



# SEARCHLIGHT

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA YACHTING ASSOCIATION

*August/September 2025*

## In This Issue

**FROM THE HELM:** Commodore's Report

**BRIDGE REPORTS:** Vice Commodore *and* Rear Commodore

### SCYA NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

- SCYA Commodores Cruise
- SCYA Calendar of Events

### SCYA COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Road to Gold - LA28 Update
- Old Timers Luncheon - A Day of History Laughter, and Celebration
- World Sailing is Committed to Ensuring Our Sport is Accessible and Welcoming to All
- SCYA Names Team Gibbons as its Delegate to the 2025 US Sailing Adult Championships

### SCYA COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

- Community Events: Upcoming Races
- Offshore Safety at Sea Seminar Oct 2025
- Dockside Podcast: Get Inspired by a Three Time World Record Holder



SCYA SHIP STORE

—[Yachting Protocol Guidelines Book](#)

SEARCHLIGHT NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

—[Submission Guidelines](#)

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# From the Helm

## Commodore's Report

**Lee Coller**

2025 SCYA Commodore

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It is amazing how time flies, I only have a little over two months left in my term as SCYA Commodore.

First of all, congratulations to Vice Commodore Jodi Masters-Gonzales and her team that organized the US Sailing Safety at Sea seminar held at California Yacht Club in August, it was well attended and provided lots of useful information. My wife and I both participated and learned a lot. It was valuable learning the effort required to get into a liferaft in soaking wet foulies and an inflated PFD. I strongly urge everyone to consider taking this course.

On September 12<sup>th</sup> we held our annual old-timers meeting at King Harbor Yacht Club. Congratulations to King Harbor Yacht Club for winning the highest number of staff commodores present, as well as the highest percentage of surviving staff commodores present. The

later category was close, if Port Royal Yacht Club had one more staff commodore present they would have won that award.

Coming up on October 11<sup>th</sup> is a Zoom Meeting for SCYA members where the nominating committee will announce the slate directors and officers. Nominations are also accepted from members up until the November meeting per our bylaws. Nominations must be signed by two delegates or alternates from each of 5 member clubs to be valid.

Coming up in October is the Annual SCYA Commodores' Cruise to Avalon and Catalina Island Yacht Club. Our theme this year is Gilligan's Island, come dressed as your favorite castaway. Plenty of games and a chance to socialize with your fellow commodores. All flag officers of SCYA clubs, Staff Commodores, (as well as Staff Commodores and officers of SYCA) are invited. And yes – you are allowed to bring your spouse or significant other. Registration is open for this as well.

For those of you planning on competing for Club of the Year (CoY) for 2026, the events that count towards the CoY trophy start on November 1<sup>st</sup> 2025 and end on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026. For 2025, because we were late getting the criteria out for 2025, the attendance at the November 2024 meeting will only be used in the case of tie-breaker. For the 2026 the November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting, held at Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club, will count towards CoY points. This is an important meeting as we elect the incoming board and flags. Be sure to attend.

I also note that nominations for SCYA awards are now open. Please see the website ([https://scya.org/scya\\_service-awards/](https://scya.org/scya_service-awards/)) for further

information

**Lee Coller**

2025 SCYA Commodore

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# From the Bridge

## V/C Report

**Jodi Masters-Gonzales**

2025 SCYA Vice Commodore

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We had a very busy summer in SCYA Area J—from US Sailing International Offshore Safety at Sea certification course at CYC to US Sailing Adult Championship Delegate selection (go Team Gibbons!); presentations at our member clubs, including Alli Bell's recount of *Restless' Journey to Winning the 2025 Transpac* and Marie Rogers' presentation, *What's Your Sailing Superpower?*; planning of SCYA 2026 Womens Conference and 96th Annual Midwinter Regatta.

Here's a recap and preview of what's to come.

### US SAILING SAFETY AT SEA CERTIFICATION COURSE

In August, SCYA facilitated a US Sailing sanctioned International Offshore Safety at Sea certification course at Cal Yacht Club. Under

the leadership of moderator, Captain Debbie Huntsman, we had a sizable cohort of 39 students who graduated with a 5-year, World Sailing compliant SAS certification!

The weekend included 8 chalk-talk sessions on topics ranging from safety equipment, medical emergencies on board, marine weather, heavy weather/storm sailing, emergency communications, and search & rescue. Hands-on training was the highlight, including damage control, crew overboard rescue, in-water survival, LifeSling & rope throwing, firefighting and flares. **Mustang Survival** generously donated two PFDs and other swag for our raffle which added to the excitement and positive learning environment. **Thank you Lili Colby for championing our event!**

One of my biggest takeaways was just how important wearing your PFD is in preventing catastrophic outcomes—not doing so is one of the leading points of failure regardless how much experience the skipper/crew may have. I was also surprised by how many people, especially seasoned sailors, who had never before jumped into the water with their inflatable PFD and foul weather gear. I am grateful my first experience was not in an emergency situation!

