TEAM RACING: Bridging the Age Gap and Building Participation at Your Club
What is team racing?

Team Racing typically consists of two teams comprised of 2, 3, or 4 boats each competing against each other. The team with the lowest combined score wins*. It is a fast paced discipline that is truly team oriented.

• Successful team racers:
  • Start well
  • Utilize excellent boat handling and speed
  • Have intimate knowledge of the rules
  • Understand and can execute the tactics (or plays)
  • Work well as a team
Team racing basics

- Formats: *Round Robins, Knockouts, Random Pairs, Swiss League*. BYOB or supplied boats?

- Courses: *Digital N, Box*
What does the current team racing landscape look like?

Junior/HS
Optimists – Nationals, Worlds, 4 v 4
C420s – CJ Buckley
High School – Nationals, 3 v 3

College +
Various dinghies
  3 v 3
College – Nationals
Post College - Hinman, Wilson, Worlds

Keelboat
Sonars, J22s, etc.
Club centric
Morgan, Baldwin, Jackson, BA, Hinman Masters
Why is TR a good discipline for bridging the age gap?

Remember the keys to success in TRing?

• Intimate knowledge of the RULES
• Understand of the PLAYS

• The barrier to entry in the TRing world is high!
• Utilize the younger folks, esp. those coming out of the college ranks, to educated those interested in learning.

• Get them racing for the more experienced sailors.
Why is TR a good discipline for participation at the club level?

Remember the last key to TRing?
- Work well as a TEAM

- Involves many sailors of all skill and experience levels
- Quick fun format for evening racing
- The better sailors help the less skilled sailors
- Great format for post-racing debriefs
- Opportunities for inter-club racing
How to keep it from being a yelling fest ("protest city")

- Appoint a strong leader who sets the tone
- Focus on the plays and not who wins
- If one team gets into a 1-2, have the 1 immediately go back to 6 (RE-SET!)
- Address the issue up front and say simply “this is for fun!”
Nuts and Bolts: How to begin

• **Boats** (Sonars, J22s, Ideal 18s, Harbor 20s, etc.)
  • Rotations based on format
• **Powerboats** (minimum 3)
• **Marks** (minimum 6, preferably 8)
• **Umpires/Flags** (more boats, R/G/Y/B for each boat)
Your Opinion Matters

Please open the Sailing Leadership Forum app and complete the session survey found in the menu bar for a chance to win a free drink ticket!

Thank you for attending this session
Resources

- **WS TR Call Book**
- **UK TR Assoc. Event Mgmt**
- **RYA TR Guidance Manual**
- **Joel Hanneman’s Successful TR Event**
- **World SIs w/ supplied boat handling**
- **RYA TR Drills**

If spinnakers are to be used, see match racing SIs.