



BERMUDA IOD FLEET
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August 20th, 2018

2018 Bermuda Fleet Report

The Bermuda IODs have been very busy in 2018, and we are only halfway through our season. The following is a summary of events that have been held and will be held in Bermuda during 2018.

Bermuda International Invitational Race Week, April 28th-May 4th

This event, hosted by the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club this year, is by far the most popular event in our sailing schedule. With participants from the world wide IOD family and some from outside the family, this event just keeps getting better and better with no sign of slowing down.

The Chester IOD Fleet once again showed that they have something special going on in their waters by winning the Vrengen Gold Cup event for the 5th time in a row.

Argro Group Gold Cup, May 7th-12th

The sailing community in Bermuda were very happy to see the King Edward VII Gold Cup hoisted again this year after taking a small break for a few years. The Argro Group Gold Cup was well attended and from all accounts, all the participants enjoyed being back in Bermuda match racing IODs.

Taylor Canfield and the USone Sailing Team captured the 68th Argro Group Gold Cup with a 3-1 victory over Johnie Berntsson's Swedish crew.

10th Heeren XVII (H17) Cup, June 7th-8th

The Bermuda IOD Fleet was contacted by the organizers of the H17 Cup to see if it would be possible to charter the IODs for a team racing event between charity groups based in New York, London, and Amsterdam, supporting the Dutch Maritime Museum in Amsterdam. This would be the first time this friendly group has visited Bermuda. The typical Bermuda hospitality was extended to our guests and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were thrilled to be sailing IODs.

Amorita Cup, October 12th-14th

The Bermuda IOD Fleet and the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club are resurrecting the team racing competition between Long Island Sound and Bermuda for the Amorita Cup. The Cup has a long and colourful history. In February 1937 Frederick M Hoyt offered the RBYC the Amorita Cup "as an incentive for the 'mudians to trim the Long Island Sounders when they met in the new International Class". The Cup derived its name from a boat Mr. Hoyt owned which won the Class D yachts competition at Larchmont, New York.

The first team racing series for the Amorita Cup was held in April 1939 in Bermuda. Mr. Hoyt travelled to Bermuda to watch the races which the Americans won with a 4-2 margin in a best-of-7

series. Following that, sailboat racing was halted for many because of the world war II and team racing did not resume again until 1946. Since then, the Cup has been raced for almost annually with alternative series being held in Long Island Sound and Bermuda's Great Sound. Many well-known sailors from Long Island Sound have represented their fleet. Sailors such as Corny Shields, Bill Luders, Arthur Knapp and George Hinman have participated in the team racing for the Amorita Cup over the years.

In winter 2017 Jim Bishop Jr., the fleet captain of the IOD long Island Sound fleet, was contacted to gauge the interest of their members about reviving the Amorita Cup team racing. Bishop said he would poll the fleet members to see if there was an interest. A week later, Jim Bishop Jr. gave a positive response.

This is a long overdue event that reconnects the wonderful relationship that exists between Bermuda and the Long Island Sound IOD's fleets. Bermuda is looking forward to welcoming them back to the Island to race, to meet our members, and to share a memorable experience.

The series will be sailed on the weekend (Saturday and Sunday) and consist of 7 races. The competition will be between 3 boats on each side.

Discover IOD Sailing, November 9th-11th

This is sponsored by the Manhattan Yacht Club to get potential skippers and crews from outside Bermuda up to speed in sailing IOD's. This is the first time we have done this and we, along with the Manhattan Fleet, are looking forward to this event.

Bacardi Keelboat Regatta, November 15th-18th

This event, hosted by the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club, is growing in popularity each year. We are expecting a large group of quality sailing teams from around the world to enjoy this event. This event is often attended by teams that did not qualify for other events in their sailing calendar and gives everyone valuable regatta experience while enjoying Bermuda's waters.

Saturday Sailing

We are finding that Saturdays are a busy day on land for most teams and this sailing series continues to have participation difficulties. We often have 3-5 boats on the water and are continually encouraging local teams to participate.

Wednesday Night Sailing

PHRF racing on Wednesday nights, hosted by the Royal Hamilton Dinghy Club, is the most popular sailing series in Bermuda with the local sailing teams. The racing begins on Wednesday evenings with a start line off the Hamilton Princess Hotel and the boats make their way through Two Rock Passage and out to the Great Sound. Courses are set using Government Navigation marks, islands, or racing marks, and boats end up finishing back in Hamilton Harbour before sunset. We continually have 5-8 IODs on the start line jockeying for position against other boats. This is a very fun series and there is no shortage of smiles before and after sailing each Wednesday night.

Respectively submitted,



Gregory Lawrence
Bermuda IOD Class Secretary