

**Nantucket IOD Fleet Association
Report to the World Class Association.**

August 20, 2018

Since last reporting to the World Class Association, NIODFA has endured a major weather assault and embarked on several initiatives.

Last September before all our boats could be removed to shore, Nantucket endured a particularly stormy Northeast blow lasting four days, the aftermath of hurricane Maria. Six of eight boats in the water sank. They were raised with the use of flotation air bags, and happily there was minimal damage. The harbor bottom is muddy in that sector of the mooring field and little structural damage was done. The clean up was a major mess.

We have purchased pumps for all boats and fitted collars around the mast partners to prevent filling the boats via bow waves.

Following restoration of the boats, construction was begun on new floorboards to raise the cockpit decks. The cockpit design of the Nantucket boats is deep. Getting in and out of the cockpits to sit on the windward rail has been difficult, and a number of sailors have fallen into the cockpits. Shallower cockpits have mostly solved this problem and the raised floorboards are loved universally.

A new set of mainsails was purchased for the NIODFA fleet from Doyle. They have been spectacular. Jud Smith was our consultant at Doyle and I am sure he would be delighted to discuss the project. The mains have held up well in season one. We will be considering new jibs as a fleet purchase.

We also obtained new digital Velocitek compasses to replace our aging traditional fare. They feature solar charging and a large, highly readable display for older eyes. We also discovered they float.

The fleet is strong. We launched fourteen of our fifteen boats and garnered three new syndicate members. Hotel Syndicate has allowed the Nantucket High School Sailing Team to use its share to race on both Sundays and Wednesday night PHRF races. They also participated in our Spring Invitational Regatta. That regatta was won by Nantucket skipper Chris Gould, NIODFA Fleet Technical Officer. Second place went to Ted Murphy of RNSYC/IPYC and third to Court Jenkins of Gibson Island Yacht Club.

The Celebrity Invitational concluded during Nantucket Race Week with first going to the Skipper and celebrity tactician team of Henry Brauer (Eastern Yacht Club) and Geoff Ewenson. Second place went to Stuart Hebb (NYYC) and Victor Diaz-de-Leon. Third place was won by Jamie Hilton (NYYC) and Tom Lihan.

E. Geoffrey Verney, NIODFA Fleet Captain

