

NSA Summer 2020 Race Participants & Race Registered Survey Results

October 08, 2020





34

Total Responses

Date Created: Sunday, September 13, 2020

Fully Complete Responses: 32 + 2 partial responses

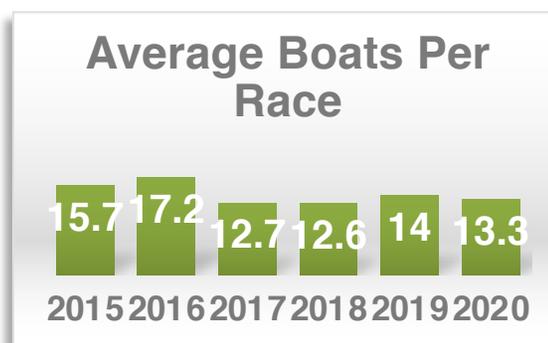
94% Participation Rate includes all racers)

Q1: If you raced at least once, what was your overall experience in the 2020 races you participated in?

Answered: 34 Skipped: 0

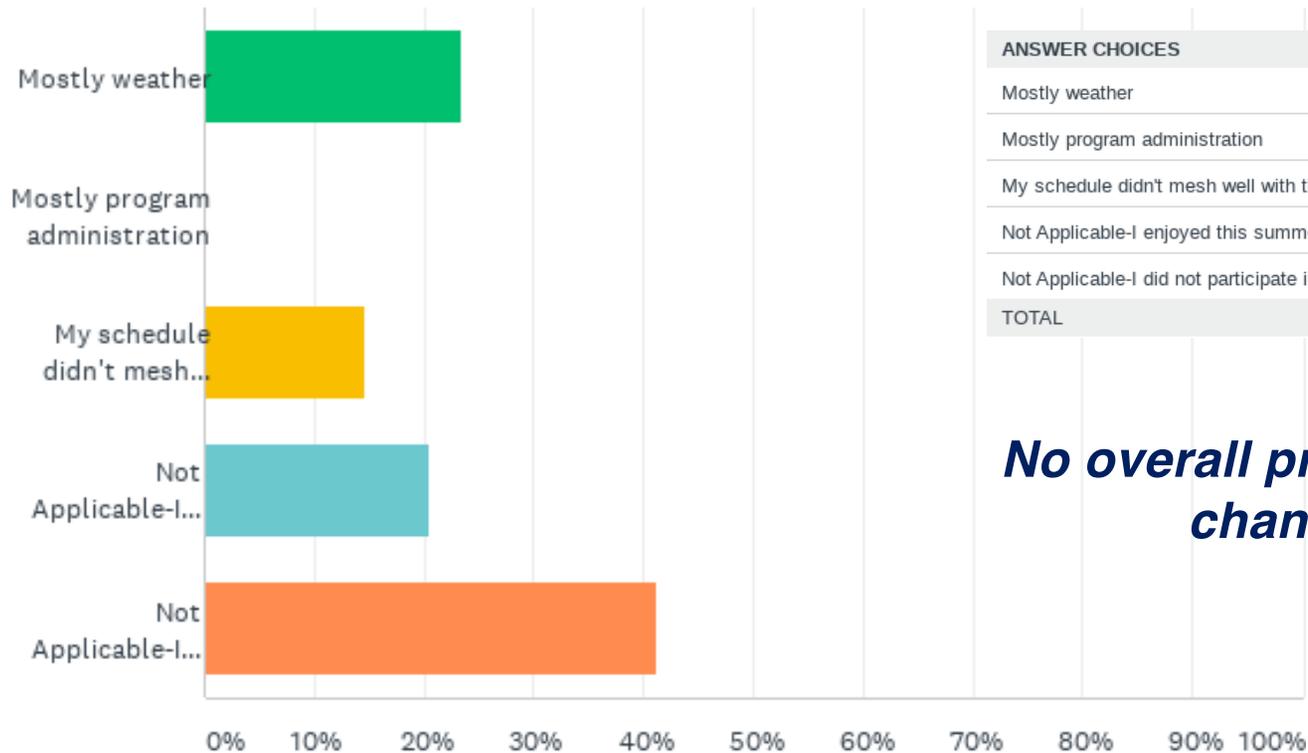
	VERY DISSATISFIED(NOT AT ALL LIKE PREVIOUS YEARS)	SLIGHTLY DISSATISFIED(SOMEWHAT LESS THAN PREVIOUS YEARS)	NEITHER SATISFIED OR DISSATISFIED (SAME AS LAST YEAR)	SATISFIED(SOMEWHAT BETTER THAN LAST YEAR)	VERY SATISFIED(MUCH BETTER THAN LAST YEAR)	N/A DID NOT RACE IN 2020	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
☆	5.88% 2	0.00% 0	26.47% 9	17.65% 6	8.82% 3	41.18% 14	34	3.4

