

Riding the Tide of Roth Pond

By Amelia Sheldon

Oh yachting! The wind in your hair, the salt spray in your face, the joy in your soul! The newly formed Roth Quad Yacht Club has brought the Roth Pond Cup to Stony Brook, so yachting enthusiasts won't have to travel to the west coast this year for America's Cup, according to the club's president and admiral, Curtis Epstein. Anyone can have the thrill of fierce sailing competition in the wide open waters of Roth Pond on April 14 in the Roth Pond Regatta, a race for the best cardboard boats and their captains only.

The yacht club consists of Admiral Epstein, John Rickerman, vice admiral, Stuart Weinberg, rear admiral, and Rob Clifford rear admiral. These four will admit entries to and judge the competition, said Epstein, adding that awards will be given out for several different areas of excellence.

The objective of the race is to get from one side of Roth Pond to the other first, said Epstein, the crew that does this will win \$50. Other categories that will be judged are best captain or crew costume and best looking boat, Epstein said. The race is being sponsored by the Roth Quad Legislatures and the Roth Quad Council, said Epstein.

The rules for the competition require each competitor to register their boat with the Roth Quad Yacht Club by April 1. People will have a chance to do this at a general meeting to be announced shortly. There are also lists of acceptable and unacceptable materials that can be used

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Statesman/Carolyn Molito

The Roth Quad Yacht Club in sailing attire.

Boats To Race On Roth Pond

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for boat construction. Cardboard, milk containers, duck tape, and glue are examples of the items that can be used. Wood, metal, glass, fiberglass and molded styrofoam cannot be used, according to yacht club members.

"We don't want people to come down with a solid block of styrofoam and call it their entry," said Epstein, adding that styrofoam pieces, such as those used for packing, can be used inside of other containers for buoyancy.

The Marine Science Center has offered to loan life preservers to the yacht club to give to each competitor, Rickerman said. The club will collect a security deposit of \$10 for the preservers, said Epstein. The money will be returned to all those people who are not disqualified from the race for unruly behavior, according to yacht club members.

"We don't want to take their money we want to keep the race clean," said Epstein, adding that the deposit will hopefully be a deterrent to those who might tend to be rowdy.

The official starter and honorary commador of the race will be Associate Dean for Biological Sciences George Hechtel.

"Sounds like fun, I am practicing my whistle and will try to get a captain's hat and do it in style," said Hechtel of the race, "I have always wanted to be a comador or a rear admiral and here's my chance."

"In the ancient seafaring tradition of Long Island, we have formed the Roth Quad Yacht Club," said Weinberg. The idea for the regatta surfaced two years ago and was supposed to take place as part of the Roth Quad Olympics, said yacht club members. The Roth Quad Olympics never took place then, but they are being discussed again this year. If they do take place the regatta will be the opening event, said Epstein. The yacht club members said they will be sailing a boat across the pond to show that it can be done," they said.

"The question of whether there is a Buick at the bottom of Roth Pond will finally be answered," said Clifford.

For more information, people should call 632-2673, 632-2673, 632-2767, 632-2917.

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