

AYC RACE CALENDAR

WHAT IT TAKES TO BUILD A GOOD ONE
WHAT MIGHT MAKE IT BETTER?

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CREATING THE 'FORMULA'

Initial Discussion Points in December 2023:

- Turnout for many of the regattas was very low
- Late summer racing had been canceled frequently due to heat
- Low water level was a factor in some events
- The calendar should be fairly predictable

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THE MAIN INGREDIENTS

- Series Races
- Regattas
- Fleet Events
- UT Events / HS Events

Other important race-related events like Race Management training and Racing Clinics are not going to be discussed today in an effort to keep a good focus.

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GENERAL LAYOUT

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Eye • Frostbite Series – mid Jan to end of Feb • Opening Day – early March • Spring Series – March, April, maybe early May • Roadrunner, Lucky Charm, Easter Laser • Governor's Cup between series | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer Series – May, June, July • Singlehanded between series • Summer Break – August to mid-September • Fall Series – Sept, Oct, Nov • Centerboard, Multifest, RTB • Wild Turkey |
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SERIES RACING - CONSIDERATIONS

- The traditional series are the basic building blocks in the calendar.
- They are 'free' to members and are consistently well attended
- Race duty by fleets keeps the work load distributed
- However, keeping RC skill sets in each fleet is a struggle (mark set BOTs, scoring, LD and RTB courses, PRO skills)

2024 Changes

- Race days were re-combined into one day for all fleets (remember split days?)
– fun to be back together; easier to manage RC duty with more fleets
- Dog Days Series was dropped – 2023 had sooo many hot days of 105+

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BEER CAN, WED NIGHT, ETC

- The beer can racing on Friday night is a long-standing tradition – logistics are all about cooks for hamburgers
- Moonburn version of the beer can racing has been happening
- Sunfish / Laser Wednesday night racing is a popular tradition
- Melges-15 fleet has been bouncing around on some Thursday nights or weekend mornings and have tried their hand at series racing.
- None of this has changed in a long time....

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REGATTAS – CONSIDERATIONS

- **Regattas struggle to look different from Series Racing**
 - No longer have the outside participation
 - Low water and launching have been a factor
 - But overall travel racing is down, especially for keel boats
 - Our fleets are smaller!
- **Regattas are expensive to put on and participate in**
 - Just as many volunteers for a poorly attended event as a well attended one
 - Planning budgets with so little guarantee of attendance levels is difficult
- There were many traditional events, but maybe it was creating **dilution** instead of enthusiasm

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REGATTA CHANGES 2024 & 2025

- **Dropped Turnback** – had not been possible due to low water level and it's a fairly complicated event to run – especially when 'coordinated' with the Lago Fest.
- **Dropped the Fall Regatta** – looked no different than a series day
- Put **Governor's Cup** in a slot between the Spring and Summer Series
- Put **Centerboard Regatta** in a slot in early October
- **Lucky Charm** – new Spring Centerboard event
- **Round the Bend** – Long distance Fall event (substitute for Fall Regatta and Turnback)
- No changes to Red Eye, Roadrunner, Easter Laser, Singlehanded, or Wild Turkey

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ADDITIONAL EVENTS

- **Fleets**

- Circuit regattas – had J24 and J22 events in the past, but not recently due to low water and smaller fleets here at AYC
- J22 circuit may be combined with the Governor's Cup in 2026!!
- Ensign Fleet hosts Regionals regularly – every other year
- Easter Laser Regatta is a fleet event, but a traditional AYC feature.

- **UT and HS regattas** – Fairly set schedule for this and FURs for 2026 are already in. Some RC equipment required, so coordination is important. But main consideration is with Sail Training.
- North U Performance Race Week – J80 hosted week-long race clinic in April

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**LET'S TALK
ABOUT IDEAS**

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SERIES RACING - IDEAS

2025 made each series 6 race days (down from 7 in 2024) to 'match' number of fleets

Could expand the 4 series to fill in the calendar – longer summer and fall series in particular

Could make three long series – Spring, Summer, Fall

Some clubs have one series with fleet champions awarded at the annual banquet (just a thought)

Summer break good? (August thru Labor Day)

Changes to the Beer can, Moonburn, Wednesday night series?

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REGATTAS – KEEL AND MULTIHULL EVENTS

Governor's Cup – [AYC's Flagship regatta](#); What would make it more exciting?

- Might have out of town J22s in 2026.
- Format is RTB and LD, so just like a series racing
- Has become predominantly Keel boats, but used to be dinghies as well
- Bring back dinghies and out of town competitors?
- Two day event with food, party, trophies - so a bigger social element

Red Eye, Singlehanded and Wild Turkey – one day events with one LD race

Round the Bend / Multifest – 2 LD races per day; Keel fleets opted for one day event; Multihulls started this format and do two day

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REGATTAS – DINGHY EVENTS

Roadrunner, Easter Laser, Centerboard regattas are well attended and seem to hit the mark with the dinghy racers.

Lucky Charm – timing a little tight with Roadrunner and Easter Laser, but nice idea to have a spring Dinghy Event. Ideas

The dinghy fleets (junior and adult) are where our growth is, so it is important to put good time and energy into these events.

Laser, Sunfish, Opti, 420, Melges-15:

- Possible fleet events to bring in?
- Get other club's fleets to come to our events
- Make sure we plan around Dinghy fest at RCYC and Wursthfest – other

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WHAT WE DON'T HAVE

BUT MIGHT WANT

- Beginner regatta – new drivers with experienced crew
- Junior / Senior regatta – all junior crew or junior driver
- Women's regatta

Other??

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