Many thanks to all of the students, local hosts, and instructors who made this weekend so incredibly successful. From Cal Yacht Club, Scott Fenton (General Manager), Dalia Ayoub (Director of F&B), Commodore Michelle Ondrey, and CYC members, who made us feel welcome, made sure we were well fed with delicious breakfast and lunch each day, and generously shared the facilities with our large crowd without complaint. We had the best-of-the-best instructors, including Co-Moderators, Captains Leslie Washburn and James Lee; Dave Robertson, Dr. Christian Sloane, Ernie Richau, Capt. Marie

Rogers, Jeff Gunn, and US Sailing SAS Chairperson, Jonathan Kabak. A special thank you to SCYA Service Administrator, Kim Bergeron and Commodore Lee Collier for lending extra support and resources to make sure everything came together and went off without a hitch.

**Attendees gave this SCYA SAS certification course a Net Promoter Score of 9.2 (out of 10)!**



To our attendees—to paraphrase our moderator, whether you are an experienced sailor or a newbie, you are now the newest cohort on the water with the skills and ability to save lives. It was such a pleasure spending the weekend with each and every one of you, and sincerely hope our paths cross again in the future.

### **US ADULT SAILING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Also in August, SCYA convened a Selection Committee to select its Delegate to compete in the 2025 US Adult Sailing Championships from September 25-28th. This year, the event is hosted by Park City Sailing Association in Heber City, Utah. Read



more about the selection process and Team Gibbons [in the press release below](#).

This committee was appointed by the SCYA Commodore and was comprised of five qualified sailors representing SCYA member organizations in good standing from distinct harbors within the Area J region. Selection Committee Members included **Jane Thomas** (Commodore, ASBCYC; Delegate, CIWSA, ChIYC), **Sue Service** (Jr. S/C, CYC), **Ben Smith** (Commodore, ASPBYC; LSFYC), **John Berry** (Race Chair, DPYC), and **JR Young** (Bridge, Navy YC SD; RC Chair, SDYC). The Co-Chairpersons of the committee were SCYA Fleet Captain S/C Bill McNamara and SCYA Vice Commodore Jodi Masters-Gonzales.

A note of gratitude to each of the committee members for your professionalism and wisdom throughout the selection process. Thank you to the five qualified teams who applied—it was an incredibly difficult decision and we hope to see applications from you again next year.

### **NOTABLE PRESENTATIONS**

Two presentations stood out to me this month: Alli Bell speaking at LAYC on *Restless' Journey to Winning the 2025 Transpac*, and Marie Rogers, *What's Your Sailing Superpower?* at WSASMB/SMWYC.

An overarching theme as I listened to Alli, was how much family and personal connection to history, tradition means to her—and was a huge part of her triumphant success in this year's Transpac. It was evident how special it was for her to be at LAYC on this day, she explained, a full-circle moment having spent a good portion of her formative years on boats and learning to sail in this community. One could tell she was "home." The room was filled with her close family

and friends—many of whom *Transpac* veterans—wearing huge smiles, overflowing with pride and joy.

Alli became the first woman skipper to win the *Transpac* in its 119 year history. She did this with an all-Corinthian crew, borrowed sails, donated parts, and a 60 year-old Cal 40, *Restless*, that she spent months getting ready by herself with the help of family and friends. Alli debunks what seems like an impossible feat, "I'm just someone who wanted to do something and did it."

The lesson and inspiration I take away is Alli's humble tenacity—and her leadership in bringing together a community in a clear vision in order to accomplish something really big, "that's never been done before."



(Alli Bell speaking at LAYC.)

A couple days later, SCYA Director Marie Rogers gave a talk on *What's Your Sailing Superpower* at WSASMB/SMWYC. Her presentation seemed the perfect bookend to the week, exploring how



we move beyond individual accomplishments to giving back, through collective action, in an effort to keep the sport alive.



(Dir. Marie Rogers speaking at WSASMB/SMWYC)

In her presentation, Marie underscores the unique value of every category of boater, from the active sailor to boat owner, who play a pivotal role in the system of collective action to ensure guests of all kinds feel welcome and in turn, become willing to invest their time and resources in the community.

I am reminded of two Scuttlebutt articles, *Why sailboat racing is dying in America* and *How clubs can renew interest in sailing*, which examine the challenge of keeping the sport alive from the club perspective. This video, *Why Sailboat Racing Is DYING in America (The \$200K Problem)*, largely addresses the issue as it relates to the greying of membership and engaging younger members who are confronted with modern day barriers their grandparents did not have to overcome.

