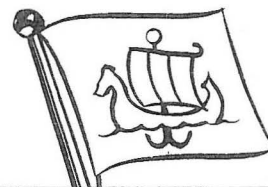


Dragon Newsletter

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I. D. A. Annual Meeting Highlights

The annual meeting of the International Dragon Association was held at London, November 3, 1969. The following is quoted from the minutes:

"It was also agreed that the Class should be permitted to experiment with metal spars and glass reinforced plastic hulls in local races prior to submitting details to the 1970 I.Y.R.U. Conference. The Keel Boat Technical Committee would consider the application for metal spars and recommend whether they should be permitted in the 1972 Olympics in the light of the experience gained."

"A preliminary specification for metal spars, which shall be the basis of the trial spars, is set out below. National Associations should see that metal spar makers are supplied with the specification and are encouraged to make experimental spars.

METAL SPARS In producing metal spars for trial in 1970 the following specifications shall be adhered to:

1. Rules 15,16,17 and 18 of the International Dragon Class shall apply except as varied by the following:
 - (2)a. The mast shall be of light alloy extrusion with substantial (minimum 90%) aluminium content with a continuous fixed groove for the mainsail luff rope which may or may not be integral with the spar section. The following minimum sectional dimensions shall apply:-Arthwartships 70 mm. Fore and aft 110 mm. Sectional weight shall not be less than 2.20 kg/m. The mast may be tapered above a point 1400 mm. below the upper black band. The taper shall not reduce the dimensions fore and aft or athwartships below 45 mm. at the upper black band. Permanently bent or rotating masts are prohibited.
 - b. The mast may be squared at the deck by any optional material.
 - c. Tangs for the attachment of rigging shall be external.
 - d. Internal main and genoa halyards are permitted.
 - e. The spreaders shall be of optional material, but the restriction of movement laid down in Rule 17 shall apply.
 - f. The weight and centre of gravity of the mast shall be as laid down in Rule 16, by the addition of correctors.

3. The main boom may be constructed of a similar material to that of the mast. The cross section, including the groove for the foot rope shall be not less than 75 mm. The boom is to be so constructed as to be as strong and as rigid as an existing good wooden boom.

4. The spinnaker boom may be constructed of a similar material to that of the mast. Length 1.85 metres is to be measured in the position of the greatest extension from the mast to the inner edge of the eye of the tack fitting. The diameter and taper shall be optional provided the boom will stand a centre downhaul under all conditions of sailing.

Chairman's Note- I would welcome amendments to the above specifications as matters come to light as a result of practical experiment.

The trials to be held in August in Germany leave little time to get out final specifications before the I.Y.R.U. agenda close, so the more information that can be amassed as experiments proceed, the easier the final drafting will be. Bear in mind that the ultimate objective regarding masts will be the removal of ballast and possibly the jumper stays with perhaps at a future date the raising of the fore-triangle.

Glass Reinforced Plastic (Fibreglass) Hulls
The object of this exercise is to produce a G.R.P. hull to the Class weight and measurement with particular attention to centre of gravity, and its control.

Those interested are asked to keep the Chairman informed of progress, and the results of any trials undertaken"

Dragon Class Rule Changes

The following rule changes have been approved by both the International Dragon Association and the International Yacht Racing Union.

"Rule 12, paragraph 7. add at the end: The weight of the floorboards and bearers shall not exceed 40 kilograms.

Rule 14, Delete 'shall have no extension' and add at the end of the paragraph: 'a tiller extension not exceeding 400 mm. (15 3/4") in length is permitted.'

Rule 16, Line 2. Delete 'keel' and insert 'heel' / Add final paragraph: 'When check

DISTRICT NEWS

Alamitos Bay - Los Angeles - Long Beach
The annual Alamitos Bay Yacht Club two day Turkey Regatta brought out, amongst some 200 class boats, a fleet of Dragons which included National Measurer Tony Singer's TIAMAT from the Santa Monica Yacht Club. TIAMAT's first place on the first day was corrected by Doc Thomas' TOM-TOM catching the coveted Tom Turkey prize in the final race.

Sid Exley, who has been in Europe since '68, will return this summer and plans to get his new Dragon, TATSU back into the racing habit. This most likely will get Chuck Kober out of hiding.

There is a marked activity amongst the skippers at A.B.Y.C., getting their Dragons in racing form for the new season. It is expected that San Diego and Santa Barbara will join for a sizeable fleet and heavy competition in the S C Y.A. Mid Winter, February 21 and 22.

