

MindJibe



Newsletter of the Triangle Boardsailing Club, Vol. 25, No. 1 January 2007

UPCOMING EVENTS

CLUB TRIP. The Club trip will be May 19-26, 2007. Paul Rowan is the trip coordinator. Contact him if interested in participating. The house is Surround Sound. This is one of the best houses out there. It has excellent water access. You could hardly imagine a better place to work on your windsurfing skills.

WINDFEST will likely be held April 19-21 at Frisco Woods campground in Buxton. The TBC is encouraging participation to show the sponsors and campground that there is a continued interest in the sport. Windfest is a great time to demo new gear, perfect tuning your own gear, and camp with lots of windsurfers. Bill Bradstreet, a frequent Windfest attender, will assist anyone with logistical info, arranging campsite partners, or other questions. Contact him on the chatboard or watch for Windfest 2007 discussions to pop up.

WINTER PARTY. The TBC Winter Party will be held on Saturday, February 3rd at El Rodeo Mexican restaurant in Raleigh. They have a semi-private upstairs section ideal for groups. The reservation starts at 5:30 and runs until about 8:30. We will order from the regular menu and prices for meals range from about \$6-\$12. Family and future members are welcome to come enjoy warm festive food with some of the Triangle's most famous windsurfers. Questions? Call: 380-1819.

El Rodeo
4112 Pleasant Valley Road # 142
Raleigh, NC 27612
(919) 571-1188

MindJibe is the newsletter of the Triangle Boardsailing Club. It publishes five or six issues a year.
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Numbers Overhead on the Fall Club Trip, by the Editor

“I used to be able to rig seven complete rigs at one time.”
“This isn’t really cold. Why aren’t you out there?” “I’m 58 years old.”
“Not bad for 62!”
“I’ve been sailing for 20 years now.”
“I’ve been here four weeks already.”

“Yeah, it’s two days back up to Canada.”

“Expecting gusts up to 58 mph overnight.”

“It never got over 40 last night. It never reached the 60 they promised.”

“It’ll be 50 degrees by noon, I’m sure.”

OCTOBER RACE

Most years the Club holds a race during the Fall trip and this year was no exception. The race was held at Summerwinds in Rodanthe on October 29, 2006. Excitement began to build as sailors from the Triangle arrived from the Triangle, parked in the grass, then began frantically to rig whatever sails they thought they would need for the really good racing conditions that prevailed that day.

The day started out with really strong winds out of the WSW. A course was set consisting of two buoys for the start/finish line and a third buoy set 0.6 miles out into the sound. The race was a broad reach out to the mark; jibe around the mark; slight upwind beat to the upwind starting buoy; jibe around the buoy; head back to the outside buoy and jibe around it again; then finish through the start/finish line, for a total of 3 jibes and 2.4 miles per heat. Most competitors used their smaller boards and sails from 5.0 to 6.0 for the first 4 races.

After a break for lunch, the racers returned to the course only to be met with diminishing winds. Larger boards and 6.5 to 8.0 sails were then the call, but there was still plenty of wind to plane around the course.

A total of 8 heats were run. We had some exhausted and happy racers by the end of the day! Certainly worth a day trip from the Triangle. -jr

2006 TBC Race Series Wrap-up

Charles Livaudais has once again won the annual TBC race series with 38 total points. Dana Thalheimer took second place with 29 points, while Johan van Die finished in third place with 27 points. For all lowdown on the 2006 season, check out the TBC racing scorecard at

<http://triangleboardsailing.com/tbc/bulletin.html>

The 2006 season will be remembered as a golden year for the classic longboard, with only three of the nine races having better than longboard conditions. A total of 19 competitors participated in at least one race. Participation was statistically proportional to predicted wind speed on the day of the event.