Marie's presentation goes beyond current membership challenges to

look at how the community-as-a-whole plays a role in attracting new people into our community and onto the water—and how a shift of mindset, followed by action of giving back is essential. You can access Marie's slidedeck [HERE](#).

## LOOKING AHEAD

The 96th Annual SCYA Midwinter Regatta and 2026 SCYA Womens Conference are well underway!

### 96th Annual SCYA Midwinter Regatta

Is scheduled for the weekends of **February 22-23 and February 28-March 1, 2026**. We already have a number of commitments from host clubs. If your club is planning on hosting, please contact me at [vicecommodore@scya.org](mailto:vicecommodore@scya.org) as soon as possible so we can add you to the calendar and get you setup in Regatta Network. If alternate dates work better for your club's race calendar, we are flexible and will work with you. We are excited to announce that SCYA is bringing back a number of perpetual trophies! That list and additional details will be sent out in a separate announcement soon.

### 2026 SCYA Womens Conference & Midwinter Regatta

We are bringing back this beloved event on the weekend of **March 20-22, 2026**—save the date! The event will be hosted at Long Beach Yacht Club, with the support of the club's leadership, Commodore Lisa Meier and Mary Voight. Leadership from other womens community organizations, including those of local WSA chapters, have also signed on to the Steering Committee to ensure a successful event in 2026 and beyond.

We are honored to co-host the event with [National Womens Sailing Association](#), who bring a wealth of knowledge and experience in

event design and execution. Legendary visionary, Gail Hine, has stepped forward as our champion and angel advisor. It feels incredible to have this much support, experience and wisdom going into this event!

A survey will be going out soon to ensure our programming aligns with current community interest and preferences—completion of this survey will also count towards SCYA Club of the Year points for those who are participating. We are actively looking for volunteers to lead and work event sub-committees. Save the date and reach out with any questions, volunteer interest to [vicecommodore@scya.org](mailto:vicecommodore@scya.org).

#### **ON A PERSONAL NOTE...**

Amid the busyness of the summer months, José and I were invited to go sailing with Bill and Marie Rogers, along with crew member Justin Leach on *Marie*. It is beyond cool to spend time on the water with someone who has been sailing for 70 years—and still going strong. I love hearing stories of prior adventures and learning the nuances of our local waterways and sailing science. Being part of Bill & Marie's crew is like being part of a well-oiled machine. One just becomes absorbed and part of the operation. They have a way of making learning to sail unintimidating, engaging, and fun. Thank you Bill and Marie for taking us under your sails!



(Sailing with legendary veteran, Bill Rogers along with Justin Leach on *Marie*.)

Much aloha and mahalo 🌺

**Jodi Masters-Gonzales**

2025 SCYA Vice Commodore

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# From the Bridge

## R/C Report

**Elena Yuasa**

2025 SCYA Rear Commodore

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**Celebrating the Tradition of Burgee**

## **Exchange – A Call to Share Your Club Spirit**

Few traditions in yachting are as meaningful or as fun as the burgee exchange. It's more than trading a piece of cloth; it's sharing a piece of your club's story, your pride, and your spirit of camaraderie with sailors across the globe.

This month, we're excited to feature an article by NYCLB Staff Commodore and SCYA Treasurer Captain Charles Buckner, who recently brought this tradition to the San Juan Islands. While visiting the San Juan Islands Yacht Club in Friday Harbor, Captain Buckner conducted a burgee exchange that delighted both the host club and his fellow yacht crew. To make the moment even more special, a pod of orcas appeared just before the ceremony, serving as an unforgettable reminder of why these experiences are so unique.

Every burgee that hangs in a clubhouse tells a story of friendship, hospitality, and shared maritime heritage. Whether you're traveling by boat, RV, or plane, you have a chance to represent your club and bring a little piece of it to new waters.

When participating in a burgee exchange, please take photos of the ceremony and of the exchanged burgee in its new location. Then, when you return, bring the host club's burgee back to your own clubhouse, share the story with your members, and present it during a club meeting or dinner. This helps everyone feel included in the adventure and builds excitement to continue this proud tradition.

So next time you visit another yacht club, consider conducting a burgee exchange. It's an excellent way to build connections, honor tradition, and create lasting memories. And if you're not sure what to

say, Captain Buckner has shared a simple script to help guide you through the ceremony.

### **Burgee Exchange Ceremony Script Presentation Script (Visiting Club)**

#### **Opening / Greeting:**

"Commodore [Name], Flag Officers, and Members of [Host Club Name], on behalf of [Your Yacht Club Name], it is my pleasure to visit your club and enjoy the warm hospitality you have shown."

#### **Purpose of Visit:**

"It is a proud tradition among yacht clubs to exchange burgees as a symbol of fellowship and friendship between our clubs."