Covid-19, less participation, fewer races & poor weather conditions dampened this year's experience...yet average boats per race held up



Q2: If you raced and you thought this year's program was the same or less successful (Only One, Two or Three stars) than previous years, how much of it was weather vs. program administration related?

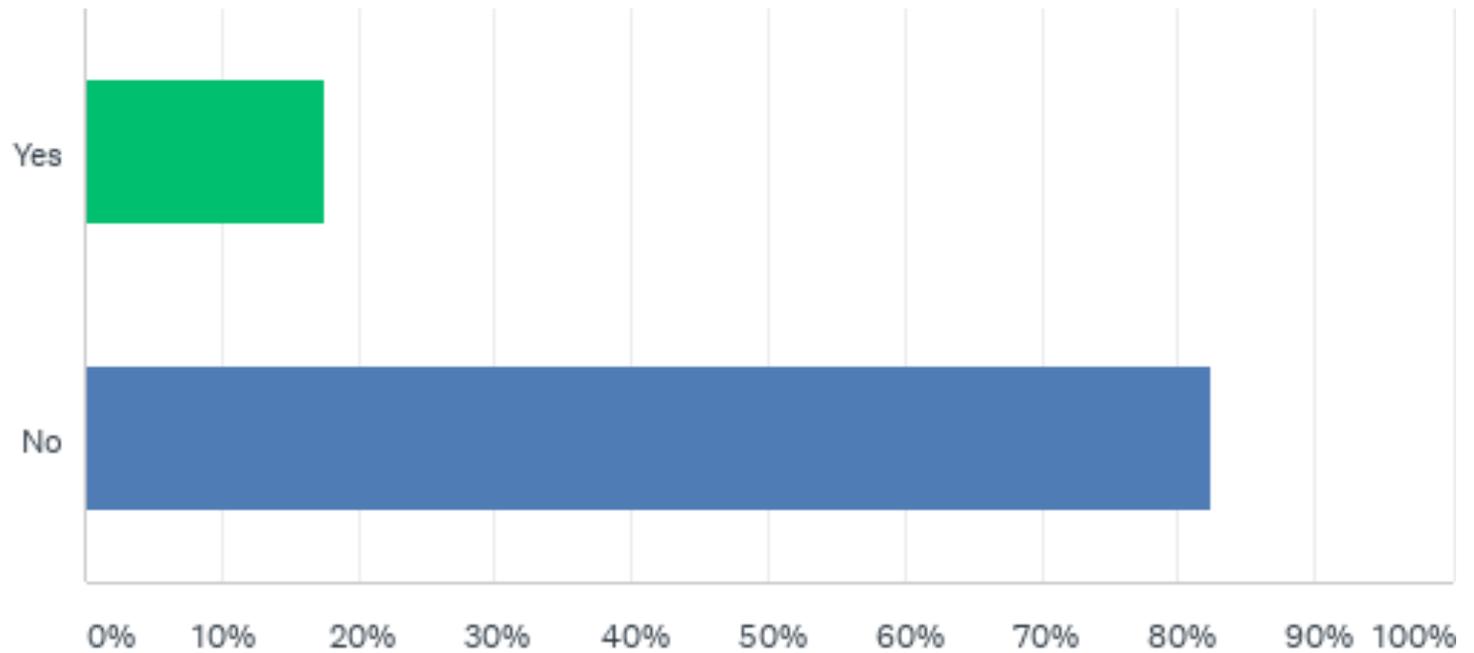
Answered: 34 Skipped: 0



No overall program administration changes indicated!

Q4: Is reefing a determinant in your decision to race or not race?

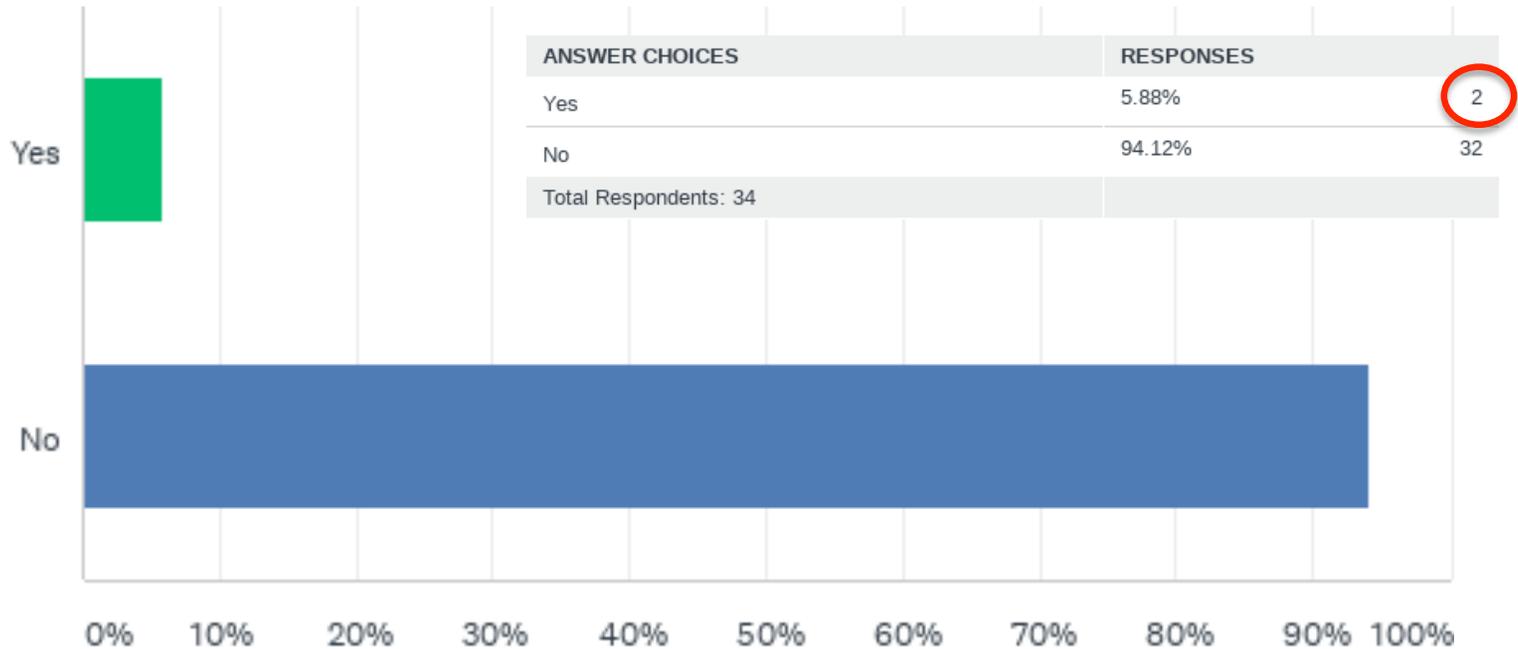
Answered: 34 Skipped: 0



No program changes on reefing indicated!