Accordingly, for 2007 the TBC Race Committee plans to hold four races at the coast and only three races at Jordan Lake. The emphasis will be on quality conditions, and to accomplish that we must allow for maximum flexibility. If wind minimums are not met, all races will be subject to postponement until a subsequent weekend. As a result, participants will need to monitor the TBC racing forum at <http://tbc.bme.duke.edu/cgi-bin/yabb/YaBB.pl?board=Racing>

closely to keep up with the inevitable schedule changes. Hopefully this will promote better (i.e., windier) conditions for our races. The coastal races will be held at either Windmill Point or the Salvo Day Use Area. –Mark Kernodle

Tentative 2007 Race Schedule

Race date	Location	Race Director
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March 24/25	WMP/SDUA	Charles Livaudais
April 14/15	JL	Mark Kernodle
May 5/6	WMP/SDUA	Johan van Die
June TBD	JL	Erik Staub
Sept. TBD	JL	Michal Prussak
Oct. 13/14	WMP/SDUA	Bill Bradstreet
Nov. 10/11	WMP/SDUA	Dana Thalheimer

“What One Piece of Advice Would You Give a Newbie?”

Summary of a Chatboard Thread

This exciting question, posed on the TBC chatboard by the editor this estimable rag, brought out a number of interesting and amusing answers, exchanges, and reminiscences of our own time spent learning how to windsurf. As threads go, it didn't last that long, but in terms of content it was qualitatively high and many of us enjoyed reviewing our windsurfing careers.

The responses fall into three categories: humorous, practical-specific, and philosophical-reflective.

The humorous included advice on how to flush your wetsuit once you have befouled it, an issue that all windsurfers must deal with at some point, re-sale value be damned.

Those who concentrated on practical and specific issues used focused on what to learn first and on technique, perhaps ones that had been important points in their own learning curve. Examples: Learn to waterstart right away. And that means in water that's over your head. Then you won't be as reluctant to fall in, and progress faster in all other areas. When you do have to uphaul, make sure your feet are equidistant from the mast. “TOW! TOW! TOW!” chanted the chorus. And go to a place where it is easier to learn, like Hatteras or Aruba—not Jordan Lake. More technique: Uphaul with a straight back (What bad experience with back pain prompted this response?) Hold onto the boom when you fall in. Spend time every session learning to stay upwind.

Those pieces of advice that were more general or philosophical tended to focus on perceived problems with the sport of windsurfing. Live in a place where there is water and wind. Find a way to make learning FUN and not work or frustration.

A newbie should have attitude. Don't worry about staying dry. Staying dry just means you aren't learning new stuff. If you ain't wet, you ain't learning. A few posters, seen by some as unnecessarily negative, issued caveats about how difficult the sport is and how much commitment of time it requires to get good. Windsurfing is a vocation: if you don't hear the call, don't bother. Windsurfing is hard: get lessons. Posters suggested a range of lessons from ABK camp to informally asking your buddies for help. -jr

The Wily Skipper.

A perennial topic of conversation: the decline of windsurfing. What sports have actually declined in terms of participation? Over the sixteen years between 1986 and 2003, mountain biking is up 259%; snowboarding, up 270%; surfing, up 43%; scuba diving, up 32%. Three sports with declining participation: windsurfing, down -32%, volleyball, -35.5%, water skiing, -57.7%. (As reported in *Textiles for Sport* [Woodhead Publishing, 2005]). I don't see any patterns here. Surfing is even harder to get to than windsurfing; scuba diving can hardly be done at Jordan Lake. Why such a big downturn in water skiing? It's readily accessible and not terribly hard to learn. [] [] [] Another good thing to be said about France: France has the highest per capita number of windsurfers in the world. [] [] [] **Windsurfing records.** The record for the most windsurfing World Championships won from 1979 to 1983 is held by Stephan van den Berg (Netherlands), who won five windsurfing world titles. The longest windsurfing marathon goes to Sergiy Naidych (Ukraine). He windsurfed for 71 hr. 30 min. at Radyshev Lake, Simerferopol, Crimea, Ukraine, from June 6 to 9, 2003. The longest windsurfing journey was made by Steve Fisher (U. S. A.), who crossed the Pacific from California to Hawaii on Da Slipper II, a highly modified 17ft. 8in.-long windsurfer. The 2,269 nautical mile (2,612 mile or 4,203km) journey took a total of 47 days and Steve arrived on a beach on Maui, Hawaii, on September 3, 1997. (These stats from *Guinness World Records 2005*. Westminster, MD, USA: Bantam Books, 2005. p 497.) -ed.

The Ideal Trailer?

Check out Bill Bradstreet's trailer next time you're at Jordan Lake.



Air time at Jordan Lake



Planing on Formula with no whitecaps