#### **Presentation:**

"Today, I am honored to present the burgee of [Your Yacht Club Name] to your club, as a token of our appreciation and a reminder that you are always welcome at our clubhouse and on our waters."

#### **Closing:**

"May the ties between [Your Club] and [Host Club] continue to grow, and may we meet again—afloat or ashore."

### **Acceptance Script (Host Club)**

#### **Opening / Thanks:**

"Thank you, [Your Name], and welcome to [Your Yacht Club Name]'s representative(s). We are honored by your visit."

#### **Acknowledgment of Tradition:**



"The exchange of burgees is a time-honored tradition among yacht clubs, symbolizing friendship, good seamanship, and the shared spirit of yachting."

**Acceptance:**

"On behalf of the officers and members of [Host Club Name], I am pleased to accept the burgee of [Your Club Name], which will take its place among those of our many friends from around the world."

**Reciprocal Gift:**

"It is my pleasure to present you with the burgee of [Host Club Name] in return, as a reminder that you will always be welcome in our clubhouse and on our waters."

**Closing:**

"May fair winds and following seas bring our clubs together again soon."

**Fair winds and following seas, and don't forget to pack a few extra burgees, your camera, and your club spirit before your next adventure. Please share your photos, your story, and the new burgee with your fellow members when you return and inspire them to carry the tradition forward!**



**Elena Yuasa**

2025 SCYA Rear Commodore

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**PORT CAPTAIN**

Upcoming Events



Southern California Yachting Association



# GILLIGAN'S ISLAND



## Commodore Cruise

**OCTOBER 24-26, 2025**

Avalon, Catalina Island hosted by Catalina Island Yacht Club  
Invites all SCYA Member Club Flag Officers and their guest  
Cost- \$130 per person

COME DRESSED AS YOUR FAVORITE CASTAWAY

Friday 3PM – Raft-Up at Commodore Lee Coller's Boat, Pascal's Wager.  
Friday evening – Happy Hour with Appetizers at Catalina Island Yacht Club  
Saturday – No-Host Breakfast (location to be determined).  
Saturday – All Day – Visual Scavenger Hunt in Avalon  
Saturday – Miniature Golf (prizes for best score)  
Saturday Evening – Dinner and Fun at Catalina Island Yacht Club  
Gilligan's Island Look-A-Like Contest, Games, Raffle and more!

<https://scya.org/commodore-cruise-2025>





### **October 11, 2025 (Saturday)**

SCYA Nomination Announcement

10:30am via ZOOM

[REGISTER HERE](#)

### **October 24-26, 2025**

SCYA Commodore Cruise

Catalina Island Yacht Club

[REGISTER HERE](#)

### **November 8, 2025**

SCYA Board & General Meeting  
Santa Monica Windjammers Yacht Club

**December 13, 2025**

SCYA Board Only-Transition Meeting  
Oceanside Yacht Club

**February 22-23, February 28-March 1, 2026**

96th Annual SCYA Midwinter Regatta  
Interested in hosting? Reach out to [vicecommodore@scya.org](mailto:vicecommodore@scya.org)

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**March 20-22, 2026 (Date Change)**

2026 SCYA Womens Conference & Midwinter Regatta  
Co-Hosted with National Women's Sailing Association (NWSA)  
Hosted at Long Beach Yacht Club  
Announcement and registration coming soon.  
Questions? Reach out to [vicecommodore@scya.org](mailto:vicecommodore@scya.org)

**LA28 LIAISON REPORT**

Road to Gold – LA28  
Update





Hello fellow SCYA members. I'm happy to start providing periodic updates on the upcoming LA 28 Olympics. Look for these updates on a quarterly basis or possibly more frequent based on the activities! I'll focus on the preparation for the games, the venue and volunteer opportunities.

A little background to bring you up to speed. World Sailing and LA28 organizing committee decided to do a venue review in late 2024 and early 2025. This past June they confirmed the venue and split the sailing between Long Beach and San Pedro. Operationally this brings challenges, but both venues have experienced volunteers to make it work.

The LA28 games for sailing will have ten events. Men and Women Kites, Boards, Skiffs and Dinghies, as well as mixed crewed (M / F) dinghy and multihull. The M/W Kites and Boards will be in Long Beach, with the M/W ILCA/Skiffs and the two mixed events will be held in San Pedro.

The schedule for the games has Long Beach going first with their 4 events spread out over 5 days. After a break for logistical purposes, the remaining six events will be held in San Pedro over 6



days. That's a lot of racing condensed in a short period of time considering qualifying and a medal series!

On the volunteer front, World Sailing is responsible for selecting the International Technical Officers (ITO) while US Sailing will be responsible for the National Technical Officers (NTO). These two categories cover your race officers, jury, measurement team, support boats and digital review teams.

