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**The Storm Trysail Foundation educates young sailors as they bridge the gap between learning to sail and becoming accomplished blue water seamen, through a national program of events including junior safety at sea seminars and intercollegiate big boat racing.**

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# THE INTERCOLLEGIATE OFFSHORE REGATTA

The Intercollegiate Offshore Regatta, co-hosted by the Storm Trysail Foundation and Larchmont YC is the largest collegiate regatta in the world, based on the number of participants – 425 college sailors in 2012. The event has grown from nine boats in 2001, when Storm Trysail took over the regatta, to its current level of 49 extremely competitive teams. In the past five years over 1500 collegiate sailors have participated. The aim of the regatta is to introduce college sailors to the challenges and teamwork of big boat racing and to provide a chance for experienced collegiate big boat sailors to learn to compete safely in well-prepared offshore boats.

STC has worked hard each year to recruit fleets of one-design offshore boats or close rating fleets to make the big boat racing experience more keen. The boats that STC obtains for the college sailors are some of the most desirable racing boats around. The classes are: J/44s, IRC 40s, J/109s, PHRF 35s and J/105s and a fleet of six identical Swedish Match 40s for match racing that is being loaned by the Oak Cliff Sailing Center. Regatta Chair Adam Loory is credited with the decision to recruit classes of borrowed one-design yachts to keep the racing close and more interesting for those not used to calculating handicaps.

Thanks to sponsorship obtained by the Foundation, the regatta is virtually free for the college sailors and the boat owners. There is no entry fee, no damage deposit; there are dinners on Friday and Saturday night as well as pizza during the awards.

Owners or their representatives are aboard each boat on which the college team is invited to sail. Participation of the owner or representative as a coach and safety advisor is a crucial part of the regatta. The collegiate sailors are seeking guidance and want to learn from the owner's experiences on

crew organization, sail trim, boat handling, etc. "The owners who loan their boat and participate understand that donating their time and boats to the next generation of sailors is important to the sport," said Bob Behringer, owner of the Express 37 Draco, who has participated since 1998.

Big boat sailing is a team sport; it takes a lot of people working together to pull off a good spinnaker jibe, and those positions and techniques have to be learned and practiced. On the other hand, we ask that the adults leave the tactical decisions up to the young sailors since tactics are universal.

Both the collegians and the boat owners constantly comment about how much fun they have with this regatta. The Foundation surveyed the participants several years ago and 91% of the responders said the regatta was either their favorite or one of their most favorite regattas of the year. STC and American YC member Barry Gold, a 10 year IOR boat owner participant has called the IOR,

"The most rewarding regatta of the year." According to Barry, "We have come in last place, first place and in between; the details of our results are a bit of a blur. What is crystal clear is the memory of sailing with teams from Princeton, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, Miami of Ohio (twice), Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Trinity College (twice) and Bucknell. Sailing with the collegiate sailors is like looking at the future of the sport, about which we all have so much passion and excitement. In fact, there are things that I learn each year from the college sailors. This is a regatta that I would not miss and I look forward to each year's event."



# THE JUNIOR SAFETY AT SEA SEMINARS

The Storm Trysail Foundation Junior Safety@Sea Seminar program is growing and reaching out to more junior sailors than ever. With over 350 participants and adding new locations each year, the Storm Trysail Foundation is educating juniors on the safety and fun that comes with big boat sailing and racing.

These seminars are a compressed version of the very successful adult seminars, but offer expanded on the water practice. The junior sailors have a hectic schedule and in one day, the safety at sea curriculum must balance the classroom with onboard time. The seminar structure has been optimized over time and now trends towards a larger number of shorter hands-on demonstrations.

In recent years, with the assistance of talented staff from Kings Point Merchant Marine Academy and Adam Loory of UK Sailmakers, film footage of "How to Set Storm Sails" and "Man Overboard Recovery" (with a real victim wearing a survival suit), has been a key part of the instruction. These films have been a huge success in the morning sessions and move the students rapidly up the learning curve.