San Diego Fleet - Not Reporting

Houston - Gil McKenzie writes that its just about the time of year when the temperature hangs around the 70's, the sanders, paint pots and other harbingers of spring are appearing. Their midwinter regatta will probably be over (Feb. 15) before you get this, if not, all are welcome even up to the last minute.

Lake Pontchartrain - 1970 officers elected at the annual meeting are Tim Schneidau, Fleet Captain; John Y. Taylor, Sec.-Treas.; Harry Stinchcomb, Measurer; and N. C. Curtis, Jr., Vice-Commodore.

The Southern Yacht Club has offered to host the 1971 North American Championship, an offer which was quickly and enthusiastically accepted. Racing conditions are excellent and the hospitality and cordiality of Southern Yacht Club without peer.

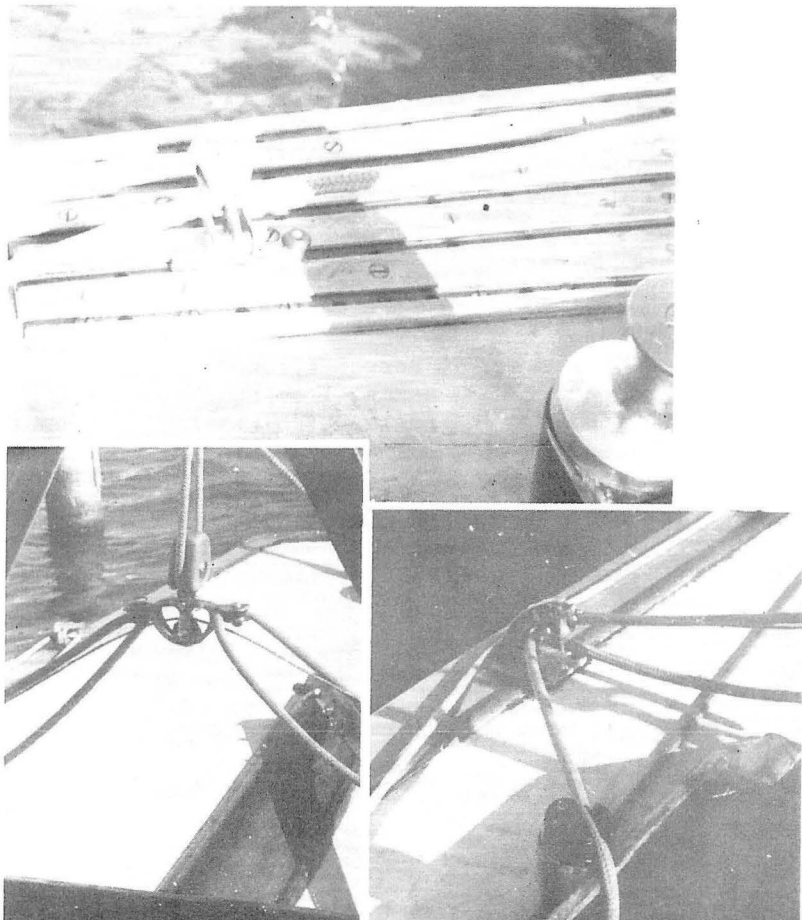
Santa Barbara - Santa Barbara has been the hard luck spot of the Pacific coast this past year. Racing has been almost continually interfered with by some hindrance. First, the oil spill, then two great storms, a summer and fall of extremely light air (paddle weather) and finally several weeks of huge swells. The latter shifted enough sand to close the entrance until reopened by dredging. From here there is only one way to go, up!

An active season ahead is scheduled for the seven boat fleet. Noel Cooke sold his boat to San Francisco, while Al Schmidt has recently purchased US-170, formerly owned by Ben Mitchell. Bob Nicolait was re-elected Fleet Captain.

Cleveland District - From John Nieser, Fleet Captain - Northeast Yacht Club's new Dragon Fleet Champion is Karl Burkett, US-207. Second was Mike Mahar, US-85, and third Ed Ullman, US-201. It is interesting to note how some skippers are sailing older Dragons. US-85, owned by Mike Mahar is now 32 years old. This boat is consistently a top winner in extremely competitive sailing. We feel that this proves a point that it is not always the new boats that win, but the extra effort put forth by the skippers that helps.