In all, they had 1500 volunteers in Marseille for Paris 24, and the above covers around 200, so there are plenty of opportunities to participate! There will be a general call up for volunteers by LA28 sometime next year, so stay tuned.

Next article, I look to publish a schedule of the various lead up events for those that want to start getting involved.

See you on the water!

Mike Van Dyke  
US Sailing Director

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## SCYA COMMITTEE REPORT

# Old Timers Luncheon – A Day of History, Laughter, and Celebration!





**By Sally Cohen and Elena Yuasa**

SCYA's much-anticipated "**Old Timers**" Luncheon took place on **Saturday, September 13, 2025**, at the stunning **King Harbor Yacht Club**, and it was a truly spectacular day!



We kicked off the event with a bit of business as Commodore **Lee Coller** led the delegates in a vote on a proposed change to the SCYA Bylaws. The measure passed, setting the tone for a productive and celebratory afternoon.

Following a delicious lunch prepared by the King Harbor YC team, we welcomed **Curt Mahoney, Harbor Master for Redondo Beach**, and his team, who shared fascinating insights about their work helping boaters on the water. Curt gave practical tips for avoiding problems before setting out, reminded us about vessel safety checks, and shared updates on the newest CPR techniques, including the important note that breathing checks have been eliminated. He reminded us to **call 911 immediately and maintain chest compressions** until help arrives.

**Old Timers Perpetual Trophies & Awards**

One of the highlights of the day was presenting the Old Timers Perpetual Trophies, awarded to:

- **The club with the most Staff Commodores present**
- **The club with the highest percentage of living Staff Commodores present**

This year, **King Harbor YC** proudly took home both awards!

We also honored many incredible boaters with the **Old Salt Award**, recognizing those with **50 or more years of consistent boating experience**. Some of our honorees had over 75 years of yachting under their belts; what an inspiration to us all!

### **Games and Laughters**

After the awards, we turned up the fun with a table game of **tall sea tales** using nautical items as inspiration. Groups chose creative names, spun imaginative yarns, and had the audience roaring with laughter. The **Fried Calamari Group** won the loudest applause and proudly went home with shark-themed beverage holders.

The afternoon concluded with an opportunity drawing featuring two fabulous baskets: one with a festive fall theme and another filled with football goodies for game-day parties.

### **Special Thanks**

A heartfelt thank-you goes out to:

- **Sally Cohen**, Event Chair, for masterfully organizing the event and gift baskets

- **Kim Bergeron**, Service Administrator, for publicity and certificate framing
- **R. J. Green** for coordinating food service with King Harbor YC
- **Commodore Lee Coller**, who graciously sponsored the wine for the luncheon
- **James Lee, Commodore of King Harbor YC**, for the warm hospitality and generous sponsorship in hosting this event at King Harbor YC

Your generosity and leadership truly made this event exceptional and memorable for all who attended.

The Old Timers Luncheon was a perfect blend of tradition, camaraderie, and laughter, a true celebration of the SCYA spirit.

We have photos! Click here for the [2025 SCYA Old Timers Online Pictures event gallery](#).

*You won't want to miss these snapshots—the smiles and award winners are all beautifully captured!*

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**Inclusive Boating Committee Report**

**World Sailing is  
Committed to Ensuring**



# Our Sport is Accessible and Welcoming to All

**By Marie Rogers, SCYA Director and Committee Chairperson**  
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The SCYA Inclusive Boating Committee attended a webinar on September 17 that showcased **World Sailing's Guidebook Promoting Social Inclusion**. Its diversity and accessibility initiatives are a collection of programs aimed at making the sport of sailing more inclusive and welcoming to all people, regardless of background, gender, or physical ability. These initiatives are a core part of World Sailing's Sustainability Agenda 2030 and cover multiple areas of the sport.

This multi-year strategy (2024–2029) is designed to create a solid, long-term foundation for sailors with disabilities. It focuses on increasing participation, removing barriers, and providing opportunities for development.

- **World Sailing Inclusion Championships:** An elite, international event that provides a dedicated platform for para sailors to compete, celebrate diversity, and showcase their abilities. The inaugural championships will be held in Oman in 2025.
- **Accessibility guide:** A resource for event organizers and venues that offers practical advice on making proactive changes to improve accessibility. It covers topics like physical

access, safety protocols, and inclusive communication.

- **Inclusive development program:** Through collaborations with international organizations, World Sailing is driving meaningful social impact and expanding sailing's reach to new communities. This includes regional development hubs to provide broader access to resources and training.

"This guidebook is more than just a document; it's a call to action," added Fiona Kidd, World Sailing's Head of International Development. "It encourages clubs to look at their own operations and ask, 'How can we be more open? How can we better reflect the diversity of our society?' The answers to those questions will drive the future growth and sustainability of our sport."

