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The Daily Telegraph, 25
Friday, February 6, 1981

Yachting

ALL-STAR CAST AT LYMINGTON

By TONY FAIRCHILD

JOHN Oakeley and Lawrie Smith, respectively the deposed skipper and his replacement on the 12-metre Lionheart, are to renew their rivalry in the Lymington Cup match-racing series in the Spring.

Both have accepted invitations to compete in the event, from May 14-17. It could boast an impressive list of established or would-be America's Cup skippers.

Dennis Conner, the successful defender with Freedom last year of the America's Cup could head the list. He is one of four invited overseas skippers.

The others are Pelle Petterson (Sweden) and Dick Deaver (United States) and the Frenchman Bruno Trouble, skipper of the 12-metre France III when she eliminated Lionheart, the first British contender since 1964, from the 1980 America's Cup battle.

A further invitation will go to the winner of this year's American Congressional Cup, the match racing series on which the Lymington event is based.

Organisers' promise

With three former winners and the helmsmen chosen to open hostilities with Victory—the new British 12-metre for the 1983 America's Cup—also in the line-up, the Lymington series promises to be the most absorbing so far.

Indeed, with the possibility also of some unique competition for Britain—Conner versus Deaver, twice the American winner at Lymington—it is a pity that the club are still seeking a sponsor to ensure the best possible conditions for the event.

The Royal Lymington, the organisers, have promised to "go it alone" if necessary.

Yachting

NEW FORMAT IN LYMINGTON CUP

By TONY FAIRCHILD

The Lymington Cup, the match-racing series to be staged from May 14 to 17 and sponsored by Long Life Ind Coope, will have a new format this year.

The series has been reduced to eight invited helmsmen and, if times and weather permit, each will race against the other twice instead of once as in the past.

With a particularly interesting "field," the series promises to be no less absorbing than in the past, despite the presence of just one overseas helmsman, Robin Morgan, the Congressional Cup winner from the United States.

Most intriguing will be the clashes between John Oakeley and Lawrie Smith, respectively the deposed and replacement skipper in 1980 of the America's Cup contender, Lionheart, and Phil Crebbin, the nominated skipper of Victory, the proposed British challenger for the America's Cup in 1983.

Lymington Times
New Milton
Advertiser 2/5/81

Sailing

Lymington

For several years Lymington Town Sailing Club has organised an annual R.N.L.I. pursuit race, with proceeds donated to the local lifeboatmen. Unfortunately their funds will not receive too handsome a boost this year for, with freezing winds forecast to increase to force 9, only 12 came to the line for Sunday's race. Result: 1, Moth, John Claridge; 2, Tickled Pink, Peter Stubley; 3, Medicinal, Trevor Repouf.

Eight top helmsmen will be competing for this year's Royal Lymington Cup match racing championship, from May 14th to 17th. Using OOD34s loaned by their owners, they are the holder Harold Cudmore, John Oakeley, Lawrie Smith, Phil Crebbin, Eddie Warden Owen, David Howlett, Mike Holmes and American Robin Morgan. The championships are being supported financially principally by Long Life Ind. Coope, and special No. 1 Genoas are being provided by North Sails. A series of seven rounds of four matches each with separate starts for each race during the four days will ensure the eight competitors race against each other. At time and weather permits, a second series of seven rounds of four matches will also count towards the championship.

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