The Dragon fleet at Northeast has been wondering about the fleet in Seattle, Puget Sound District. It seems from the articles in the Dragon Newsletter that the ladies do the majority of the sailing in that district, keep up the good work fellows!
(Tsk! Tsk! Is that so? Ed.)

Mike Mahar has designed and built some stainless steel fittings, see photos, that might be of interest to other Dragon skippers. Users say his main sheet travelers have proved to be extremely efficient in all wind conditions. Pictured also is a genoa fairlead arrangement, the plate is cast aluminum and uses 4 cars.
(Thanks Fleet Captain John Nieser for your report.)



Rochester Fleet - "Baby, its cold outside!"

Puget Sound - Winter inactivity. Martin Godsil is fidgeting awaiting the arrival of his new US-250 from Denmark. Bill Henry is getting lined up for Jamaica.

San Francisco Bay - Plans are going ahead for the Kiel West regatta for next summer. John Hyatt bought Noel Cooke's MAVERICK US-169 and moved her up from Santa Barbara.

The Seattle Dragon Fleet 1969 annual awards winners for seasonal overall standings are: 1st place, Bill Henry, US-239; 2nd place, Martin Godsil, US-13; 3rd place, Ron Farrell, US-243; 4th place, Bill Frost, US-192. Tanya Goodman received the "Dragon Lady" trophy for first overall sailing for the season.



Seattle's DRAGON LADIES

Standing, left to right, Sandra Godsil, Tanya Goodman, Beverly Frost; front row, Patty Beeson, Pam Henry and Kae Hutchison.

Boats & Equipment For Sale . . .

Contact Owners Listed

US-41 - Re-rigged 1966, jib roller, cover and trailer \$2,200-J. E. Roberts, 407 Gateway Blvd., Huron, Ohio, 44838

US-188 1960 Vator, mint condition, \$3,900 Leo Stender, 217-4th St., Seal Beach, Cal. 90740

US-189 Fair sails, no mast - Jas. Sullivan 328 Second St., Toledo, Ohio 43624

US-218, SLIV IV- 1964 Børresen, completely equiped, 4 mains, 3 genos, 1 spinnaker \$4,300. Excellent trailer also available-Pete Goldman, 410 No. Michigan Ave., Suite 780, Chicago, Illinois 60611

Sails- North Main, 3 Genoas (light, medium, heavy air) all new condition - Ed Bergun, 1617 Fountainview Dr., Apt. 164, Houston, Tex. 77027

US-111, SNAPDRAGON, 1957 Børresen, 2 masts, large sail inventory, covers, complete equipment, Almost "mint" \$3,300 - John P. Halstead, 852 Main St., East Aurora, N.Y. 14052 (716) 652-1138

1970 COMING EVENTS 1970

The following is a schedule of coming events, incomplete to be sure. District and Fleet officers are asked to supplement as soon as possible.

- Mid-Winter Regatta, Houston Yacht Club- Feb. 14 - 15
- So. Cal. Yacht. Asso. Mid-Winter, Alamitos Bay Yacht Club Feb. 21 - 22
- Jamaica National & E.S.U. Championship, Kingston, Jamaica April 1 - 12
- Alamitos Bay Y.C., Olympic Regatta April 18 - 19
- San Diego Asso. of Yacht Clubs Olympic Regatta, S.D., Calif. June 12 - 15
- Rochester Yacht Club Dragon Regatta, Rochester, New York July 3 - 5
- Irish National & European Championship, Cork, Ireland July 4 - 10
- European Gold Cup, Travemunde Aug. 1 - 9
- Western Dragon Championship, San Francisco Bay, Calif. Aug. 8 - 16
- No. American Champ. (Craig Trophy) Cork, Kingston, Ontario Aug. 30 - Sept. 5
- S.C.Y.A. Olympic Regatta, Santa Monica, Calif. Sept. 5 - 7
- Windjammer Championship, So. Yacht Club, Lake Pontchartrain October
- 1971 North American Championship, So. Yacht Club, New Orleans Fall - 1971

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The Newsletter will note the availability of new rule books when received.

Miscellaneous Notes:

From Denmark- Børge Børresen writes from Denmark just before Christmas that a model and forms are under construction in his yard for a fiberglass Dragon. He expects the first hull to be completed and sailing early this year. Børresen says that a fiberglass boat is also under construction in England. Mogens Nielsen, now Secretary of the Danish Dragon Association sends greetings to his many American friends.