



Area D Qualifier for the Chubb Triplehanded Championship for the Sears Cup-June 21-23, 2024

REPORT by Carol Robinson, Area D Coordinator, Sears Cup Committee Member

Jackson YC, Jackson, MS, hosted four teams vying to be the top two teams to compete in the US Sailing Youth Triplehanded Championship for the Sears Cup to be held in San Diego, August 5-8, 2024. The Conditions for this even allowed that the crew makeup on each boat could be from different clubs as long as they were members from the same Regional Sailing Area. The teams were made up of sailors from seven clubs grouped as follows: Bay Waveland YC/Southern Yacht Club; Gulfport Yacht Club/Mobile Yacht Club; Jackson YC/Fairhope and Lake Lanier Sailing Club. These were some of the nicest kids around. Respectful, helpful and very pleasant.

Jackson Yacht Club provided a wonderful, friendly experience for the competitors, judges and parents. As anticipated for this time of year, the winds were light. Nevertheless, there was adequate wind to complete five races with some tight competition. The Race Committee did an outstanding job ensuring that the courses were fair and a good length. Due to Gary Roger's clever score sheets for each race teams' finishes were scored correctly and there were no scoring inquiries even though the teams changes boats between races.

The four J22 privately owned boats were provided by JYC members: John Weaver (522), Joe Gibbs (638), Hal Pleasants (729), and Dale Currie (1085). Especially nice for the teams: there were no owner reps required on the boats.

PRO: Gary Rogers; Judges: Chief Judge, Carol Robinson (RJ), Doc Hunter (NJ) and Nancy Parson (CJ)

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2024

Teams arrived and checked in on Friday and brought either a check or cash to cover the \$250 damage deposit. Each team received a Ziplock bag stuffed with: NoR, SIs, large protest flags (made by Rob Rowlands and me), and a plastic card with punchout boats, marks and arrows that they could use to plan a protest. (See photo.)

The borrowed boats were tuned with the fleet captain double-checking the work and taping the shrouds. Except for the Bay Waveland/Southern team, which arrived later in the day, the teams were able to sail in the afternoon in light air in the club's J22, one of the boats that was to be used in the event.

The judges were invited to a cocktail party that was being held for the present flag officers and past commodores and representatives of the JYC Foundation. The club provided a separate enjoyable dinner for the judges and some of the race committee.

SATURDY, JUNE 22, 2024

Saturday races were delayed and the sailors attended "required fun": A presentation by the judges on "The Effective Protest Process". Some JYC members also attended

The PRO determined that the club boat should be traded out with another owner's boat. The club boat was not used during the event.

Because this was a Grade 2 event (no coaches or private boats on the race course), I requested that all cellphones be turned in before the racers went to their boats. Initially, there was a little pushback by the sailors. Once they understood the no coaching rule, they willingly put their phones, and one watch, in a box to be returned after they were released by the jury at the end of the day.

Racing Conditions were light and variable. The RC was able to get off one race in 5-6 kts. Course was 4W/L. The wind decreased to the point that the RC shortened the course at the leeward mark with the teams having sailed two legs.

Redress Hearing One team submitted a request for redress due to what they thought was an error by the RC. Since I made it very clear during our morning presentation that everyone should attend redress hearings when it deals with their class, all 16 racers signed the redress form and attended the hearing. The jury sat at a table with Nancy Parson as chair. All teams participated. The RC pin boat operator, who made the two sounds and raised the S flag, and I gave information. Jury denied the redress.

Note: Because of the morning presentation, the initial submission for the request for a hearing was written on a piece of paper with only the incident, which is all that is required within the protest period. The team later completed the US Sailing hearing request form. The team numbered the events in chronological order and the diagram showed where the boats were when the "S" flag was raised. After the hearing was completed, the jury capitalized on a learning opportunity and discuss the difference between the rules dealing with course changes and shortening the course.

Interestingly, when the teams were leaving, Nancy remind me that I was forgetting something. The sailors turn around with a look of fear until Nancy said two words: cell phones. They had forgotten!

Feedback from a number of the racers about the hearing: They had never seen a hearing and they liked the experience.

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2024

On Saturday evening, we changed the schedule: Removed the competitors' 0800 meeting (truly not needed) and moved the first warning to 0800. Four races were completed with wind conditions increasing and decreasing in velocity and oscillating by as much as least 45 degrees. The races were fair with close racing and reshuffling in the top three positions. A sixth race was attempted several times (wind filling in and then dying; wind switching and then coming back, and then finally dying.) Because the J22s were borrowed boats with no owners on board, the owners requested that the teams sail to buoys, tie the boats to the buoys and then a rib took them to their next boat. Each rotation took 10-15 minutes. For the fifth race, the racers stayed in the same boat as the fourth race. Turn around from one race to the next was ~60 minutes.

