

## Flying Scot Fleet 150 Scoring

Recent questions have made it clear that it is time to outline how we keep score in the fleet series racing. Most of the “old hands” get it . . . mostly, but may have some questions. There are also many new faces in our group now - some new members, some new crew. This is directed mostly to them and anyone just coming in to race with us.

Our official season is from Labor Day weekend until Memorial Day weekend. Each of those holiday weekends has its own regatta, and they stand alone. Only the series racing is used for club standings and is usually composed of 18 club racing weekends. Those weekends, in turn, are divided into four separate *Series* of races. Each series is named for a legendary hero, or mythic god, of LESC ancient sailing lore.

The Series names and durations are:

- Keenan Series – 4 weekends
- Hartge Series – 4 weekends
- Norton Series – 4 Weekends

And the longest series at the end of the season.

- Collene Series – 6 weekends

At some point in ancient history, a group of unhappy sailors felt they could never get a trophy because they preferred to spend their Sunday mornings in church. They automatically lost half the days of sailing and could never be in the running. The solution was to further divide each of the series into “Saturday” series, and “Sunday” series. These sailors could now pursue their visions of glory in the Saturday Series.

So now you have eight separate series, each with a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner. The winner of the Keenan Saturday Series, for example, came out on top of however many races were run on all the Saturdays of the four weekends of the Keenan Series.

Then, remember the church-going sailors? We take the winning order of all four of the Saturday Series – Keenan, Hartge, Norton, and Collene, and determine an Overall Saturday Series Champion, plus 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Overall. The same is done for Sunday. The pinnacle is Club Champion, determined from the winning order of all the Saturday and Sunday Series, run through the RaceSail sailboat racing scoring program.

The scoring is posted a few days after the weekend, on the Flying Scot web page, on the LESC website. You will get an email with a link to that page when results are ready. When you click on that link, it will take you to the FS page. You will find a few words about the weekend in the center of the page, and at the top of the right column, the “Fleet 150 Racing Results 2016-17”. There will be two links for each named series, a *Saturday*, and a *Sunday*. As the year progresses, new series links will be added. You can see how it has been done by checking out the scoring archives, further down the right side.

When you click on a link under the “Results”, a pdf file opens in another window. The table of results is generated in a free program, called RaceSail, mentioned above, that is for sailboat race scoring. The program is set to throw out 40% of the races, worst first, of course. This high throw-out rate is also a way to help out the church-goers, the gardeners, the golfers, the soccer dads, (and the snowbirds!). You can miss a few and not be penalized. You will see an asterisk next to the thrown out score. The 40% drop is done only once, during the regular series. In computing the end-of-year winners, the 40% drop is turned off, as the 40% has already been dropped throughout the season.

You will often see three letters in caps next to a score, such as DNS, DNC. These are scoring penalties, and the most common are as follows;

- **DNC – Did Not Compete** – Not there, in church, in the garden, on the golf course. You will only get a DNC if you have entered that series by participating in at least one race in the series. *Penalty = No. of boats in the Series, plus one.*
- **DNS – Did Not Start** – On the water, in the area, but did not race. *Penalty = No. of boats in the Race, plus one.*

- **DNF – Did Not Finish** – Started the race, but did not finish – something broke, you got cold . . . Also given if the time limit has expired, or if the course was not properly sailed . . . like you went through a closed gate. *Penalty = No. of boats in the Race, plus one.*
- **OCS – On Course Side** – This is a funny way of saying you were over the start line before the start time, and you didn't come back to clear. Clearing means you came back to behind the start line and restarted. (This can be complicated. Other fleets have different requirements for clearing. The MCs have to go around one of the ends to clear. In our fleet, you just need to come back behind the start line to clear, called "dipping".) Failing to clear amounts to a disqualification from that race. *Penalty = No. of boats in the Race plus one.*
- **DSQ – Disqualified** – You probably get this. Could be from another boat's protest, could be a Race Committee ruling, could be that you DSQ'd yourself, 'cause you find out you committed some terrible sailing sin out on the water, and you wanted to make right . . . hey, it happens! *Penalty = No. of boats in the Race, plus one.*

Once you race in a series, you are participating in it, even if you don't race again until next series. Lots of DNCs! And as you can see, a DNC is the worst penalty out there. As more boats join the series, your DNC score of 7 in the first race of the series could be a 15 or 20 by the end. It pays to show up and race!

So there you have it – the current Sailing Instructions (SI) require you to hail the PRO boat with your sail number to check in when you reach the racing area, then you race, the Race Committee takes your finish order, the fleet scorekeeper transcribes the finishes to the scoring software which crunches the numbers, and is then published to an internet browser, then edited in MS Word, and finally published again as a pdf file, which most everyone can read, and uploaded to the LESC website on the Flying Scot page, where everyone can access it. Piece o' cake!

The last item is compensation for safety boat or race committee duty. Only the assigned skipper gets compensated, or an accepted substitute. If you have safety boat duty, for instance, you will see a DNC(S) in the races for the day that you had the duty. At the end of the series, all of your scored races (minus the 40% drop) are averaged, and that is the score you will receive for the races that you had duty. This method is intended to give you neither a positive nor a negative effect on your overall score.

Thirty-three awards are given out every year in the Flying Scot Fleet for series club racing. That's a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> in eleven different categories.

|                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Keenan Saturday Series    | Keenan Sunday Series    |
| Hartge Saturday Series    | Hartge Sunday Series    |
| Norton Saturday Series    | Norton Sunday Series    |
| Collene Saturday Series   | Collene Sunday Series   |
| Saturday Overall Champion | Sunday Overall Champion |
| Club Champion             |                         |

***Sail Fast and Sail Often!***