

Upcoming Events for 2017

The year is shaping up well for Finn sailing. As the 2017 schedule shapes up (see below) we can start planning our personal sailing schedules. August will be a busy month beginning on the West Coast with the US Nationals at Encinal Yacht Club and then shifting to the East Coast for The Toilet Bowl Regatta, CORK, and closing with the Finn North American Masters regatta on Lake Erie in La Salle Michigan. Jeff Allen is reviving the Finn California Lake Championship on Huntington Lake July 22-23 which will be a good lead-in to the Encinal Nationals. The

calendar is not complete and the most up to date and complete calendar will always be on the website. Please update Peter Connelly (psc4@earthlink.net) with your latest regatta information.

A yacht club in the Northeast is interested in holding a major Finn regatta and we are trying to revive the Eastern Finn Championship. The goal is to hold it following the Northeastern events in August...more to come. To close please provide to Peter any information on any regional Finn events so we can provide a complete calendar. ■

Upcoming North America Events

2017

January:

14-16, Lauderdale OCR, LYC,
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
22-29, Sailing World Cup Miami

June:

2-9, Finn Masters World
Championships

July:

22-23, Finn California Lake Cham-
pionship, Huntington Lake, CA

August:

2-6, US Nationals, Encinal YC
(San Francisco Bay)
12-13, Toilet Bowl, Cazenovia
Lake, New York (18 this year!)
19-22, CORK, Kingston, Ontario
25-27, Masters North Americans,
North Cape YC, La Salle Michigan
25-31, Silver Cup (Under 23)
Balaton, Hungary

September:

1-10 Gold Cup, Balaton, Hungary

December:

8-10 North Americans, at Palm
Beach Sailing Club, West Palm
Beach, FL



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2016-2017 Class Officers

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President's Report

First, the Finn did survive the ISAF meeting in Spain to remain in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Sailing line up. It still has to survive an IOC confirmation as I understand the process. Caleb Paine represented the United States in the ISAF meeting, along with many young Finn sailors and Olympic hopefuls that Corrine had assembled to press the personal side of the selection process.

The Rocky Mountain District is growing quickly and we applaud their efforts. I believe they are planning a regatta to capture the “coast to coast” traffic moving boats between regattas. We'll look forward to the *Rocky Mountain High*. ■

Southern California District Report

The SoCal fleet is definitely energized by the Bronze Medal performance of our very own Caleb Paine at the Rio Olympics, with younger sailors expressing interest in the Finn. September's Pacific Coast Championships, perfectly hosted by San Diego Yacht Club, brought seventeen entrants, with two teenagers (seventeen and fifteen). Henry Sprague and Scott Hoffman dueled it out to a tie on points, with Super Henry winning on head-to-head. Five-time PCC winner Darrell Peck had to settle for third, just two points off.

One week later Mission Bay Yacht Club graciously hosted the North American Masters, with twenty-one vintage Finn sailors competing over three days, one day in the bay and two outside. Eric Lidecis was simply untouchable with seven bullets and one second, followed by Henry Sprague and Darrell Peck.

Next up is Alamitos Bay Yacht Club's famed Turkey Day Regatta, always a favorite on the Finn circuit. ■



Finn Sailing Development Report

There is an increase in people contacting the Finn class in this Olympic year, so there are a dozen sailors looking into the boat and several brand new boats and good second hand boats are coming to North America. We could actually use two more "loaner boats" to help channel interest in boat sailing into sailing a Finn.

The class boats loaned to promising sailors have all found candidates going into next year's sailing season. There is one boat on the west coast, one in southeast Florida, and one in the Midwest. And each boat has a designated person in charge of making sure it is fitted out properly and ready to go on the water. Rob Coutts manages Victoria Secret in San Diego; Peter Frissell and John Woodruff the Devoti on Lake Erie, and Charles Lindsay, a Devoti in Palm Beach. Lindsay is training for the Silver Cup in Hungary 2017.

The USAFA racing calendar is on the website: finnusa.org. The major events are all in August, so make your plans and transport options. We'll be able to transport up to six Finns and a coach boat with good planning. ■

2017 Nationals at Encinal YC: August 4-6, 2017

The racecourse will be in SF Bay, south of the Bay Bridge. Same venue as 2011 Masters NAs at EYC. Should be nice and sunny with nice breeze that time of year. Think SD South Bay water and sun with Long Beach breeze.

Finn California Lake Championship

Jeff Allen is working to revive the FINN Huntington Lake Regatta, AKA Finn California Lake Championship July 22-23 on the 2017 Calendar. We haven't sailed this Regatta in three years, due to the drought and last year due to lack of interest. The Regatta is sailed at Huntington Lake which is at 7000' elevation and due east of Fresno. The wind comes in at 11:00 am like clockwork at about 10 to 12 knots and the sailing is absolutely splendid. The Mercury Fleet does all the work for us in setting up the course and Matt Jones is always the PRO. There is a wonderful prime rib dinner served at the Lodge Saturday Night and the best part is the starting line is literally 3 minutes from the beach that we launch off of. Because there is no yacht club involved in this one Jeff Allen have served as the Regatta Chair for the last decade. This can be a wonderful family weekend and cabins are available through K&K Property Management. ■

The Search for Finns and Equipment

One of the necessary resources for Class growth is available equipment: boats, masts, sails, trailers and etc. Be on the look-out and help identify gear. Its estimated that there are over a thousand Finns out there that aren't being used.

2017 Finn World Masters: Barbados

June 2nd through 9th, 2017 are the dates for the 2017 Finn World Masters in Barbados. Although it may seem like a ways away, it will be upon us soon. Planning for a container shipment from the US is underway and making progress. The container shipping from Miami currently has six (possibly seven) boats signed up. The cost is right around \$1000 round trip with the six boats already committed. The boats will need to be dropped off at Florida Packers in Opa Locka, Florida (your responsibility) the first week in May (exact date to be determined) The sailors committed to sending a boat are as follows:

Stephen Fucillio, Peter Frissell, Terry Greenfield, Rob Coutts, Scott Griffiths, and Steve Landeau

If you don't see your name and want it to be there, please contact Stephen Fuccillo via email at sgfuccillo@gmail.com ASAP so we can finalize the shipping as there are only two possible slots left in the first container. The original class container rack system holds six boats. We will attempt to accommodate two more in that container unless six more Finn sailors commit to the regatta. Deposits are due to hold the spot in the container. If you are interested, please contact Stephen Fuccillo as soon as you can to secure your spot and keep this moving smoothly forward. A *Big Thanks* to Stephen for taking this on and making it happen. ■



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GO BEYOND™

In Memoriam

Eight Bells: Paul Elvstrom

Legendary Danish yachtsman and Finn Sailor Paul Elvstrøm died in his sleep at the age of 88 years on December 7, 2016. He died at his birthplace in Hellerup surrounded by his family



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