Q5: Since we evoke the reefing flag at a steady 12 mph forecast and do not race above a steady 15 mph forecast, should we simply cancel races if reefing is required?

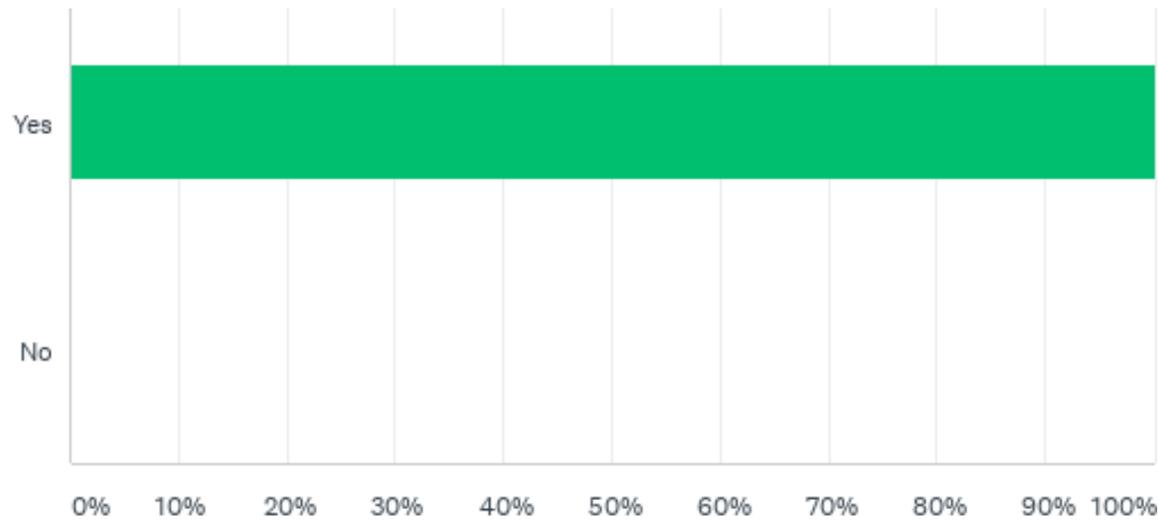
Answered: 34 Skipped: 0



No program changes on reefing indicated!

Q6: Would you be willing to start in late June in order to ensure we get a minimum of 6 races completed over 8 Sundays?

