

BARNEGAT SAILORS OPEN RACING SEASON

Sneak Box Events Over Official Course Feature Races—War Has Depleted Ranks of Motorboat Enthusiasts

The Barnegat Bay Yacht Racing Association opened its racing season yesterday at Bay Head. The opening race did not have the large number of entries that marked the opening event on those waters in former years. There was, however, the same keen spirit in an endeavor to send the sneak boxes over the course for the winning pennant.

Yachting on Barnegat Bay is perhaps a greater sufferer from war conditions than on most other waters adjacent to Philadelphia. The Barnegat Bay resorts are more or less removed from the great industrial centres now claiming the time of so many of the devotees of water sports. Because of the shallow water on Barnegat Bay the sneak-box type of sailboat is the favorite racing craft. This sport is essentially a young people's sport and for that reason the selective draft has been especially severe on its racing talent. Summing it all up, aside from many boats not being in commission, there is a great difficulty in getting crews to man the boats that are in racing condition.

• • •

The Barnegat racing schedule, usually comprising a list of from eight to twelve events for sneak-boxes, with the several annual special cup races, is this year reduced to five-sneak-box race events. The one general race meet, an annual event on the second Saturday in August at Seaside Park, is on the schedule for the season, though the programme arrangement for the day is held in abeyance to see which racing material can be gathered together by that time. The Sewell Cup will be raced for on this day. Seaside Park holds the distinction of having added two new racing boats for the season. Who will man these boats for the season's contests is a problem.

Commodore Catties, one of the live spirits in racing on the bay, is this year interested in the Naval Reserves at New York and can not spend the summer along the bay as is his custom. The commodore hopes to take a week-end run down to Bay Head as opportunity permits.

Captain O. G. Dale, owner of the sneak-box Aran, is assistant chief engineer at Hog Island. This, of course, means that the Aran will not be in commission this season.

Henry Clark, owner of The Mystery, died during the winter, leaving that boat out in all likelihood. The Bailey brothers, skippers of the Wren, are in the service, leaving another out of commission. The U-1 is another not yet over for the season. The owner, Mr. Peck, is one of the vice presidents of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and his duties in these times preclude the spending of the usual time on Barnegat waters.

The two Island Heights rivals, Resolute and Vanitie, are over and in commission. The getting of crews to man these racers is a problem, and may interfere seriously with maintaining records achieved in races of former seasons.