



December 2023

Ahoy stern steer sailors!

This time of the year seems to hold great promise for an exciting upcoming iceboating season. The cold weather has some backwaters frozen around central Wisconsin and some racing in other classes has been called on elsewhere in the north central states. From social media shares it looks like swap meets and work parties are keeping folks busy. I still need to freshen up my runners, but after some new standing rigging work last season my boat is ready for a season of speed.

Every stern steer has individual character and history. It's great to see some new caretakers of some of the boats that have been part of the action for generations. Kudos to everyone giving rides, and sharing their excitement with others. That's what generates new interest and is how many of us got into the sport.

Having been teased with racing conditions several times in 2023 only to have to postpone and eventually cancel, I'm ready for the 2024 season and a chance to get together for some fun and racing. I hope to see you all on the ice!

Sincerely,

Joe Terry
Commodore, WSSA

WSSA Website: www.iceboat.org/regattas/wssa/
If you would like to be removed from this mailing list, contact the WSSA Secretary below.
Andrew Gratton, 2102 Doty Street, Oshkosh, WI 54902
920-231-3015/abgratton@gmail.com

WSSA Regatta

The annual Wisconsin Stern Steering Regatta was not held in 2023 due to lack of suitable conditions. Perhaps we will have better luck this year.

NIYA Regatta

The 2023 Northwest Ice Yacht Association Regatta was not held in 2023.

W.S.S.A. REGATTA NOTICE

Wisconsin Stern Steering Association's Annual Championship is scheduled for January 6 and 7, 2024 as a two-day regatta. Regatta information will be available by Sunday evening, December 31, 2023. See www.iceboat.org for ice conditions and tentative regatta sites. Final confirmation will be on Thursday, January 4, 2024, with information being available after 1 PM. If conditions do not exist the regatta will be tentatively rescheduled for the following weekend so stay in touch. This is early, but there have been times we could have raced, had the regatta been scheduled.

To those sailors not interested in racing, remember that wherever a regatta is held the ice will be good to sail on. Bring your boat, even if it is just to cruise and have a good time with iceboating friends. Don't miss out! WSSA even has a trophy for the winner of the "Cotton Sail" division, so bring the old boats to the event!

We could use some volunteer help with the Race Committee for the WSSA regatta - starting the race and recording finishes. It's easy, you'll get to help run a low-stress fun event, and you get front row seating. Let an officer know if you are available to help. Many thanks to those that can do so.

N.I.Y.A. REGATTA NOTICE

The 2023 NIYA Regatta did not occur last winter and is postponed to the first thick enough ice in December of 2023. If no such ice develops, the Regatta will be cancelled on December 17, 2023.

The Northwest Ice Yachting Association 2024 Annual Championship has been scheduled for January 19 to 21, 2024. Watch iceboat.org for further information.

Hearst/Stuart Cups Challenge

The Hearst and Stuart Cups Challenge was not sailed in 2023.

The William Randolph Hearst Cup and the F.A. Stuart Cup Series is strictly for Class A and larger stern steerers. It is independent from any other regatta. Further information about this event may be obtained from any of the three trustees listed here:

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**Andrew Gratton, 2102 Doty Street, Oshkosh, WI 54902
920-231-3015/abgratton@gmail.com**

Rick Hennig, 262-884-0133/ riteeng1@gmail.com
Dave Lallier, 920-921-8345/ dnfdl1@gmail.com
Erik Sawyer, 231-893-3921/ ecsawyer@charter.net

WSSA Annual Meeting Minutes

There was no annual meeting in 2023 because there was no regatta. At the last meeting, March of 2021, the officers elected are:

Joe Terry – Commodore
Mike Kroll – Vice Commodore
Andy Gratton – Secretary/Treasurer

Mark Wiener's last act as Commodore is to approve WSSA buying two drinks each at the next regatta instead of just one since we couldn't do that in 2021 due to Covid.

The Mary B Foundation is willing to take donations to the restoration and upkeep of the Mary B iceboat. See IceboatFoundation.org. There is a 45 minute documentary available of the boat called *Mary B: Madison's Legendary Iceboat*.

If anyone has a good story or interesting historical information to share in this newsletter, please send it to the secretary. See the footer for the email address.

For Sale

- C class stern steerer, C-3, tandem cockpit, about 28' x 32' tall. 2 sets of sails-1 set new, 3 sets of runners, trailer with plenty of storage in box, gin pole, new cushions, and all new covers. Location: Racine, WI \$6900
Call John Stanley, 414-418-1635 or windspread@hotmail.com
- There are a number of very nice stern steerers for sale on the 4LIYC website, www.iceboat.org
- Two sets of 440C stainless insert runners for a stern steerer. One set is 90 degrees. The other is 105(?) degrees. Both sets are 6 feet long. The bodies are mahogany with carbon fiber reinforcements buried in the bodies, so they look like traditional cast iron runners. \$5,000 spent on the stainless, hardening, & machining. \$5,000 price. They have not been assembled and never used. 2" wide, could be changed. Brand new. Dan Clapp 732-673-7702 or danielclapp@aol.com Photo below.