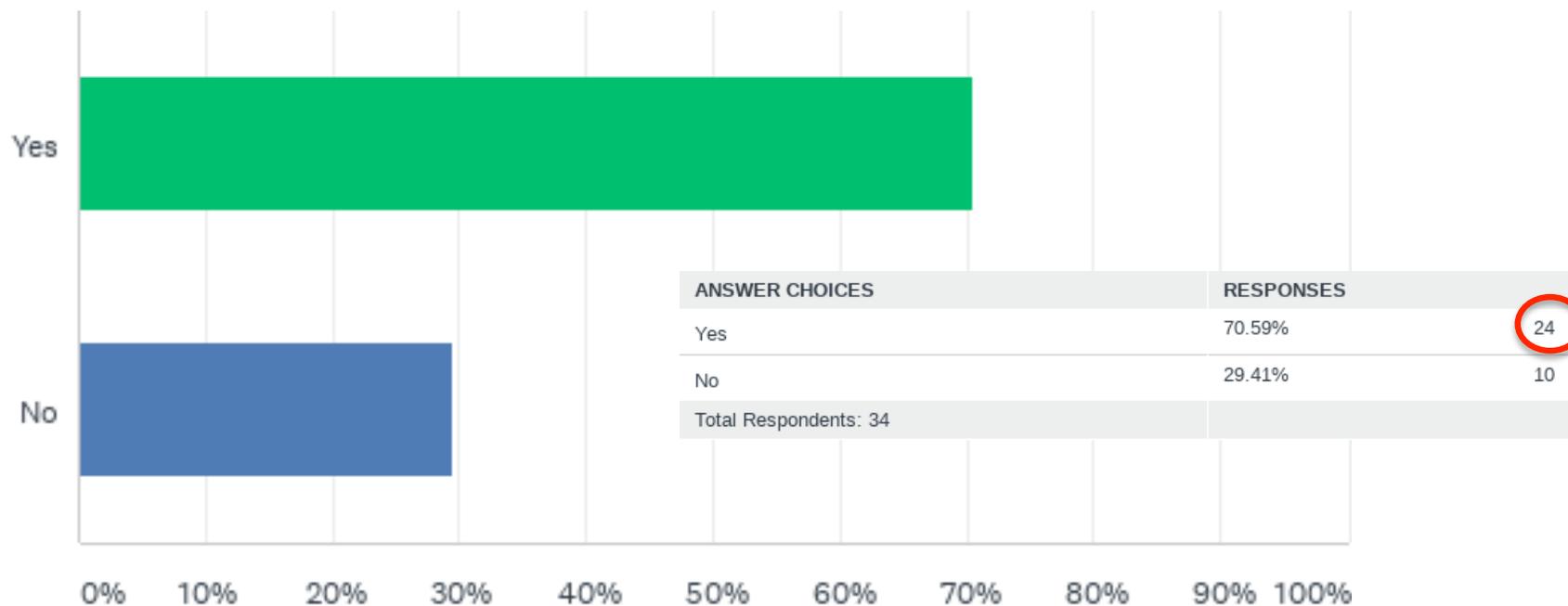
Answered: 34 Skipped: 0



Everyone wants to get in MORE races and an earlier start date is unanimous!

Q7: Would any late weekday afternoon be attractive to you in scheduling races assuming tides and winds are favorable?

