

EL TORO

Information



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THE EL TORO RACING DINGHY
INFORMATION BULLETIN
OF THE
El Toro International Yacht Racing Association

HISTORY: In 1939, a group of San Francisco Bay area sailors gathered together seeking a small boat to be used as a yacht tender and sailing dinghy. From plans published in the Rudder Magazine, they followed the basic hull measurements of the MacGregor "Sabot" for an 8-foot pram, but made some modifications in other features of the boat. It has since grown to a class of over 7,500 boats.

In their consideration of a name and insignia for the newly created class, the founders had in mind that this saucy little craft would become a part of their regular get-togethers, and as such gatherings are commonly known as "bull sessions", it seemed a natural choice to call the boat "El Toro" and adopt the "Shovel" for an insignia.

Over the years, as the El Toro Class grew and spread from its original waters, the name and insignia has remained, and while the boat can, and does, serve well as a tender for larger yachts, it has developed into a recognized racing class in its own right, where-in real competitive racing can be enjoyed.

Between 1946 and 1949, basic rules and limitations were formulated and the El Toro Class was accepted to race in the Small Boat Racing Association (SBRA) of Northern California. A Constitution and By-Laws were agreed upon, all with the objective of making the El Toro a true one-design class.

The El Toro has proven itself very popular for skippers of all ages and in many fleets they race as Juniors (ages to 14), Intermediates (ages 15 to 18) and Seniors (19 and over).

TO BUILD OR BUY: It is inexpensive to build or buy, in fiberglass or in plywood. With a hull weight of some 60 pounds, it is easy to store and a simple matter to transport on a car-top rack. In considering the purchase of an El Toro, only boats with "Measurement Certificates" are allowed to race in official class races. The El Toro Association has available a large blueprint, giving the hull line plan for a plywood boat, including jig details. If you are considering building your boat, sometimes a jig may be obtained from a local El Toro enthusiast. Be sure boats previously taken off the jig have measured in Plans with specifications, optional and recommended methods of construction may be obtained from the El Toro Association for \$5.00.

EL TORO PUBLICATIONS:

In addition to the boat plans, the Association also publishes a monthly bulletin, (The Shovel Bulletin) and a yearbook. The Bulletin contains news and pictures of events, information of general interest to El Toro enthusiasts, a Calendar of Events, and advertisements by builders, equipment manufacturers and sail makers. It is sent to paid up members. The Yearbook is a 108 page publication containing pictures and information including: listing of Fleet and National officers, Directory of Official Fleets, how to form a fleet, ETIYRA events, by-laws, class rules, specifications, suggested steps in building, instructions for basic rigging, measuring instructions, history, Official Register of El Toro Class Yachts. The Yearbook may be obtained by anyone (while the supply lasts) for \$1.00.

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ELIGIBILITY:

- a. A boat must have a Measurement Certificate. (An owner may be granted membership and be allowed to race without a Measurement Certificate where it is difficult for the boat to be measured, but only on the provision that his membership and eligibility of the boat are "subject to boat passing the measurement requirements at such time as measurement can be arranged.")
- b. In case of a protest as to eligibility, a boat can be re-measured at any time. In all matters pertaining to eligibility, the Governing Board's decision shall be final.
- c. Any re-building or repairs shall be in conformity with the Class rules, and must be reported to the Measurer.
- d. To be eligible to skipper an El Toro in any designated championship race, the owner must be a member of the El Toro Association, a corinthian, and a member, or dependent of a member of a yachting club.

An application for membership received on or after the first of December shall, if granted, be considered effective from that date throughout the next year and until the close of the Annual Meeting of the next succeeding year.

("OWNER" in above rule can be a "Part Owner", a "Syndicate Representative" or a "Bona-fide Charter". A "Bona-fide Charterer" is one who has had notice of charter filed for fifteen (15) days with the Association Secretary, together with proof of charter from registered owner.)

- e. No one will be accepted as a new member of the El Toro Association until FIFTEEN (15) days have elapsed from the date of the receipt of the application for membership. (A new member is one who was not a member the previous year.)

MEMBERSHIP DUES: Owner of boat . . . \$5.00 per year

Co-owner or Family Member . . . \$2.00 per year (Same privileges as \$5 Memberships)

- f. A special "Association Membership" is available for \$2.00 per year for non-racing persons who are interested in belonging to the El Toro Class.

RACING EQUIPMENT:

- g. All boats must carry an approved life preserver and a bailing device.

- h. Paddle and anchor are optional.

NUMBER FEE:

- i. A charge of \$7.50 will be made for issuing a Number to a new boat. The Applicant for the Number will be granted a membership in the El Toro Association for the balance of the year, without additional charge, provided the other eligibility requirements for the membership are in order. See Paragraph d. above.

FLEET ORGANIZATION:

- j. Five or more measured yachts of the Class shall be sufficient to form a fleet. The officers of each fleet, which must include a Fleet Captain, Measurer, and a Fleet Secretary, shall be elected by the Association Members of that Fleet. Each Fleet shall be self-governing in all matters not conflicting with the rules of the Association. A Fleet may be granted a Charter upon application to the Governing Board. Such application can be made only after the Fleet is organized and officers elected.



