

#### Water Fronts for Jan. 7

Just as baseball needs umpires, sailboat racing needs race committee workers.

Unheralded heroes of the local racing scene are the folk who make it possible for skippers and crews to go out and play. People like Dan Alpern, Richard and Su Countess, Paul McQuillan, Doug Fajardo, Chuck and Irene Stanton and a host of others do race committee work so their friends can compete.

It takes knowledge, patience and even thick skin to be a good race committee worker and the good ones, like those mentioned in the previous paragraph are greatly appreciated by the racing community.

On Saturday, Jan. 23, the Southern California Yachting Association (SCYA) will put on a race management seminar at Ventura Yacht Club. The day long seminar is a must for race committee workers and especially principal race officers.

The seminar will start at 8 a.m. and will end about 5 p.m. Included will be a continental breakfast, lunch, all class materials and a test. There is a fee of \$45 for those who register by Jan. 18 and are U.S. Sailing members. The fee for non-U.S. Sailing members is \$75 for advance registration. Those who register after Jan. 18 will pay an extra \$5.

Participants are asked to bring a copy of the Racing Rules of Sailing and a completed copy of the Basic Race Management Study Questions. These questions for the seminar are available from the U.S. Sailing website at <http://www.ussailing.org/racemgt/documents/RMStudy-Basic.pdf>. Participants can register in advance by going to the SCYA website and clicking on the race management seminar button.

The seminars are designed for newcomers and even people with race management experience. Topics include sailing instructions, race committee jobs, race equipment, setting the line and course, starting system, assessing penalties, finishing and scoring.

Although the seminar is aimed at race committee workers, I believe that racing skippers and crews also should attend. It helps the sport if race committee workers know about racing and if racers appreciate the work done by the race committee folk.

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Upcoming sailboat races:

\* Sunday, Jan. 17, VYC Regatta Series 1. Hosted by Ventura Yacht Club, this is the first of three regattas for PHRF boats and J-24s. The other regattas will be sailed on April 18 and Sept. 12.

The entry fee for the series is \$45. Entry for individual regattas is \$20. Three races are planned for each regatta, with skippers meetings at 8:30 and racing beginning at 11. Notice of race and entry form are available on the club's website at [Venturayachtclub.org](http://Venturayachtclub.org). For more information, contact Stan Whisenhunt at 659-1464 or e-mail him at [Swhisenhun@aol.com](mailto:Swhisenhun@aol.com).

SOLID BOX:

2010 ocean sailboat racing schedule:

Jan. 17, VYC PHRF & J-24 Regatta Series 1.

Jan. 23, VYC, SCYA Race Management Seminar

Feb. 13, PBYC, Spring Series 1

Feb. 20-21, CIYC, SCYA Midwinters, PHRF & J-24.

(Fax your race announcements, results and other information to Stan Whisenhunt at 659-3058 or call him at 659-1464. His e-mail address is [Swhisenhun@aol.com](mailto:Swhisenhun@aol.com)).