

North Shore Yacht Club

Snyder Cup and Target Cruise to Cold Spring Harbor

June 24th and June 25th

We are off and running, or should I say sailing, to a great 2023 season. We have had decent weather, club races and a Memorial Day weekend cruise to Northport. Every week more boats appear at their mooring, and I observed a great sight last weekend, after the club race and great sailing day and my own return from an overnight in Oyster Bay, the deck at the clubhouse was full of members enjoying refreshments and trading stories. A positive sign of recovery after the last couple of seasons.

So now it's time to really get going and celebrate what has become a fun combined event to bring members together, both racers and cruisers and anyone else who wants to be either or both! The Club has had the Snyder Cup as a tradition for a number of years and is one of the distance races that is outside the bay. A few years ago, the decision was made to make it as easy as possible for members who are racers as well as cruisers or novices to participate in a distance race without some of the pressure of other types of races where timing and starting lines intimidated or otherwise inhibited some from participating.

This one race is an easy one to sail in. All you have to do is let us know that you are participating, get out to Gangway Rock and green Gong 27, sail past it and take your starting time. Then sail East up the Sound until you sail past red Bell 32A that is in the middle of the Sound South of Stanford and North of Oyster Bay, and when you pass it, take your finishing time. Email or text in your starting and finishing times to the Race Committee or me and you've done the Snyder Cup race. No hassles and pressure, except as we all know, when there are other boats out on the Sound and near you, especially other members' boats, the pressure is always on and even if out for a day sail, the race is always on! As an official club race there are also prizes and trophies to be earned and awarded at the fall Dinner.

However, there is even more to this event as it is also a Target Cruise to Cold Spring Harbor. After you finish the race, some may choose to return to the Club, but others can join in the Target Cruise by continuing down into Oyster Bay to Cold Spring Harbor where we will anchor for the night (those who want to join for some fun and social activity and raft up and then return instead of staying overnight are also welcome to participate too). As we have done in the past, if you are new to anchoring, not to worry, we will assist you.

The anchoring spot is usually off the Western side of the harbor off Cove Neck that separates Oyster Bay and Cold Spring Harbor. All can then gather for cocktails and snacks or dinner as the group decides and have a raft up party (many times members put down an anchor instead of rafting up and then dinghy over to the host boat or get a ride from another member in their dinghy, sort of our own Uber-dink). It is a beautiful harbor and area where the scenery is great and it is also a great place to row, dinghy, paddle board or kayak or even swim if the water has sufficiently warmed up or if you are a polar bear fan. The next day you are free to do your thing and explore and enjoy and then sail back to the Club together (another very informal race event, but without rules and prizes, except maybe sharing a drink on the deck back at the Club.

If you are a cruiser who has not raced, this is a great chance to give it a try and if you are a racer that has not or does not usually cruise, you also have a chance to see how the other half live. If you have any questions, contact me or someone from the Race Committee and we will be happy to discuss the Race and Cruise with you and answer your questions. If you are planning to participate, please let us know. Also, since this race is a PHRF event, the Race Committee needs to know your rating or assign one if you don't know it or have one, as the Race is handicapped and adjusted for ratings of the boats participating. More formal information will be posted on the Club's website with a Notice of Race.

As with all our Club events we ask that you monitor Ch 78A while participating, however once we are in Cold Spring Harbor (as we also do in Oyster Bar) we change over to Ch 77 due to Sagamore Yacht Club's use of Ch 78A for their launch operations as well as the same for Norwalk YC.

I hope that you will come for the great sailing and fun.
Ron Gold, Cruising Chair 917-579-5267