Case studies and the Guidebook are included [HERE](#).



(Scaramouche Sailing Trust, UK)

Marie Rogers

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September 2025

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## SCYA AREA J COMMITTEE REPORT



### SCYA Names Team Gibbons as its Delegate to the 2025 U.S. Adult Sailing Championships





*(Top left to bottom right: Team Gibbons Skipper: Lynsi Gibbons—Silver Gate Yacht Club; Liz Hopkins—Alamitos Bay Yacht Club; Brenna Vincent—California Yacht Club; and Jennifer Hylander—Long Beach Yacht Club.)*

**Los Angeles, Calif. — August 20, 2025** The Southern California Yachting Association (SCYA), U.S. Sailing Area J Regional Sailing Association, has selected Team Gibbons as its delegate to the 2025 U.S. Adult Sailing Championship for the Clifford D. Mallory Trophy, hosted by Park City Sailing Association, September 26–28, 2025. Racing will be in provided J/22s (3–4 crew) with boat rotation.

### Why Team Gibbons

Collectively, the team's resumes include national-level one-design titles and podiums—notably the Express 37 National Championship (2023) and the Martin 242 North American Championship (2024)—plus top-five finishes at the IC37 Qubit North Americans/Nationals (2024), and leading roles in Catalina 37 and J/105 championship-caliber regattas.

### Meet Team Gibbons

- Skipper: Lynsi Gibbons (Sea Gate Yacht Club)
- Liz Hopkins (Alamitos Bay Yacht Club)
- Jennifer Hylander (Long Beach Yacht Club)
- Brenna Vincent (California Yacht Club)

Team Gibbons has logged hours honing their skills together in short-course, one-design fleet racing (notably on the skipper's J/24) that sharpened shared language, kinetics, and role clarity. In training blocks the team rotates responsibilities (e.g., bow ↔ trim, main ↔ tactics) to stress-test communication and recoveries, building

adaptability for variable breeze and rotations typical of championship weeks. The result is a unit that manages risk with the same cadence and calls—whether accelerating off a leeward-end start, shifting gears on a down-range run, or executing low-risk lane holds into a crowded top-mark.

“We’re honored to represent SCYA Area J in this race for the Mallory,” said Skipper Lynsi Gibbons. “Our team has raced together across classes and conditions—we’re excited to test ourselves in a deep national fleet and the J/22 format.”

### **A Region-Wide, Criteria-Driven Selection**

In service to its member clubs and the Corinthian ideal, SCYA convened a regional, representative Selection Committee, aligned its scoring to U.S. Sailing selection criteria, and reached a unanimous decision after a comparative review resumes and results from five, highly-qualified team applications.

The process assessed recent major-event participation, regatta qualification, class depth and activity, and emphasized inclusive crew composition consistent with U.S. Sailing’s guidance.

“Our mandate this year was simple: put forward a team that reflects the strength and spirit of Area J sailing,” said Jodi Masters-Gonzales, SCYA V/C and Selection Committee Co-Chair. “Team Gibbons earned this on merit—depth of experience, teamwork, and composure under pressure.”

“We’re proud of the open, criteria-driven process and of the caliber of applicants,” added SCYA S/C Bill McNamara, Co-Chair. “Team

Gibbons will be a terrific ambassador for SCYA and our region."

### Event Details (per Notice of Race)

- **Dates:** September 26–28, 2025 (on-site check-in/practice begins Thursday, Sept. 25)
- **Venue:** Park City Sailing Association, Heber City, Utah
- **Boats/Format:** Provided J/22s, 3–4 crew, boat rotation, low-point scoring with no discards; medals to top three; winner engraved on the Clifford D. Mallory Trophy.

### About the U.S. Adult Sailing Championship, Mallory Cup

The U.S. Adult Sailing Championship is one of US Sailing's flagship adult titles and part of a national slate that tests boathandling, tactics, and teamwork in standardized formats. Finalists race on supplied, one-design boats with rotation, a parity-first design that minimizes equipment advantages. For 2025, the championship is sailed in J/22s over three days at Park City Sailing Association (Heber City, Utah).

Inaugurated in 1952 (evolving from the former U.S. Men's Sailing Championship), today's event typically features teams representing their Regional Sailing Associations (RSAs). The modern format emphasizes short-course racing and on-the-water rotation to maximize fairness and race count. Competitors vie for the historic Clifford D. Mallory Trophy, a sterling silver tureen donated by the family of Clifford D. Mallory, who helped revive the sport's national governing body—the North American Yacht Racing Union (NAYRU)—in the 1920s. US Sailing awards gold, silver, and bronze

medals to the top three teams, and the winners' names are engraved on the Mallory Cup.