In 2009, the Beach Point Junior Overnight Race witnessed a 50 knot squall that had the junior sailors, instructors, and owners scrambling to reduce sail. It wasn't pretty, but there were no man overboard incidents, the juniors wore their PFD's, harnesses and tethers, and learned from the experience. The curriculum emphasizes anticipation and rapid

response to such situations. Similarly, the 2012 Fishers Island Junior Overnight Race saw a hard rain squall during the Skippers meeting and 30-35 knots sustained at the start. The junior crews shortened sail, donned appropriate safety gear, and were well prepared to manage their boats in these conditions.

These seminars would not be possible without generous owners who provide their boats and personal time to take out the juniors. These events also depend on scores of volunteer coaches, many from Storm Trysail Club and our host clubs, who kindly lend their staff and facilities.

The Storm Trysail Foundation is thrilled to have a partnership with West Marine, our Junior Safety@Sea national sponsor. We continue our long standing relationship with the Jamie Boeckel Foundation, which is dedicated to advancing junior

sailing in big boats, in memory of Jamie, who was lost overboard during the 2004 Block Island Race. We also thank our many other local seminar sponsors.

For Storm Trysail, our Junior Safety Seminars are a first step in attracting young sailors into big boats. This can lead to a love and respect for the sea, and safe participation in blue water sailing. Invite local junior sailors to crew with you.



# ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



In late August each year, the Storm Trysail Foundation holds one of our fundraising events, calling fellow sailors, yacht club members and friends from the wind and the seas to participate in a day of golf overlooking the Sakonnet River on the links of the Newport National Golf Course in Middletown, Rhode Island. A full day of golf, fun, sea stories and camaraderie, topped off by awards, raffle and one or two cold adult beverages of choice – all for a great fundraising cause, STF programs and events. The event in 2012 drew over 124 players and a handful of after golf guests. Mark your calendar for Monday, August 26 for the 2013 event. Participants, Volunteers and Sponsors welcomed!

## STORM TRYSAIL FOUNDATION SEAMANSHIP AWARD BELL



The Storm Trysail Foundation Seamanship Award represents the rich heritage and tireless spirit of the great sport of ocean sailing. It is awarded at the discretion of the Foundation Directors to honor skippers and crews and to highlight the many historical and noteworthy blue water passages of our past. It was first presented in 2010, to Ted Turner and his crew members aboard *Tenacious*, for their efforts in winning the infamous 1979 Fastnet Race.

In February, 2013, at the San Francisco Yacht Club, the 2012 Storm Trysail Foundation Seamanship Award was presented to the crew of the yacht IMP. Owned by the late David Allen of SFYC, IMP and its crew enjoyed great success here and abroad in the late '70's, winning the SORC and the Fastnet Race in 1977, embodying the rich heritage and tireless spirit of the great sport of ocean sailing. Congratulations to all of them.

The art of seamanship can be a team sport all in itself, unique to almost all trophies in yachting. This award includes the names of not just the boat owners, but also of their crew, to give proper recognition to the joint efforts and practices of good sound seamanship.

## A Message From The President

It is for nearly 20 years that the Storm Trysail Foundation and its sister organization, the Storm Trysail Club have been educating young sailors in blue water big boat safety issues. We have grown our one-day junior safety at sea seminar throughout New England and the Mid Atlantic. Our Intercollegiate Offshore regatta looks to continue its growth in number of boats and college participation. Moreover, we continue to expand our activities with grants to a number of junior big boat programs and our Expeditions Program, which is organized to help integrate the disciplines of blue water sailing, boat handling, safe sailing and seamanship, with subjects today's sailor/students must study in school. In future, we plan to offer our full "hands on" accredited Safety at Sea Seminar for adults, in preparation for major offshore events.



With thanks to all our sponsors, donors, contributing boat owners, and our dedicated staff.  
John Fisher

### The Storm Trysail Foundation is a registered 501(c)3

The Storm Trysail Foundation's Board of Trustees would like you to consider making a general purpose, tax deductible donation to aid us in perpetuating our educational initiatives, inclusive of the Junior Safety at Sea Seminars and the Intercollegiate Offshore Regatta. Any support you may consider will be greatly appreciated.

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