Feedback from the sailors: They would have preferred to rotate between all races.

BREAKDOWNS

There were three minor breakdowns: Slug at the tack on the main was pulled out, spinnaker had a small hole in it and the block for the twang broke. I made the error and returned the damage deposits before we ascertained who might owe for repairs. We believe that the JYC is responsible for two of the repairs. The twang breakdown happened while the Gulfport/Mobile team was racing that boat. Gary Rogers will get back to me on the costs for the repairs.

THANK YOU, GIFTS-to owners, PRO and judges,

I gave all four teams two thank you cards for the teams to thank the boat owners and the RC and Club, which were given to the boat owners and Gary Rogers. I purchased coffee mugs for the boat owners and judges and a water bottle for the PRO. All of the racers signed them with multiple-colored permanent markers. The owners and Gary thought the mugs were original gifts and like them. Cost was less than \$10 for each person.

AWARDS TO THE SAILORS

Medals from US Sailing were awarded to the top three teams.

The AREA D Sears Perpetual Trophy was brought to the event by the Gulfport team, the 2022 winners, and was given to the Southern YC/Baywaveland team. This perpetual trophy has only one unengraved plate left, which is for the Lake Lanier, last year's winners. Lake Lanier offered to engrave it.

Unfortunately, the trophy was off to Louisiana by then. With information from SYC on dimensions and the type of wood that the trophy is made of, I will work on creating an “extension” for the trophy and will work with the two clubs about engraving their plates.

COMMENTS FROM THE RACERS

Hot but fun, learned a lot.

Got our roll tacking down, really liked the ease of putting the boats in the water off the lifts, quality boats. RC and yacht club did a good job.

Instead of having Official Notice Board near the J22 docks, suggested that it be out of the heat. Would have preferred that ONB had been in the club house where they were when waiting to sail.

Liked the RC and the competition and the competitors. Club’s hospitality was really nice and the changing rotation worked well.

Liked learning about the redress process. Had never seen a hearing

TEAMS AND RACE DETAILS

TEAM DETAILS: 2024 Area D Tripplehanded Championships for the Sears Cup held at Jackson YC, Jackson, MS June 21-23, 2024

FIRST PLACE

Connor Fanberg	115 Washington St	Bay St. Louis	MS	Southern
Darby Hayes	4621 N. Turnbull Drive	Metairie	LA	Baywaveland
Georgia Gibbons	10 S Lark St	New Orleans	La	
Anders Fanberg	115 Washington Street	Bay Saint Louis	Louisiana	

SECOND PLACE

Parker Thran	9500 Coleman road	Roswell	GA	
Oliver Sobering	120 Riverdale Dr	Athens	GA	Lake Lanier
Natalia Aksamit	10805 Cauley Creek Dr.	Johns Creek	GA	
Emilia Szyلمان	4535 Brookview Drive	Cumming	GA	

THIRD PLACE

Robert Anderson Wolford	800 East Pier Road	Gulfport	MS	Gulfport
Court Salloum	11018 Channelside Dr	Gulfport	MS	Mobile
Marc Leyk	5044 Freeway Dr	Mobile	AL	
Alexander Bridges	107 Fielding Place	Mobile	AL	

FOURTH PLACE

Maggie Barron	114 Woody Hills Dr.	Madison	MS	Jackson YC
Jacob Boone	700 Post Road	Madison	MS	Fairhope
Jacob Boone	700 Post Road	Madison	MS	
Clark Davis	700 Yacht Club Rd	Madison	MS	

Pos	Skipper	Yacht Club	1	2	3	4	5	Total	Pos
1	Connor Fanberg	Bay Waveland YC/Southern Yacht Club	1	1	3	1	1	7	1
2	Parker Thran	Lake Lanier Sailing Club	2	3	1	3	2	11	2
3	Robert Anderson Wolford	Gulfport Yacht Club/Mobile Yacht Club	3	2	2	2	3	12	3
4	Maggie Barron	Jackson Yacht Club	4	4	4	4	4	20	4

PHOTOS: Mugs, goody bags, perpetual trophy

A professional photographer took pictures of all of the racers and will send some to me to share soon, including a group photo after the awards.



All of the racers signed six coffee mugs and one water bottle with permanent markers. All of the bottoms had what is shown here. Mugs were given to the four boats owners and the two judges; a water bottle went to Gary Rogers, PRO.

Below is what the teams received when they checked in. The flags are "HUGE" (as stated in the hearing request) and visible.

RRS 61.1 (A): ... "conspicuously display a red flag" ...



The bottom right plate is not engraved. That is for Lake Lanier's team that won last year.

