

Committee Boat... A low tech Checklist for Occasional Wednesday Race Officers

IMPORTANT 80% IS SIMPLY SHOWING UP... REALLY!!!

Arrive by 1730 hrs, and in any order...

Know your predicted winds and weather reports, sunset time.

Warm the CB engine, check fuel.

Check out signalling and recording gear (radios, VHF 09) horns, flags, clock, time sheets etc

Check out ground tackle, fill tetrahedrons,

Check in with fleet captain.

Confirm mark set boats and assign marks (WWdiv1, WWdiv2, LW)

Determine team roles...timer (recording),

...signaller(flags)

...observer (usually the lead, radio and horn communications, countdowns etc,)

OK It's 1815 hrs,, let's get out there!

Where to set up? usually about mid lake... setting anchor away from motorized craft, lee shores especially in a stiff breeze, leaves room to accommodate wind shifts and course changes, using all the rode. Then the mark set boats can head towards their general area.

Determine course distance based on wind speed to give a 45-60 minute race.*

Direct the mark set boats using the yarn stick. (Div 2 WW mark 2/3 distance to Div 1 WW mark.) Rangefinder?

Hang course # on transom, set up time clock where team can see.

Recruit a nearby boat to drop the pin, then again using yarn stick, direct boat to set pin perpendicular or slightly upwind of perpendicular (keeps the crowd away from barging the committee boat), generally at least as long as two boat lengths x of boats, even 3 or more in heavy air (>15 knots). Adjustment may be needed.

Fly AP and get ready to start countdown aiming for 7 pm.

*Example...One NM course length at windspeed 10 knots, assumng boat speed 4 around knots should result in about 30 min per lap x 2 is 45-60 min. so can shorten or lengthen depending on lighter or heavier airs.