### About Southern California Yachting Association (SCYA)

Founded in 1921, SCYA serves yacht clubs and sailing organizations across U.S. Sailing Area J, promoting Corinthian values and safety, through member-driven programs and regional leadership.

This selection marks another tangible step in delivering competitive excellence across Southern California—through transparent selection processes, athlete development opportunities, and visible representation on national stages. SCYA will share race updates and behind-the-scenes coverage as Team Gibbons prepares for Park City and the Mallory Cup finals.

### Media Contact

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Upcoming Races



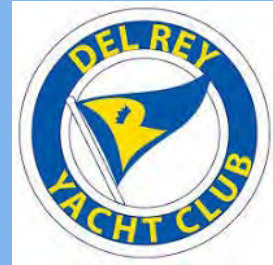
### SCYA REGIONAL RACE CALENDAR

Click [HERE](#) to view remaining 2025 races in the SCYA region.

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS

# Offshore Safety at Sea Seminar October 25



Planning to go offshore soon? Do you skipper/crew on boats competing in distance races? Del Rey YC is hosting a US Sailing Sanctioned International Offshore Safety at Sea Seminar on Oct. 25-26 in Marina del Rey, CA.

Gain the knowledge necessary to lead during safety and disaster incidents and share the knowledge to prepare ahead of time. Preparation is the key to survival.

This Safety at Sea seminar includes new material and a great lineup of instructors who have experienced challenging sea conditions and are versed in best practices for offshore safety. Participants will learn about overboard recovery methods, heavy weather sailing, first aid, life raft deployment, and many other topics that will prepare you for cruising or racing safely. DRYC has a heated pool and other amenities for a fun and educational weekend for all. Plus, we added a terrific celestial navigation course on Oct. 25 (separate from the safety at sea program).

[CLICK HERE](#) for Safety at Sea registration and more information.

[CLICK HERE](#) for celestial navigation registration and more information.

Not only will participants come out of this program with a lot more confidence and knowledge, Safety at Sea certifications are required for a majority of crew members on all offshore races including Puerto Vallarta Race, Transpac, and Pacific Cup. Insurance companies are also moving in this direction.

Contact Capt. Kathy St. Amant at [Kathy@pirateslife4me.com](mailto:Kathy@pirateslife4me.com) with any questions.

Many thanks to our partners: King Harbor Yacht Club, Santa Monica Bay Sailing Foundation, and Mustang Survival!



**Are you prepared for offshore emergencies?**  
**Learn! Practice! Build Confidence!**

US SAILING Sanctioned International Offshore

 **Safety at Sea**

**This is your chance to Learn from top experienced sailors**

 **Presented By Del Rey Yacht Club**  
**OCTOBER 25**

**For more information and to register:**  
**[www.SMBSF.org/safety-at-sea](http://www.SMBSF.org/safety-at-sea)**

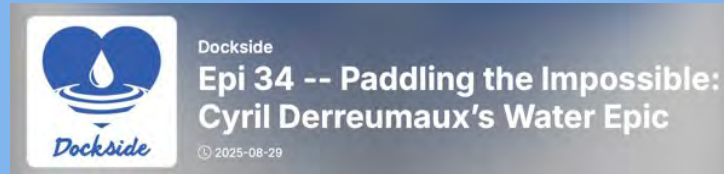
**Cosponsored by Santa Monica Bay Sailing Foundation**





## COMMUNITY RESOURCE

# Get Inspired by a Three-Time World Record Holder



In our latest podcast episode, we chat with Cyril Derreumaux, kayaker, extreme athlete, three-time world record holder, and the first person to solo kayak across both the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. He shares how he prepared, the challenges he faced, and the safety measures that kept him going. Most of all, Cyril's all about living life to the fullest and inspiring others to chase their own big dreams. @CaliforniaStateParks @TheCaliforniaCoast @cyrildx.

This podcast is also available in all the following streaming platforms including Spotify, Apple podcast, iHeartRadio, Amazon music, and Pandora

@BoatCA

@TheCaliforniaCoast

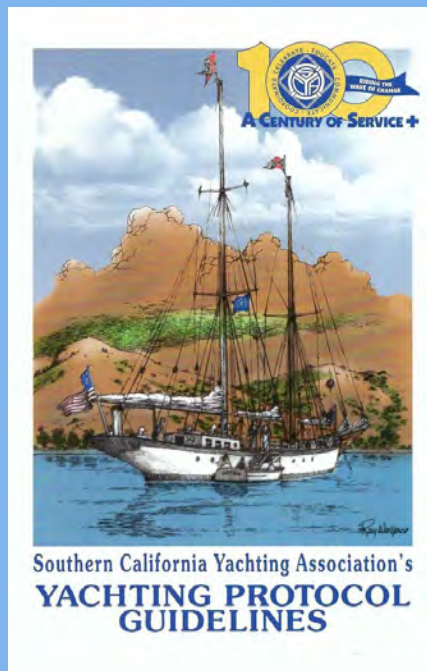
Want more? [Check our previous podcast episodes here](#)

