



October Newsletter

Hey girls!

The waiting is over...it's time to blow out the cobwebs and get out in the fresh air and sunshine!

Check out our new logo...now it's obvious that we are 'women sailing' not some feminist movement high on water. We've added cosy head warmers to our range of **merchandise** which are monogrammed with the new logo ...they look great in 3 colours – black, navy, red – and only \$10. We still have plenty of shirts (\$45), caps (\$15), hat clips (\$10), vests (\$80), jackets (\$55) available so make sure you bring extra money to purchase some gear for your sailing and let everyone know what you do for summer fun. We've got another great WOW gear bag to raffle off before Xmas too so get your tickets soon - \$5

Sadly, we lost our wonderful **Wayne Johnson** to cancer on 5th September. He was a great help to WOW initially taking WOW ladies sailing in the cruising division on his 7.2 mtr boat Farr2Kool then helping in the tower last year....we'll miss him. This year Bruce Holt from Rotorua has offered to help Bill in the tower as he comes over with Jackie for WOW and is often left at the clubhouse while we sail. He can't make it to the first WOW night but hopefully he can for the others.

Over the years there have been incidences of boats starting before their allotted start time – called '**On Course Side' or OCS**. In a normal racing situation there is a penalty to pay for this offence which entails going back behind the line and restarting otherwise the boat is disqualified. Our Race Officer (Bill Whitiskie) has only ever recorded the actual start time and added the difference onto the finish time – not much of a penalty. After some consideration by the committee and Bill we have decided that it is important for the Racing Division boats to practice the proper race rules and techniques and so if any WOW boat goes over the line before its start time the tower will say on the VHF which boat is over – called an 'Individual Recall'. If it's a Racing Division boat then it should return to behind the line and restart or face disqualification. If your boat is in the Cruising Division the skipper can choose to return but as it is not officially racing it is safer for everyone if the boat continues on course. This is preferable when there are many novices onboard. In accordance with this change, the WOW Series Notice of Race has been modified to read –'Individual recalls will be signaled by VHF, and no visual signal is required.'

Learning the **Rules of Racing** is something every sailor struggles with and there are some basic rules that all boaties must abide by to keep it safe for everyone out on the water. For yacht racing there are special rules to follow which help to keep rounding course marks and passing

other boats safe and orderly but if that doesn't happen the rules are there to determine who was at fault. That's why it's really useful if everyone onboard knows the rules so that the whole crew understands what is happening and can help decide the best plan of action as the boat approaches a mark or another boat. For this reason, I'd encourage all WOW sailors to come along to our **Rules & Knots evening** hosted by Hamish Hey from Yachting New Zealand on **Thursday 22nd November**. It's a Thursday night between WOW nights so book it in!

Another great opportunity to learn the art of sailing is to come over to **Lake Rotoiti** and join us for a day of windward/leeward racing with BOP Trailer Yacht Squadron. It's okay if you're just a beginner...we'll teach you more...it's easier to learn on a trailer yacht so sign up for **Saturday 1st December**. We'll do another one on 16th March next year so you'll know even more by then.

That's all for now and I hope to see many of you for our **first sail on 1st November**. To register either reply to this email or to the reminder next week. Please try to bring your completed **Registration Form** along on your first night as this saves a lot of time and it would also save time if you paid CASH rather than EFTPOS as this slows the entry process down too. I know it's a big rush to get there on time but it's all worth it in the end.

See you sailing!

Megan Harris

WOW Chairwoman