

The Officers, Directors and Members of

US SAILING

are pleased to present the

ARTHUR B. HANSON RESCUE MEDAL

to

THE LARCHMONT YACHT CLUB

JUNIOR RACING TEAM

FOR THE RESCUE AS FOLLOWS:

While participating in the Dorade Annual Day Races aboard the yacht *Morning Glory*, on August 13, 1996, one of the crewmembers fell overboard. Conditions were dreary, with pouring rain, wind to 25 knots and swells to four feet. Everyone was wearing inflatable PFD's, and the victim's device inflated immediately. The navigator punched the "Save" button on the GPS to provide an accurate datum should a search be necessary. However, the Junior Racing Team executed a Quick Stop maneuver, putting the boat into the wind, and thereby keeping the victim in sight and precluding any necessity for a search. Thereafter, the Lifesling was deployed, contact made with the victim by the Lifesling maneuver, and the victim was recovered without injury. *Morning Glory* continued in the race and preserved a third in the overall event.

The actions of the Junior Racing Team reflected a high level of training and coolness in emergencies which is an excellent example for all sailors. US SAILING is pleased to present the Arthur B. Hanson Rescue Medal in recognition of this event.

John B. Bonds
Chairman, Safety at Sea Committee
By Direction

**The Arthur B. Hanson Rescue Award was awarded to the
Larchmont Yacht Club Junior Racing Team**

DETAILS

RESCUERS WORDS:

I am enclosing a write up of the Man Overboard drill that occurred to us in 1996 during the Junior sailing of my yacht.

The event was the Dorade Annual Day Races for junior sailors in "big boats". The tradition on Long Island Sound is that juniors in the participating yacht clubs solicit the use of larger boats from their membership. In the case of Larchmont Yacht Club, *Morning Glory*, a Tripp 40 racer, was the designated yacht.

On 8/13/96, the weather was dreary, at best. There was a pouring rain, 20-25 knots of breeze and swells between two and four feet. We contacted the Stamford Yacht Club Race Committee (the host club for this event) and they assured us that we would start but would sail a non-spinnaker race. The Larchmont Yacht Club junior racing team was led by Tommy Spellman who was the skipper with myself supervising the junior racers. Each crewmember was outfitted with an inflatable life preserver combined with a personal harness. On the last leg of a windward-leeward course, one of our crewmembers fell overboard, not being sufficiently speedy in unhooking and re-hooking the harness on the high side.

During a tack, fortunately, the junior sailing team had spent a great deal of time with Rich DuMoulin reviewing man overboard drills before the race. The juniors responded beautifully. Alex Holtan pushed the save button on the GPS so that we had a drop area to which we could steer. Tommy Spellman and Leah Anderson kept their eyes on the overboard junior, pointing all of the time. Tommy Spellman executed a "quick stop" veer to windward, whereupon all sails were taken down (it was felt that we could approach the man overboard by means of power rather than sail in a safer fashion, being that the true wind speed at the time was 25 knots or more). The engine was turned on, the Lifesling deployed and the victim was captured by the Lifesling maneuver and brought onboard safely within three minutes. The Stamford Yacht Club Race Committee allowed us to continue the race, whereupon the engine was stopped and the sails re-deployed to complete the series. The Larchmont Junior Team preserved a third in the overall Dorade event, as a consequence. The "man overboard" was safe and sound, with only a bit of drying off needed to preserve her appearance at the awards ceremonies. Fortunately, all returned home safely.