



March 2026

# BERMUDA ONE-TWO

## NEWSLETTER

Hello again,  
This is the first newsletter for 2026.

### 2026 SKIPPERS' FORUMS

The spring Skippers' Forum/Shore Party will be on 7 March at the Newport Yacht Club 3:30 pm. Please let me know if you plan on attending for food purposes.

There will be a Fall Skippers' Forum and Shore Party scheduled for 7 November 2026.

At last November's Skippers' Forum there was a lively discussion about the race and how to build it up. Last year we generated a questionnaire associated with the length of time spent in Bermuda and other items like scheduled events (Bermuda Radio tours, etc.). The questionnaire is still open; to date 17 people have answered the questionnaire. 65% of those have said that the length of time in Bermuda is just right and the rest would like a shorter time in Bermuda. We have already tried to shorten the time required to be in Newport in this attempt. No final decision has been made yet.

#### Agenda:

- Introductions
- National Weather Center brief
- Gab and food session

Kristen Wenzel is back from a land cruise. She stopped in Norman, Oklahoma and visited the National Weather Center for a tour. Kristen asked them if someone could give us a brief. Their business sounds appropriate to us. The following is a discussion from James LaDue on the potential brief after a discussion with Kristen for the 7 March Skippers' Forum:

From our discussion, we talked about your interests in how the NWS produces the models, what their behavior is like, and ways of interpreting them to provide you with not just a forecast but one that gives you a spread of possible scenarios. We also talked about storms that are resolvable but also what to expect that can't be so easily resolved, like thunderstorms over the Gulf Stream.

Mike Folmer is an expert on ocean forecasting and satellite meteorology and provides outreach to sailing organizations like yours.

James G. LaDue is a master Instructor for the National Weather Service Warning Decision Training Division. While at WDTD, he is a team leader in developing courses for NWS forecasters on the warning decision-making for winter storms, severe thunderstorms and tornadoes. He is also a Chair and co-founder of the American Society of Civil Engineers standards committee on estimating wind speeds of severe storms and tornadoes. He recently served as acting Director of the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program at the National Institute for Standards and Technology. Jim is an avid sailor, though on rather small bodies of water. He is president of the [Lake Thunderbird Education Foundation](#) in

Norman, OK, a US Sailing recognized organization promoting sailing and water safety. He grew up in New York and has sailed often through the Long Island Sound out to the New England islands. Out here in the Plains, Jim has been known to chase storms, enjoys winter sports and other forms of outdoor recreation, often with his wife, Daphne, and son, Dylan.

## **2027 BERMUDA ONE-TWO DATES**

The Notice of Race will go out and be available on the website for download later in the year and I plan on discussing changes at the November Skippers' Forum.

June 04: Newport to Bermuda Start

## **POTENTIAL 2027 BERMUDA ONE-TWO SKIPPERS**

The following people have told me (and I remembered) that they hope/plan to race next year. **Kurt Rauschenbach** and his Class 40, **Josh Reisberg**, **Michael Schum** on his new to the race boat Karelia a Nauticat 39. Please let me know if you thinking of racing in 2027.

## **MERCHANDISE**

I have Bermuda One-Two burgees for \$20 and hats.

## **UPCOMING SEMINARS**

- INTERNATIONAL OFFSHORE SAFETY AT SEA WITH HANDS-ON TRAINING: At Roger Williams University, Richard L. Bready Mount Hope Bay Sailing and Education Center, 1 Old Ferry Road, Bristol, RI 02809. The in-person day will be conducted at Roger William University in Bristol, Rhode Island and includes lunch and a textbook. Dates available are: March 14, March 15, April 25, April 26  
For more information [click here](#)
- Northeast Ocean Race Symposium which is coming up soon on 21 March 2026 at Bentley University again. Information and Registration at <https://marionbermuda.com/NORS/>.

## **SKIPPERS AND BOATS**

- There are a number of skippers participating in this year's Newport Bermuda Race and also racing back in the Bermuda Short-Handed Return race. Good luck racing.
- **Louis Meyer** had been asked by his yacht club, the Stonington Harbor Yacht Club, to do a presentation on the Bermuda One-Two last October 24. Louis' presentation drew quite a crowd, probably mostly Stonington Harbor Yacht Club members however there were quite a few Bermuda One-Two participants there. Louis as usual did a great job.
- **Erica Lush** who participated in the Solitaire du Figaro in 2025 has announced that she hopes to be on the start line again later this year.
- **Juan Perez:** I was informed by Juan's niece that Juan passed on 4 February. Juan told me last year that he backed out of doing the Bermuda One-Two last year due to COPD. I have posted what I have so far on the website and when I get the Obituary, I'll add that to the website. Juan would have been 92 on 16 February.

