

NEW for 2014!

HOOK Cruising Division and HOOK Single Handed Division

There are a whole lot of people who enjoy sailing the **HOOK** Race. This year, our 30th Anniversary, we thought that the **HOOK** might be an exciting opportunity for the area cruising fleets.



For 2014 we have devised a simple way for you to race **as a cruiser**, but still get there on time. For



starters, you will not need a PHRF certificate. Your rating will be based on the Portsmouth Rating Factor as published by US SAILING. If you are wondering what makes this different, it's simple. You will be able to use your engine as a motive force propelling you to the fabled UP.

You might be asking, "How does that work?" To make a long equation short, you will have a corrected time that will be equal

to your elapsed time plus a ratio of your total motoring time based on your rating. If you keep track of the time that you are being propelled by fossil fuels (or electrons), we will take care of the rest. You will log your total motoring time and submit that at the finish. In order to make things interesting and more competitive, motoring will be prohibited for a short stint at both the beginning and end of the race. The Cruising Division will start an hour and a half earlier than the regular fleets. We will herald the winner with Gosling's Dark 'n Stormys[®].



Now, not all boats are created equally, so there are a few adjustments we will make to the rating. Those would include oversize sprit/spinnaker. If it's oversized, it's going to cost you some seconds. Three bladed feathering props will also cost a few seconds. That's about all the detail that's really interesting. There will be some safety items that we would strongly recommend, but nothing out of the ordinary.

There's some real strategy to sailboat racing when the option includes both motoring and sailing. When do you run the motor? Motor in a dead calm, or do you augment a light breeze on the nose? Do you talk to your fleet members and decide that you'll all motor in the nightly lull? We think it would be a fun way to get to the M&M Yacht Club 'on time', or, in fact, a little early.

Also new this year, we are offering a challenging division for **solo sailors**. Solo sailors must have successfully completed a solo event or have detailed logs documenting a solo passage, either lasting at least 24 hours. Your membership in LMSS or GLSS will automatically qualify you. The Lake Michigan Singlehanded Society (LMSS) will be the final arbiter concerning eligibility.

Consider joining us for the 31st Annual **HOOK** Race and getting to the Bay for some relaxed cruising. Learn more at http://www.racineyachtclub.org/the_hook.htm