



Spring Series Gets Underway

Top right: Charlie and Brendan get some pre race pointers from Don Ficher; Below right: Kevin , Megan, and Kayla ; Bottom left : Joe and Kelly in their Nacra 17



The Calendar

- May 5** Second race in the Spring Series – all Fleets. Good day for Sunfish practice
- May 12** 3rd Spring races – there are only six weekends in the Spring Series; get out and have some fun.
- May 19** Sunfish Series #1 – Roger and them have committee; your first opportunity to participate in the first of four all Sunfish days.
- May 26-27** Memorial Day Series Potluck dinner in the Hueston Room; All fleets out for 2 day food and funtation.
- June 8-9** Learn to Sail classes offered again. Put the dates on your calendar. Classes now forming.



Don Sails the Hobie 17

"I'll be there to sail my dad's boat one more time."

With Don in George's boat and Joe sailing a black asymmetrical, it seemed a fitting ,if unintentional, tribute to our late friend.

Sailing Returns to Hueston Woods

It was a little too chilly, it was a little too wet, and it was a little too cloudy for most HSA race enthusiasts, but it was official. The Spring Series kicked off last Sunday with a smattering of boats and skippers determined to get water under them for the first time since last October.

Despite the lack of competition, there was no lack of enthusiasm. The lake was actually full of sails before racing began as Miami University's club took to

the water for their training session. By the time HSA hit the race course the collegiates were folding sails on shore.

Few of the cruising docks are inhabited with their summer residents. Trees have yet to leaf out around the park. Even fewer fisherman had even decided to make bait. Winds were good, but the highlight of the day may have been the eagle that swooped down near the race course and nabbed lunch. Beautiful.



Sunfishers kept things lively with a little good natured recycled refuse chatter and a dramatic finish.
(Even trash talk has gone green.)

Make Your Own Telltales

A. Materials you will need

- Small nylon washers – just big enough to fit snugly around your shrouds.
- Larger nylon washers – the next size bigger; should spin freely around shroud.
- Spinnaker fabric – the lightest you can get (or cassette tape but it's not very durable).
- Glue – something fast-acting and strong.
- Scissors – sharp!

B. Put your telltales together

- Use scissors to make a full cut through one side of all the washers (this is so you

can fit them around the shrouds). • Use the scissors to cut thin straight strips of spinnaker fabric about 0.15" (4 mm) wide and 8" (20 cm) long.

• Tape the cut half of each big washer to a table (so it won't move as you work on it). • Put one small drop of glue on top of the large washer on the side opposite the cut. Place the end of a fabric strip on the glue and press with a paper clip. Let it dry; then add a bit more glue on top of the fabric.

C. Attach the telltales to your

boat

- Wrap electrical tape around each shroud at the height where you want a telltale.
- Put a small washer (with no strip) around the shroud just above the wrapped tape.

- Place the large washer (with the attached fabric strip facing up) around the shroud just above the small washer.
- Now you're ready to go! I suggest keeping your telltales (plus some extras) in a small plastic container when you're not racing.

From Speed and Smarts

Sunfish Lessons

Want to learn how to sail singlehanded? If you are a graduate of Learn to Sail (you don't have to be an HSA member) you can sign up now for one on one Sunfish instruction. The class covers

everything from taking the boat off the rack to capsizing to the often interesting return to the dock. We will provide you a boat and life jacket if you need one. Once you are certified, you can sail HSA boats anytime if you become a member. Call or email Mike at 937-499-4343 midview@wildblue.net

