



Waterline

KEOWEE SAILING CLUB

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December 2015



Sunset on 2015 at KSC

Newly Elected

For 2016, the KSC flag officers and stewards are:

Commodore	Chris Zander
Vice Commodore	Steve Barnes
Secretary	Sharon Hamilton
Treasurer	Sam Secrest
Stewards	Rob Baldwin
	Liam Cunningham
	Rick Harper
	Terry Keane
	Mike Mopps
	David Strickland

Notice of Change of Watch

Keep Saturday,
February 6, open for
the Change of Watch.

Details will be sent.

KSC's Keelboat Championship

by Sam Secrest

Each year, we have a two-day event to decide what skipper and crew will be the Champions in Keelboats for the year. No matter who won the series trophies for the class, anyone with a boat that has a keel can enter. We organize the racers depending on the type of boat, the PHRF rating and the skipper and crew skill level.

The PHRF rating is an acronym for "Performance Handicap Racing Formula." The number for your boat can be found here: http://www.phrfne.org/page/handicapping/base_handicaps. It is a good proven system as long as the boats are similar in characteristics.

At this event, the dinghy sailors formed the Race Management Team, setting up a course and making sure that it is a fair contest for all contestants. We start by finding which direction on the compass the wind is coming from. We are scheduled to start the race at 1:45, but the wind won't co-operate. We wait and postpone the start. The mark boat goes upwind to a spot upwind from the committee boat as directed by the PRO (principal race officer).

On this day, the wind is very light out of the North, a very unusual direction at Lake Keowee. The team sets up a windward – leeward course and gives the course number to the competitors. As the boats start, there is not a ripple on the water, but the boats are moving. The boats move slowly upwind. Jake Kohl and crew Chris Zander are the first to the windward mark in a J-22. They catch a breeze that only they benefit from, and extend the lead. They have to worry about the wind filling in and the fleet catching them.



Although the wind did help the rest of the boats, Jake and Chris finish nearly four minutes ahead of Rick Harper, leading Terry Keane and crew in third and the rest of the 11 boats in the fleet.

After shifting the course around to the new wind direction, a little south of East (toward the end of the dam), the second race begins. This time, there is more tacking to the mark. The fleet was bunched up but Rick Harper moves to the front and leads the fleet after the first mark, but Terry Keane and Tony Rochester have crews that want to win.

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At this point in the race we can't tell who will win out. Rick has the lowest PHRF number, so he has to "give the others time" or beat them by such a margin that the "corrected time" is higher than his after the numbers are calculated in the scoring. That means even though he is ahead, Rick and crew cannot afford to relax. Good sail handling and smooth crew work mean better speed.

While boats were going to the first mark, the wind shifted further to the South East. The Race Committee team moved the leeward mark and placed a new windward mark to ensure a good second windward leg. The wind has been light and variable, but everyone is doing their best to get all the speed they can out of their boats.

Rick has Bach & Jordanna Wilson as crew and they perform their tasks with precision, taking first in the second race. At this point, the sun is too low to start a race and the breeze is dying so we stop for the night.

And then on Sunday....

Sunday morning was sunny and the lake looked like glass. The wind was out of the East, no North, no Southeast! It was all of the above. We started a race toward east. Several tried to start starboard and then tacked over to port. It appeared that Jake and Tony were dead in the water on the port end of the line as the rest sailed slowly on port toward the dam, but in a little while they started to move.

Patience is a virtue in races like this. The boats moved from one tiny patch of wind to the next. Jake, on the J22, and Tony, on the Olsen 25, were moving on the left side of the course, getting closer to the large island. Terry Keane in a J22 was going up the middle of the course with everyone else taking a great circle route to the right side.

On the committee boat, we were wondering who, if anyone, would get to the first mark within the 45-minute time limit. Jake and Chris were moving in a strange wind pattern. They would be on port tack and get a wind shift that allowed them to roll over on starboard without more than a 10- or 15-degree change in heading. Within a short time, the wind would shift back allowing them to go back on port and they were slowly making progress to the mark.

They kept this up until they turned the mark with a few minutes to spare on the time limit. One by one, each boat rounded the mark and started toward the leeward mark. Jake and Chris held on to take first under a shortened course flag. Terry was second, Hank third, Rick fourth, and Kip Smith fifth, led the rest.

Afterward, Doug went to the computer to complete the scoring. Jake and Chris are the new Keelboat Champs in a tie-breaker, as both Jake and Rick had 7 points, but Jake finished better in the last race. Needless to say, the conditions were not the best, but they were the same for all.

Keelboat Race Results 2015

- 1st – Jake Kohl, J-22**
- 2nd – Rick Harper, Moore**
- 3rd – Terry Keane, J-22**
- 4th – Tony Rochester, Olson 25**
- 5th – Hank Goodman, Tempest**
- 6th – Rob Baldwin, J-24**
- 7th – Kip Smith, Mirage 236**
- 8th – Joe Hiller, Capri 25**
- 9th – Herve Chassin, Ultimate 20**
- 10th – John Gale, Catalina 22**
- 11th – Andre Pool, S2 7.9**

Membership News

by Denny Smith

Membership now stands at 224. The following provisional members have been approved by the BOS for regular membership, **Scott and Susan Brier**, and **Aziz and Shookouh Ghondnoosh**.



Please welcome the following new provisional member:

Ted and Linda Bisterfeld are both retired and live in Seneca. They have spent eight years sailing on Lake Lanier on their Catalina 22. At present they are looking to purchase another Catalina 22 or equivalent. Ted and Linda enjoy day sailing and cruising and would like to try racing.

WHAT'S COMING UP:

- 12/12 – Frostbite #2, 12PM
Toys for Kids, 3PM
- 12/19 – BOS Meeting, 10 AM
- 12/26 – Frostbite #3, 12 PM
- 1/2 – Holiday Race 1 PM
Annual Race Program Meeting, 5 PM
Winter Awards Dinner, 6:30 PM
- 1/9 – Frostbite #4, 12 PM
- 1/15 – BOS Meeting, 10 AM
- 1/23 – Frostbite #5, 12 PM

Gate Cards Available

If your card has seen better days, you can purchase a new one for \$5. Clickers are available for \$10. Contact Denny Smith at kscmembers@yahoo.com

