

2023 May Regatta Report

by Brian Dolan

The 42nd Annual International Cup (May) Regatta was by many measures another very successful event and a testament to the TSC's proven formula for hosting a fun filled regatta weekend in San Carlos, Mexico.

The weekend got started on Friday morning with the regular beach cleanup organized by Craig Saltzman. Several early risers joined the effort this year and after our hour-long stroll along the beach between the old Fiesta Hotel and Charly's Rock we easily collected a huge pile of plastic debris. If you have not participated in this relaxing, enjoyable and very fulfilling activity in the past please consider joining the effort sometime in the future. You won't be sorry and might become a regular.



On Friday afternoon we had a memorial service for our beloved and longtime iconic member, Bill Ahrens, who passed away earlier this year. Several members along with a flotilla of 6 boats deposited his ashes to the Sea of Cortez, followed by a very touching eight bell tribute along with floating roses and flares. Grumpy ole Bill would have even enjoyed the ceremony and tribute.

Friday evening things really got rocking with the welcome party at D dock. It was packed with new and old members alike along with a host of new sailors new to the event. The dock party is always a favorite and the informal gathering is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new people. Thanks to Glen and Dan we had plenty of cold beverages on hand to keep everyone lubricated and happy until sunset.

Saturday morning started with race registration and the skippers meeting. A total of 19 boats registered for the event which is a recent high number and it was wonderful watching the armada circling the start line. The wind for the first day was initially light and built to steady breeze for the course 6 given to all the competitors. Unfortunately, the wind died by midday and it left many boats adrift and forced to withdraw. Only 6 boats finished the course Saturday.





Lou Sellyei graciously hosted the Saturday evening Commodore's Party at his lovely home near Algodones Bay and Marina Real. It was well attended and enjoyed by many.

Sunday was a repeat of day one with light winds at the start and a struggle to get to the first weather mark before the 45-minute time limit. Fortunately, the wind continued to build throughout the day and most boats were able to complete the course without incident.

Kudos again to Shawn Dolan, Amelia Macedo and John Knipp on the Race Committee Boat. They did a fantastic job getting the races off on time and staving off boredom to finish those boats that could complete the course. Good thing they had plenty of help on board to keep it entertaining. Dan Atkinson did another masterful job of piloting his chase boat around the course, sweeping up marks and keeping us all safe. Over the weekend he rescued two boats that needed his assistance. We can't thank him enough for his professional help and support of our event.

The Sunday Awards Dinner at La Palapa Griega was very well attended with 79 guests and the festivities and evening went off with out a hitch. Thanks to the oversight of Mardi Burden and a troop of helpers over \$800 was raised for the entertaining and lively raffle. Those proceeds go a long way towards underwriting the cost of the event and keeping it in the black. A total of 13 trophies were awarded across 5 different classes so most that participated in the regatta were rewarded. Fingers crossed that they will continue to support this event and help spread the word.

A few take homes from the event for future consideration include setting a time limit to finish the course, establishing better radio communication protocols, reinforcing the need to keep boats fully operational and encouraging earlier and complete registration of boats.

See you in the Fall!