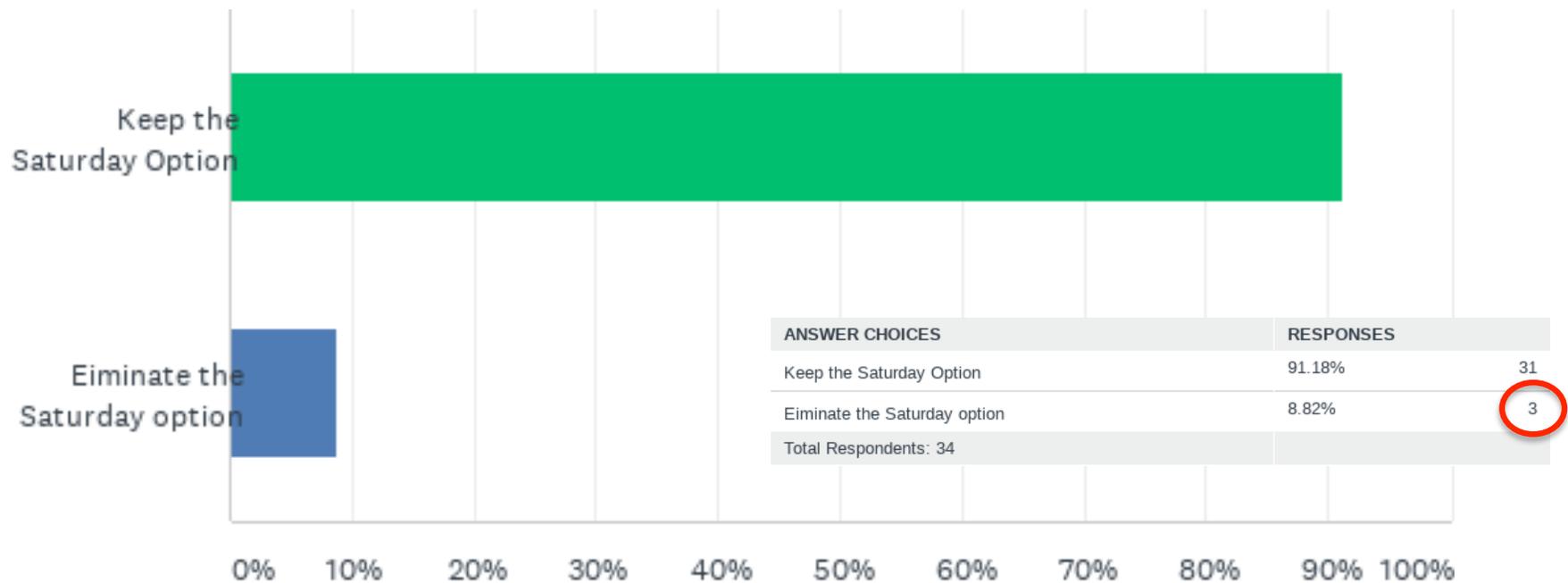
Answered: 34 Skipped: 0



There is sufficient support for weekday late afternoon races to pursue scheduling some as a trial

Q8: Should we continue to “consider” Saturday as an alternative to a guaranteed Sunday cancellation...or should we eliminate the uncertainty by eliminating Saturday as an option?