This podcast was brought to you by the California State Parks and the California Coastal Commission



SCYA SHIP STORE

# Yachting Protocol Guidelines Book



**Yachting Protocol Guidelines**

**Contents by Section**

|                    |  |    |
|--------------------|--|----|
| Section I .....    | Recommended Dress – Uniform .....        | 9  |
| Section II .....   | Rank Emblems and Flags .....             | 14 |
| Section III .....  | Ceremonies .....                         | 17 |
| Section IV .....   | Flag Etiquette and Dress at Clubs .....  | 25 |
| Section V .....    | Flag Etiquette and Display Afloat .....  | 35 |
| Section VI .....   | Visitation Protocol and Courtesies ..... | 43 |
| Section VII .....  | SCYA Affiliated Organizations .....      | 44 |
| Section VIII ..... | SCYA Member's Burgees .....              | 47 |

Page 5

Southern California Yachting Association's YACHTING PROTOCOL GUIDELINES, 6th edition 2024, is available for purchase online at the SCYA Shop.

Free Ground shipping is available within the 48 contiguous states. We apologize, but Hawaii, Alaska, and international destinations are excluded.



## SCYA SEARCHLIGHT NEWSLETTER

# Submission Guidelines



SCYA sends two types of email messaging: Searchlight (monthly newsletter) and Spotlight (alerts and invitations).

### **The Searchlight is the monthly SCYA Newsletter.**

It's intended for News and Announcements. Boater and community interest stories, event details, race results, awards, and member news and save-the-date. The Searchlight is sent to all subscribers.

### **The Spotlight is intended for Alerts and Invitations.**

It is sent no more than 1x per day, Monday through Friday and can be sent to all subscribers or to member clubs by Harbor Association. Alerts are items of concern that could have an immediate impact on the boating community such as entangled whales or areas to avoid. Invitations include Opening Days, seminars and webinars, NOR, or any other item with a Who, What, When, Where, and How to register to attend.

### **Submission Guidelines**

To submit articles to the Searchlight, send the text of your article in a copiable format such as Word or plain text along with a single related image preferably sized 400x400 pixels in jpg, gif, or png format. Searchlight submissions should be sent to the Searchlight Editor at [scyanewsletter@scya.org](mailto:scyanewsletter@scya.org).

You can submit to the Spotlight in one of two ways. You can submit

the Who What When and Where text copiable format such as Word or plain text along with a single related image preferably sized 800x800 pixels in jpg, gif, or png format. Alternatively, you can submit your fully coded HTML with image assets that follow our general format in a .zip file. Spotlight submissions should be sent to the SCYA Service Administrator at [service@scya.org](mailto:service@scya.org).

Neither the Searchlight or the Spotlight sends PDFs, Single-Image or link-only email. SCYA is not equipped to retype text from image files nor responsible for any spelling errors from duplicate efforts. All submissions are subject to editorial approval and/or editing for space or tempo.

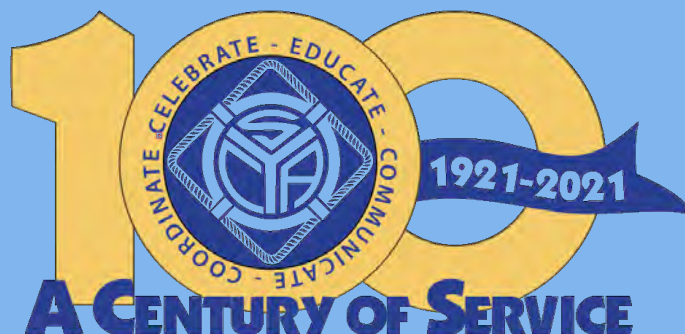
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SHARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA





### **SCYA Searchlight Newsletter Information**

Searchlight Editor: John Gaddis, [scyanewsletter@scya.org](mailto:scyanewsletter@scya.org)

MarCom Committee Chair: [V/C Jodi Masters-Gonzales](#)

Commodore: Lee Coller, [commodore@scya.org](mailto:commodore@scya.org)

### **SCYA Customer Service**

Contact Kim Bergeron, SCYA Service Administrator  
at [service@scya.org](mailto:service@scya.org) or (562) 433-7426.

[SCYA Website](#) | [Events & Meetings](#) | [Race Calendar](#)  
[Cruising Calendar](#) | [Club of the Year](#) | [SCYA Awards](#)



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**Our mailing address is**

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