran Schedule

May 16-17 Madison Regatta, CT  
<http://garvinpointsailing.com/>

June 13-14 Sakonnet Regatta, RI  
<http://www.nensa.org>

June 20-21 Hampton Beach Regatta, NH  
<http://www.geocities.com/crannesailing>

June 27-28 Sebago Lake Regatta I, ME  
<http://www.geocities.com/crannesailing>

July 10-11-12 Newport Regatta, RI (F-18's)  
<http://www.nensa.org>

July 11-12 Lipton Cup Regatta, RI Open  
<http://www.squantumyc.org/>

July 18-19 Sebago Lake Regatta II, ME  
<http://www.geocities.com/crannesailing>

July 25-26 Pine Point Regatta, ME

US Multihull Qualifier Championship Qualifier Regatta  
<http://www.geocities.com/crannesailing>

July 31 - Aug 1 - 2 Hyannis Regatta (F-18's)  
<http://www.nensa.org>

Aug 8-9 Home Port  
<http://www.geocities.com/crannesailing>

Aug 8-9 Buzzard Bay Regatta  
<http://www.nensa.org>

Aug 15-16 New England 100 Newport, RI  
<http://www.nensa.org>

Aug 22-23 Sebago Lake Fun Sail, ME  
<http://www.geocities.com/crannesailing>

Sept 12-13 Pine Point II, ME  
<http://www.geocities.com/crannesailing>

Sept 19-20 Roton Point Regatta, CT

50th anniversary !!  
<http://www.rotonpoint.org/sailing/>

Oct 3 Sail for Hope  
<http://www.sailnewport.org/>

Oct 10,11 High Performance Dingy Open  
Long Island NY

# C.R.A.N.N.E

Catamaran Racing Association of Northern New England



---

## CRANNE Racing Tips



Keys to good starting: By Tom Schwandt

What is a good start...90% is to start with clear air & moving at full speed. This is usually better than being next to the committee boat & in the middle of lots of other boats, bumping (Protest...do your turns) & getting off the line with dirty air.

Get to the starting area before the starting sequence begins:

When the committee gets the line set, do a couple of practice starts on port & starboard (this will help you decide which tack & end of the line is favored. It also helps you know where to begin your “run” to the line from.

Typically the starting lines are set up to favor a starboard start with the committee boat end favored.

But you need to check

Make a couple of tacks & jibes to be sure everything works & the skipper & crew are together.

If you have a spinnaker...put it up do a jibe & take down (to be sure you have the chute set up right & the crew understands what needs to be done)

“Park” your boat & relax for a couple of minutes but don’t get too far from the line as you need to be able to see and hear the flags/horns.

Have your watch set to catch the horn. Of course you have already decided who will watch the watch & tell the time remaining to the start. If it’s light air you can often listen to the other boats around you for the time

Get the boat set up for the wind. Down haul, out haul, traveler... are you boards and rudders clear of any weeds?

**You are wearing your life jacket**... and harness is adjusted-comfortable?

Decide where you want to start & where to be when the 1 minute flag/horn sounds...don’t be too far up wind.

Know where both ends of the starting line are. Sometimes you can’t see because of other boats blocking your view.

# C.R.A.N.N.E

Catamaran Racing Association of Northern New England



The 2 most important rules to remember on the starting line

The overtaking boat has no rights

The leeward boat can head you up (slowly) into the wind...i.e. they can push you over the line early.

This is one of my favorite things to do to Craig.

There is another rule called barging. Basically if a boat is sailing close to the wind there is no room for another boat between that boat and the committee boat. Trying to squeeze into this space is not a good idea...you cannot hit the committee boat or the barging buoy. We need people to let us use their boats for the committee and they don't like them getting hit.

Learn where & when your competition & the rest of the fleet likes to start. You can often find an opening with clear air just down from the committee boat (if every one is early you can block the line by making them over early. Or if the fleet is typically early it may be best to come in ~ 10 seconds after the group and tack over to port to get clean air.

If you are going to get pushed over the line early, accelerate and get around the committee boat or pin end quickly.

Be careful to not get to windward of a boat that can out point you or sail higher into the wind. (the leeward boat has the right of way)

After the start if there are lots of boats in front of you, giving you bad air, try to tack over and get out into clean air. Be careful as you will typically be on port and have no rights on any starboard boat.

Watch how the fleet starts. It's pretty typical for a pattern to develop. They maybe early and down the line before the start (come in late up to speed and be prepared to tack if you are being back winded. Or more commonly the fleet will bunch up at the committee boat and be stalled at the start. If you are ~ 1/4 to 1/3 of the way down the line and moving at the start you will have clean air and on your way to A mark.

Like anything it takes practice to make consistent starts, being on time and moving at full speed. If you're making good starts you should be over the line early once in a while. I think it's better to be looking back at the fleet vs looking at their sterns.

Go Fast.... and have fun

# C.R.A.N.N.E

Catamaran Racing Association of Northern New England



---

## CRANNE Tech Tips

The Red Neck Cat Box: by Craig Hackett

The Goal: Create a Large, Light Weight, Water Tight, Cat box for under \$400.

Phase 1: Purchase of the two 10 foot Bunk Feeder. Bunk Feeders are plastic feeders for farm animals. <http://www.hackettsailing.com/Feeder.pdf>

Phase 2: Attach Feeder (cat box shell) to the trailer:



# C.R.A.N.N.E

Catamaran Racing Association of Northern New England



Phase 3: Attach PVC extrusion for 14 foot spin pole:

So far I am pretty happy with this project, especially when you consider a new Production cat box is costing near \$1200 with shipping and this one goes for about \$300.

-----



## New England Catamarans

Don't forget to check out and support Rick Bliss's New England Catamarans.

<http://www.new-england-catamarans.com/>

Rick is usually at our sailing events, either helping run our events, or eagerly helping us with a repairs to get us back out on the water.. I can't count how many weekends he has saved of mine and you can't put a price on a Great Weekend on the water! Well, actually you can put a price on it and Rick now accepts credit cards to make it easier. :)

# C.R.A.N.N.E

Catamaran Racing Association of Northern New England



## 2009 CRANNE Fleet Officers

Commodore	Craig Hackett
Vice Commodore	Jim Lovett
Vice Commodore	Hugh Folsom
Secretary & Communications	Dee Decker
Treasurer & Sebago Event Scheduler	John Decker

## 2009 CRANNE Event Primary Organizers

Hampton Beach	Scott Malcolm
Pine Point I	Scott and Kathy Reynolds
Sebago I	The Helmar Family
Sebago II	Nick and Paula
HomePort	Pam and Darrel
Pine Point II	Craig Hackett

# C.R.A.N.N.E

Catamaran Racing Association of Northern New England



## CRANNE Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Family Members: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Boat 1 Model/Type/Sail

: \_\_\_\_\_

Boat 2 Model/Type/Sail

: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ \$25 Individual/Family Membership

\_\_\_ \$20 Crew/Supporter Membership

Please send this completed form and check made out to:

John Decker

11 Lakeview Dr

Nottingham NH 03031

SAVE \$5 - Join prior to Sebago !!!