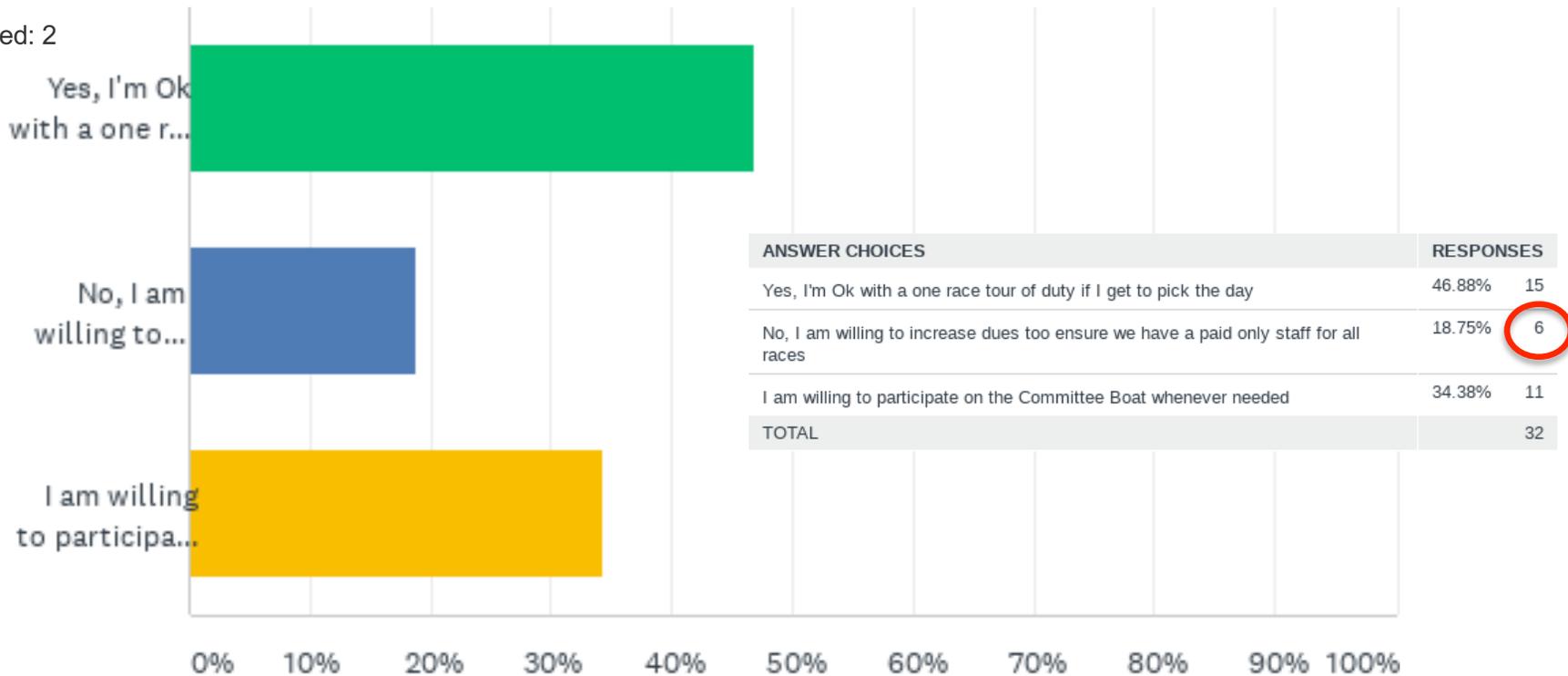
Answered: 34 Skipped: 0



The added flexibility of a Saturday alternative date to Sunday should be retained

Q10: We plan on returning to the mandatory participation on the Race Committee boat for one race per person per season until we rotate through the entire roster...working with our paid staffer...in order to create a cadre of people qualified to run a race absent availability of paid staff.