## **OFFSHORE 160 & NEW ENGLAND SOLO/TWIN**

Since this is the off year for the Bermuda One-Two the Offshore 160 is being held. This is a good opportunity for new skippers to get their qualifier in (at the discretion of the Bermuda One-Two Race Committee) for the next Bermuda One-Two as well as being amongst other shorthanded skippers. The race starts on Friday 10 July and the awards are the following Sunday 12 July afternoon. This year a new course has been devised which uses to virtual marks SSE of Block Island that is actually 160nm long. See the Notice of Race on the website for the course.

The New England Solo/Twin is held every year and this year the race starts on Friday 24 July with the awards on Saturday 25 July. This race has classes for both single-handed and double-handed boats with different courses, most going around Block Island. Online registration is also open now.

These races are a good way to get your short-handed racing fix in. Hope to see you at these races.

Online registration for both races should be open real soon now. The yacht club is switching website providers so I'm not sure when exactly registration will open and the format will be different.

### **NEW ENGLAND SHORTHANDED OCEAN RACING TROPHY**

Back again is the New England ShortHanded Ocean Racing Trophy, a dose of the real thing!!! This event is geared to be a great tune up and test event for the next Bermuda One-Two. The concept of this trophy is designed to mimic the real event, the Bermuda One-Two. Starting with a challenging 160-mile single-handed ocean race, the Offshore 160, to be followed 2 weeks later by the double-handed division of the annual event known as the New England Solo/Twin. This event will give a sailor a real feel for what the Bermuda One-Two is all about. The Offshore 160 can be used as a Qualifier for the Bermuda One-Two at the discretion of the Race Committee. The New England ShortHanded Ocean Racing Trophy will be a fun event on its own. If you are thinking about entering the next Bermuda One-Two, the New England ShortHanded Ocean Racing Trophy will be a chance to get a feel for the real event and will help you understand the requirements of entering the next Bermuda One-Two.

### **BERMUDA ONE-TWO WEBSITE**

If anyone has previous year's results and pictures that are missing from the website, especially pre 1999, please let me know. I'll post the data and get it back to you if you like.

### **ST. GEORGE'S DINGHY AND SPORTS CLUB**

SGD&SC offers a membership for us out of country folks called an Overseas Membership. It is only \$50 and a very nice gesture. I know that a number of Bermuda One-Two participants as well as I currently have this type of membership. If you do not, would you please consider joining SGD&SC as an Overseas Member? The easiest way to join is to do it when you are in Bermuda. Their website is <https://www.stgdsc.com>. They also have a Facebook [page](#).

### **HELP NEEDED IN PROMOTING THE BERMUDA ONE-TWO**

For years we have found that the best source for new participants in the Bermuda One-Two has been its veteran skippers and crews. Anyone who has done the Bermuda One-Two knows how to sail long distances shorthanded, what type and how strong a boat is needed, and how fit and experienced a sailor must be to satisfy the Bermuda One-Two's demands.

For the Bermuda One-Two to remain a top-notch sailing event, it needs new participants. Look around your yacht club or marina and among your racing rivals to see who might be interested and qualified. Talk with them; tell them about your experiences in the Bermuda One-Two and about the friends you've made through involvement in the event. Bring them to the next skippers' forum and shore party. Put on presentations of the race at your yacht club like Louis Meyer did last year (as well as two other talks). If you cannot answer all the questions asked, give them the e-mail address of Josh Reisberg

skippersrep@bermuda1-2.org. Or forward their names and phone numbers and/or email addresses to Roy Guay at roy@royguay.net, and we will contact them with answers.

## EMAIL

If you know of someone who would like to receive the newsletters, Notice of Race, our Offshore events, etc. via email, let me know so I can add that person's email address to our distribution database. If your email changes, please let me know if you can think of it otherwise you may get deleted off my distribution.

Some of you have just started receiving my emails. The Race Committee suggested that I add the crew members of the Bermuda One-Two to the distribution list. Hopefully this is not a problem for you however if it is just click on the "Unsubscribe" at the bottom of the emails.

Roy Greenwald, Cordelia a Valiant 42, has done the Bermuda One-Two four times with the real navigator, his wife Gail, doing the return leg with him. Roy (known as Roy2) working on finding sponsorship for the Bermuda One-Two. He is working now getting sponsorship which will cover the two years; pre-race year and the year of the race. The goal obviously is to try to keep the cost down to the skippers of the Bermuda One-Two race and to expand the advertiser's visibility by including the Offshore 160 and New England Solo/Twin participants. Some sponsors may like two to three emails per year that we will send out (my distribution is not shared with anyone else) where they mention their products. I hope you make note of our sponsors and partake of their products.

Roy Guay  
Offshore Chairman  
[Roy@RoyGuay.net](mailto:Roy@RoyGuay.net)

## BERMUDA ONE-TWO 2026 SPRING SKIPPERS' FORUM AND SHORE PARTY

**SATURDAY, 7 MARCH – 3:30PM TO 7PM**

**NEWPORT YACHT CLUB – 110 LONG WHARF, NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND**

Program of Events:

**1530 – 1600:** Gab session

**1600 – 1700:** Informal Skippers' Forum

**1700 – ?? :** Heavy Hors d'oeuvre and gab  
session