

ENSENADA TUNE UP RACE

By Bob Van Pelt

Every April before the Newport to Ensenada Race the Dana Point Yacht Club hosts a preliminary race referred as the "Tune Up Race." The stated purpose of the race is to test your crew and equipment in a shorter 15-mile course in preparation for the much longer race at the end of the month. Although my Capri 22 is too small to race to Mexico, it is eligible to participate in the race from Newport to Dana Point.



This year we decided to enter a PHRF spinnaker class versus the cruising class that we entered last year. The course itself was the same as the Border Run Sprint but with the finish line moved to the Dana Point harbor entrance. Our crew consisted of Eric Van Pelt, Willi and myself.

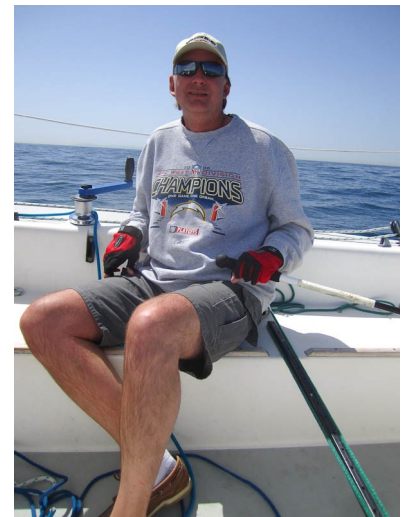
The morning ride up to the starting line in Newport was relatively uneventful except we noticed that the southerly current was quite strong which cut 2 knots from our speed over ground.

We arrived only 5 minutes before the first gun signaling the

starting sequence. Fortunately we were in class C so we had 15 minutes to get ourselves ready. At the start, the wind was already



coming aft of the beam so all boats, including ours, hosted spinnakers shortly after crossing the line. We settled in for what we thought would be an easy spinnaker run down the coast. However, about an hour into the race the wind shut off completely as a mild Santa Ana canceled out the sea breeze. The options were to stay the course, head towards the beach or go further out to sea. Remembering the strong current that we had encountered in the morning, we thought it best to head out into deeper water as the current would move us towards Dana Point while we waited for the wind to fill in.



As we anticipated, the wind first appeared outside and started moving us up to hull speed before the inside boats caught the breeze. Eventually the whole fleet was up and running but the time that we gained by going outside, riding the current and finding the wind early enabled us to capture a first place finish over boats rated much faster than ours.



2012 ENSENADA TUNEUP

NEWPORT TO DANA POINT

Race Date: 7 Apr 2012

<u>Div</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Boat Name</u>	<u>Sail No.</u>	<u>Rating</u>	<u>Finish Time</u>	<u>Elapsed Time</u>	<u>Corrected Time</u>	<u>Seconds * Behind</u>
PHRF C	PHRF Time on Distance / Start Time 12:15:00 / Dist.14.80 nm						* Time Behind is Sec / Mile	
	1	REGGAE	56026	210	16:53:34	04:38:34	03:46:46	
	2	SOL MATE	97904	132	16:39:09	04:24:09	03:51:35	20
	3	PAPILLON	56115	138	16:42:57	04:27:57	03:53:55	29
	4	STARCKWEATHER	97938	129	16:44:07	04:29:07	03:57:18	43
	5	WIND DANCER	97519	192	17:22:23	05:07:23	04:20:01	135
	DNF	9	CAMPBELL'S SLOOP	97085	141	00:00:16		
	DNF	9	VALKYRIE	97873	222			
	DSQ	9	OLD SCHOOL	291	126	00:00:16		

The next scheduled ocean regatta will be the Annual Leukemia Cup Race and as you know, LMVYC will be joining Dana West Yacht Cup this year in lieu of hosting a separate race on the lake.

As you may remember our club members won the Leukemia Cup for first place overall in 2011 aboard Reggae and we are looking forward to participating again this year but with 4 boats:

Reggae, my Capri 22

Shawn's Beneteau 23.5

Dominic's Ranger 23

Our Commodore's S2 6.7

It's not too early to start lining up your ride, prepping the boats and getting some practice time in before this 3 day event scheduled for June 1, 2 & 3rd. I believe that our club members have an excellent chance to sweep this event and make an admirable showing in the first combined Leukemia Cup Regatta.