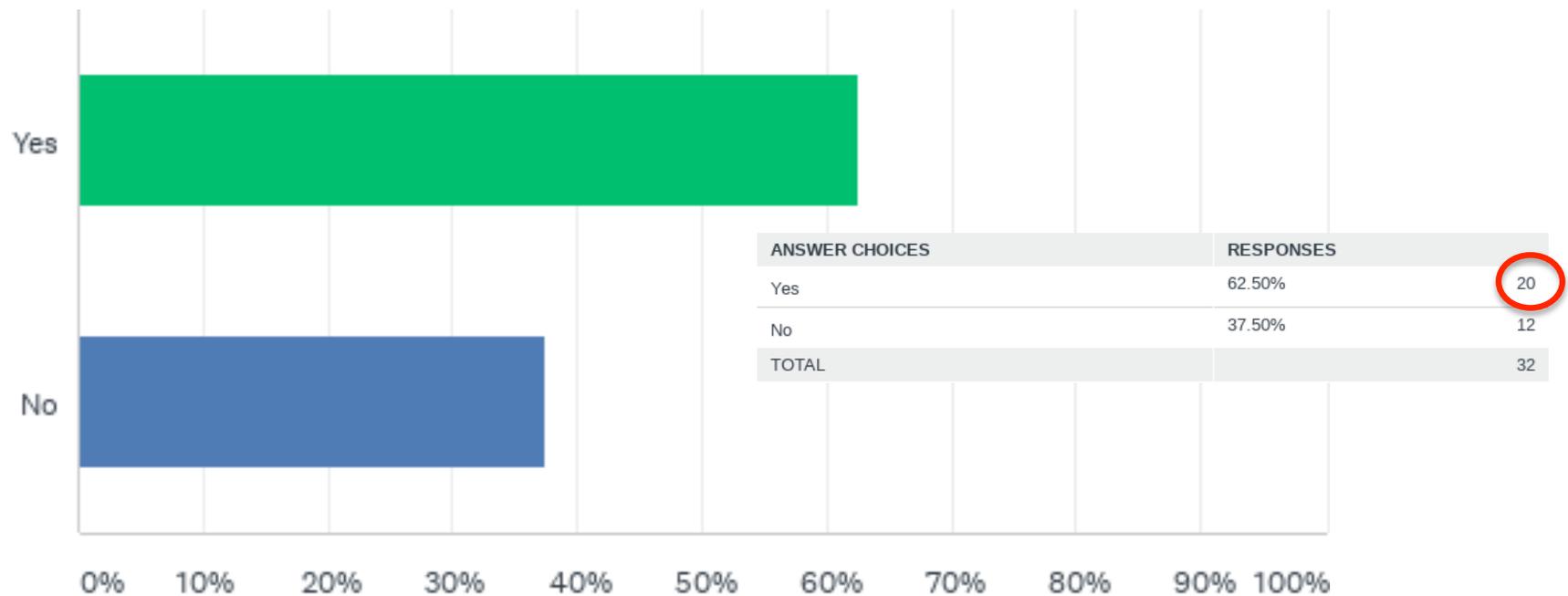
Answered: 32 Skipped: 2



Returning to the rotating Committee Boat volunteer for 2021 has strong support

Q11: Knowing how important having a crash boat standing by in case of emergencies, are you willing to commit yourself, a qualified friend or a family member to take on one race per season...either using your own power boat or the Club's 15' Whaler?

Answered: 32 Skipped: 2



There is sufficient support to ensure important Crash Boat coverage

Participant Feedback Mostly Points To Wanting More Opportunities To Race

Answered: 26 — Skipped: 0

- Race either Saturday or Sunday depending on forecasts
- I have been racing. Did not miss one race this season. I do think though that our racing may intimidate some of the members who are newer to catboats and, maybe, have never had any racing experience. We need to find ways to make them feel more comfortable coming out. Maybe we need to offer "racing workshops" on the water. The Captain Bill outings are fun but not the same thing.
- Extend the season through September as fun races on Saturday or Sunday...or any other day that looks good for sailing. This last weekend would have been terrific. Do a race around the Islands or around little Sipson and back. No committee or crash boat. Standard
- Some formally organized activities designed to help non-racers get comfortable with trying to race
- I would like to see more racing. This would include more Saturdays and week-evenings (Thursdays would be much better than Wednesdays for me). Maybe we could consider adding an evening series to the existing weekend series. I would also like to see the starting line shortened. It continues to be ridiculously long. Higher percentage of starting lines that are perpendicular to the wind
- Please do not DQ racers without a hearing, It has happened to me every year. This year I cannot figure what I did wrong? And when results are posted I am DQ without any discussion? I do not know the rules when it gets beyond the basic ABC's of the rules . It is hard to grow the program when people hear how serious it is when it comes to the nuances of racing rules. I think in all my cases if the boat protesting did not know every rule in the book there would have not been an issue and it would have been a fun race for all. You can't expect a group of catboat sailors who are from all walks of life to know all the racing rules, I think it is more about having some fun than anything else. My experience at other sailing groups races, if it is not a US Sailing sanctioned event participants are pretty chill when it comes to the rules if they are not the obvious fouls most sailors know. Or at least if something does not seem right have a discussion before results are posted.
- My answer of "Yes" on the reefing question regarding it being a deterrent to my racing, relates to the wind velocity and my comfort level, not the need to reef.



On-The-Water Observed & Survey Driven 2021 Program Updates

Schedules

- Extend current, single summer schedule to start in June, with 2 short races, whenever tides permit, to provide maximum flexibility and increase number of completed races.
- Continue to consider Saturdays whenever weather forecasts are **demonstrably** different from Sunday ('week of' decision'). Make call by Thursday night.
- Avoid 9:00 AM starts *whenever* possible (**adhere to 2-hour 'high tide window for ALL starts**)
- Add some weekdays where tides are favorable to test idea *outside* of formal series

Starts & Courses

- Restart Committee Boat volunteers to ensure Race Committee 'bench strength'.
- Continue Volunteer Crash Boat recruitment using NSA '15 Whaler when necessary
- Work toward shorter starting lines

Rules/Administration

- Altering 'reef' trigger to 12 mph to allow racers a better opportunity to pre-set reefs at their mooring. (It's easier to take reefs out than put them in on the water and will ensure on-time starts). Cancellation continues at 15 mph.
- Require that protests be lodged with Committee Boat at end-of-race with boats involving contact or where penalty turns are not taken to ensure equity to both boats' standings in dispute.