EL TORO INTERNATIONAL YACHT RACING ASSOCIATION

1971 Officers and Governing Board

President: Jack Quan, 68 Evergreen Lane, Berkeley, Calif. 94705

Vice-President: Wilkes Joy, 233 Cerro Chico, Los Gatos, Calif. 95030

Secretary: Don Smith, Rt. 1, Box 59, Bow, Wash. 98232

Treasurer: Walt McCall, D.V.M., 2160 S. Winchester, Campbell, Calif. 95008

Past Pres.: George Van Dolson, 1713 Florida St., Vallejo, Calif.

Measurer: Orv Buesing, 2362 Venndale, San Jose, Calif. 95124

FLEET MEASURERS

ALABAMA: SAMUEL E. MCRARY, 230 HILL ST., GUNTERSVILLE

ARIZONA: JOHN SMITH JR., 1451 WEST 6TH ST., MESA

BRITISH COLUMBIA: BILL WHITBY, 3016 ADMIRALS RD., VICTORIA

JACK WOODWARD, 3789 MYSTIC LANE, VICTORIA

CALIFORNIA: KEN MCCHUTCHEON, 6808 DEL MONTE, RICHMOND

DAN HERB, 3200 DEAKIN ST., BERKELEY

VIC WILLARD, 2639 21ST AVE., SAN FRANCISCO

LARRY NISWANDER, 727 TEMESCAL WAY, REDWOOD CIT

LEW HAWK, 1092 WILMINGTON AVE., SAN JOSE

C.C. COLLINS, 2490 OREGON ST., REDWOOD CITY

HOWARD ROBINSON, 2148 WHELAN AVE., SAN LEANDRO

DAN HULL, 2836 RAMONA CT., SANTA CLARA

BILL MACDONALD, 65 GLEN ELLYN DR., VENTURA

FRED TIDYMAN, 205 E. GARLAND, FRESNO

RICHARD NEWMAN, 715 S. JACOB AVE., VISALIA

MEL CANFIELD, 2709 SCOTT PLACE, BAKERSFIELD

GENE DOUCETTE, 660 PARMA WAY, LOS ALTOS

RICHARD TOSCHI, 1544 16TH AVE., SAN FRANCISCO

KEN THOMPSON, 1969 SCOTT LANE, LOS ALTOS

ROLLYE WISKERSON, 1678 DELVIN DR., VALLEJO

PAUL FUGE, 345 17 MILE DRIVE, PACIFIC GROVE

RALPH CLIFFORD, 21900 HYDE RD., SONOMA

DAVE MONTI, P.O. BOX 7303, S. LAKE TAHOE

DICK JACOBSON, 820 LURLINE DR., FOSTER CITY

WM. F. CANDRIAN, 4951 ALTA CAMINO DR., REDDING

SAM CRABTREE, 4619 CANDLEWOOD COURT, CONCORD

ED BINGHAM, 29 BRETANO WAY, SAN RAFAEL

K.C. SHAW, P.O. BOX 9, ATASCADERO

PETER NEWELL, 43 PARK WAY, PIEDMONT

JOHN LOGAN, 32823 ALVARDO BLVD., FREMONT

COLORADO: F.A. SHEDD, 5299 E. EASTMAN, DENVER

TOM EPLING, 107 VALLEY VIEW RD., FORT COLLINS

DR. IRA HOWELL, 845 ELLIPSE WAY, DENVER

DON YOUNG, 5340 S. SHERMAN, LITTLETON

MRS. CONANT WEAVER, BOX 450, GRAND LAKE

GEORGE CLARK, P.O. BOX 723, CORAL GABLES

MALCOLM MCAULL, 5216 OIO DR., HONOLULU

LARRY TROMBLY, 112 WAILUPE CIRCLE, HONOLULU

ILLINOIS: DICK SCHWANKE, 235 CUMNOR AVE., GLEN ELLYN

ERNEST HEYWORTH, 1209 N. 7TH ST., HERRIN

INDIANA: LEROY MADSEN, 14512 S. EGGLESTON AVE., RIVERDALE

KANSAS: JOEL NORDEEN, 1604 APPLE LANE, OTTAWA

MARYLAND: VICTOR SYRACUSE, 1214 HIGHWOOD RD., ROCKVILLE

JULIAN HOLMES, 8062 THORNE DR., OXON HILL

MICHIGAN: FRANK R. MURRAY, 3510 YORKSHIRE, DETROIT

NEW YORK: ROBERT D. CESS, 42 PURITAN PATH, PORT JEFFERSON

OHIO: R.J. KIRBY, R.R. #1, SALEM

OREGON: AL BOWERS, 01339 S.W. RADCLIFF RD., PORTLAND

JOSEPH DYER, 999 RIDGE DR., ASTORIA

MELVIN STARKS, P.O. BOX 72, KERBY

JOHN FLETT, 1407 SALING AVE., MEDFORD

ROY CIAPPINI, 9204 S.E. HAROLD ST., PORTLAND

ANDREW CULVER JR., 3420 ELMWOOD WAY, CORVALIS

SO. DAKOTA: JAMES R. ADAMS, 1505 SO. GARFIELD AVE., SIOUX FALLS

TEXAS: BRINKLEY S. SNOWDEN, JR., 907 TOWNCREEK, DALLAS

WM. BROWN, 1724 WOODS DRIVE, ARLINGTON

VIRGINIA: CHARLES J. MCDERMOTT, 3350 VALLEY DR., ALEXANDRIA

WASHINGTON: D.W. GOSSE 2113 DAYTON AVE., RENTON

ROBERT DUDLEY, 13219 35TH AVE., N.E. SEATTLE