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- Stern steerer in Minneapolis area, 1937 Johnson Boat Works B boat with D sail plan, 28' LOA, 19.5'+ newer plank, 24' x 2' S&R glass wing mast, 3 sails, 2 booms, plate and slush runners, trailer with storage box. \$500 or least offer.
Kurt Martinson, 612-388-6009 or Kurt.r.Martinson@gmail.com
Photo below.



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- Class A, Leaping Lena, 36'10" backbone, 34'6" mast, 18'3" boom, 22' plank, 2 sets of plate runners, 1 set of slush runners partially rebuilt, cotton sails plus original gaff rigged sails. Older trailer, \$4800. Contact Dan Bierman at 920-299-0773, Green Lake. Photo below.



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- **FREE** - 18' Madison style side-railer, 11' plank with partial wooden hobbler, sails, needs TLC, Andy has free runners that might fit. Madison, WI, contact Brett Hulsey at 608-334-4994 bretthulsey1@gmail.com **Soon it will be burned.**



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WSSA long sleeve t-shirts, \$25.00 each plus shipping. Choice of three colors – charcoal, medium blue, and forest green. A colored WSSA logo is on the left side of chest, a stern steerer in a tall hike (thanks to Jeff Seeboth for the pose) is on the back. Send t-shirt orders to WSSA Secretary/Treasurer.



front of shirt



three colors

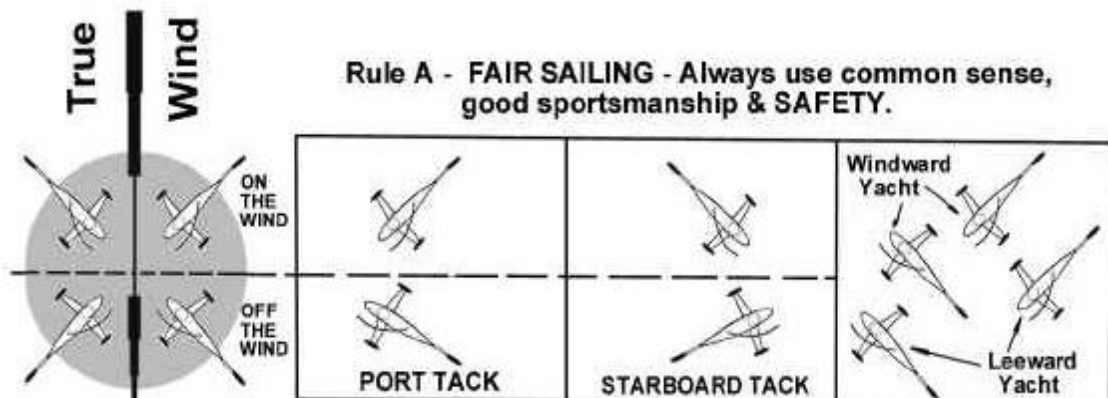


back of shirt

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RIGHT OF WAY and SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

The Purpose of the Rules is to PREVENT COLLISIONS.



Rule B - RIGHT-of-WAY - Yachts must **KEEP CLEAR** as follows:

1 IN MOTION Keep clear of STOPPED YACHT	2 OFF THE WIND Keep Clear	3a ON THE WIND PORT TACK Keep Clear	3b OFF THE WIND PORT TACK Keep Clear
4a ON THE WIND SAME TACK WINDWARD YACHT Keep Clear	4b OFF THE WIND SAME TACK LEEWARD YACHT Keep Clear	5a RIGHT - OF - WAY YACHT <p>Do not alter course so as to mislead or prevent a non right-of-way yacht from keeping clear.</p>	5b FASTER YACHT SAME TACK OVERTAKING Keep Clear
6 TACK or JIBE <p>DO NOT ← IF COLLISION IS PROBABLE</p>	7 OBSTRUCTION Signal Keep Clear	8 ROUNDING MARK OUTSIDE YACHT Keep Clear	9 AFTER FINISHING THE RACE - KEEP CLEAR of the COURSE



- REMEMBER -

PREVENT COLLISIONS
Use Your Parking Break!
Wear a Crash Helmet!
Use Common Sense!

Reproduced from NIELA
New England Ice Yacht Association

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WSSA Membership Form

WSSA membership dues are \$20.00

Make check out to WSSA, send check and this form to:

WSSA

C/O Andy Gratton

2102 Doty Street

Oshkosh, WI 54902

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Boat name and class _____

Boat overall dimensions _____

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