

## Welcome to the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual RIPS Race Week!!

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All the year's planning has been done, all the stress has built and finally been alleviated (somewhat), and you, the racers, have arrived! Beyond the pleasures we have of all of us being together again, we are ecstatic about having everything in place for you in terms of accommodations, entertainment, and, of course, one of the best race committees in the Pacific North West. We are pleased to have Means Davis back and can expect his top notch crew to give us some great race courses on which to show our "stuff".

Remember that this year's RIPS has had to sadly salute good-bye to the Navy for their participation in the last three RIPS, but we have happily waved hello to Cooper Boating for their sponsorship with this year's mark boats and Race Committee boats (yachts? – whatever, if you like one well enough, talk to Colin – they're also for sale)



Another change – and an exciting change – is the new RIPS Talent Show. We encourage each boat to enter their best talent for the RIPS Idol Competition.

We're expecting some amazing talent to showcase itself and make judging harder than that in a protest room. We know that you all want to be the center of attention, so this is your chance to do so and win an amazing prize (and our applause)

Have an amazing time, race fair; listen to the race committee, and RIPS promises that fun will happen naturally.

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### Our Race Officer



After 27 years of "Sniping" on one of the oldest one-design boats built, Means took his race committee rotational duties to new levels, which included serving on International juries, World events, National Worlds, and the Olympics among others and others and others.

His philosophy for a successful regatta is communication between Race Committee and the sailors. Doing so allows all parties to know what's going on and reduce the mistakes that can be made during the start.

Having fun is also his biggest priority and his main reason for coming back to RIPS. To remember that we're only sailing in circles and that it's not about life and death will keep everyone happy. His number one rule though?

**Read the race instructions!!!!!!**