

The Inaugural Eastern Yacht Club Championship was devised earlier this summer to get everyone together from different sailing backgrounds and have a short series of races in the club's Sonars. It was suggested that sailors should be EYC members on a first come, first served basis and 10 Sonars would be made available by the generosity of Corinthian Yacht Club and Boston Yacht Club.

Sailors gathered at noon and picked a boat name out of a trophy and quickly departed to their Sonars for competition. The Race Committee had pre-set a race area but quickly discovered that the breeze had evaporated just south of Marblehead Rock. (That never happens!) **Jim McCully** and **Chris Lubeck** snatched up all the buoys and everything was relocated back by the mouth of the harbor. After trying a start and half a weather leg, the breeze vanished again, and that race was abandoned.

Finally, a nice thermal breeze pumped out of the harbor and the fun and games could begin. Each race course was distinctly different to test the competitor's ability to think about alternative strategies rather than simple sausages. The *AVV Eagles Team* with **Spencer Powers** on the tiller showed everyone their transom and got around a 'gold cup' course of a windward, leeward followed by a triangle. **Rear Commodore Larry Ehrhardt's Team Rallie** was nipping at their heels but couldn't quite reel them in before the finish line.

The second race was a triangle, windward course with new member **Ansgar Jordan** and his *Lala Land Team* of sailing aces, **Lily Lichtenstein**, **Anne Marije Veenland-Lee** and Lizzie Russell showing everyone how to fly a spinnaker on a reach. The finish was incredibly tight at the top with the first four boats all overlapped on a tight finish line. The *AVV Eagles* squeaked in for runner's up and **Matt Hooks' Random Assortment Team** were third.

Our next adventure included a double leeward, windward with a running start. It's clear that many folks have not been out in the Town Class recently because most of the Fleet wasn't even close to the starting line at Go. **Spencer Powers** nailed it and grabbed the victory after a couple of laps, holding off **Hannah Lynn's Team Good Luck in Yours** which had a tight headlock on brother **Peter Lynn's Team Key Snatch Block Players**.

Our second to last skirmish borrowed a race course design from the America's Cup. The first leg was a beam reach off to a buoy and then down to a gate at the bottom of the course. It was a tricky call on starting down by the pin and controlling the inside for the first turn, or to start up by the crowded boat end and set the spinnaker right away. *Good Luck in Yours* came from leeward and squeezed at least four boats out which were barging at the boat end. However, they had a little too much speed and had a very expensive OCS as it was an I flag start, too. *Team Lala Land* took advantage of a great start and there were few passing lanes as the breeze backed 30 degrees left while the boats were working down the run to a crowded gate turn. After a couple of laps **Ansgar Jordan's Team** led across the finish with **Peter Lynn** fending off the always fast and formidable **Alex Cook Team** called *Baldwin's Bandits*.

The grand finale was a couple of laps windward, leeward with a final long weather leg to finish between a buoy right off the EYC main dock and the flagpole. The first three boats overlapped as they crossed. When the smoke had cleared, *Team Lala Land* had not only won the race but also won the tie breaker with *Team AVV Eagles* by winning that race, and they got to take home the trophy.

Jeremy Fraser and Franny Charles were assisted additionally by **Jack Cochrane** doing scores in the Sailing Office. **Rear Commodore Larry Ehrhardt** had secured permission to put a long dormant trophy back into service to promote sailing. The Day Sailer Sunday Series Pewter Bowl was originally given by Olympic Bronze Medalist John Marvin's family to promote Sunday racing in that class. The dust was blown off and it got put back into service as the Club Championship.

The winning *Lala Team* of **Asgard Jordan, Lily Lichtenstein, Anne Marije Veenland-Lee** and Lizzie Russell got to take home Sea Bags which were manufactured from our old team race sails. *Team Rallie*, comprised of **Rear Commodore Larry Ehrhardt, Will Walters**, Allen Ehrhardt and Laura Lee, won the highly coveted EYC socks as they finished mid-fleet for the day.

[Team Names](#)

[Individual Races and Overall Scores](#)