

This was the first chance I have had to make a real go of a series competition. I really enjoyed it.

3 boats and 6 races added something to the series, but not sure I like the use each class only twice part. I understand it was supposed to add another dimension of skill by requiring the skippers to choose their boat based on weather. I don't really think it accomplished this. No forecast really showed which boat would be best, or that a best boat even existed. Over all the Kerr 40 was the fastest boat, the CLass 40 was close behind and occasionally faster and the SOTO 40 was barely competitive under most circumstances. Personally, I would rather the RC decide which boat will be used for each race and compete against an even field. Being stuck in a SOTO and knowing that nothing I do will help me gain on my competition during a race is frustrating.

This being said the parts I did particularly like were the courses. 2-4 day races are my favorite. Each mark represents the end of one piece of strategy and the beginning of another. It is this matching of strategies that I find most fun. SOL has some mighty fine precision skippers. Going head on with them is exciting. Best of 6 with 1 throw out I think is the best possible size for a series. People will always have obstacles to playing, but this gives a fair chance to those who really want to try. Knowing you can miss a race takes some pressure off. In my case I knew I would have conflicts giving the last race the attention it deserved, so I saved the SOTO for that one.

Summers for me are too busy but for a race or 2, so having a series that occurred before it was perfect for me. I will be looking again for such a series to enter this fall.

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