



ESTABLISHED 1872

SANTA BARBARA YACHT CLUB

Norm Thompson Domino Trophy
As told by Larry Leveille

Dominos became a C0-Ed event in 1968 and Norm Thompson donated the "Domino Trophy" in 1989.

Bob Magee started up the Domino tournament, and the notice for the tournament even today has Bob's line, 'Good luck and lots of double fives.' from the first tournament notice. For a number of years, Bob ran the tournament, including doing the seeding of people and setting up the board of players in the bar. Bob had a rule that only he could mark the winners' names for each round on the game chart in the bar. So, the winner had to let Bob know and he would mark the name in the next spot.

Norm was a shop teacher out at Goleta Valley, and had access to those tools, so Norm had made the trophy, I thought, pretty soon after the tourney was started (maybe restarted). (Norm also made the Great Inflatable Race trophy, which is a really good model of an Avon dinghy.)

I sailed against Norm on several boats and with Norm on his boat a few times. Norm had one of the best ways of describing PHRF racing I ever heard. He'd tell us to not pay attention to the other boats and imagine there was a big clock on the wall of the cockpit. That was the only thing that really mattered – how we did against the clock. And Norm generally did pretty well.