

# SPORTS



FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2023  
NEWS-LEADER / FERNANDINA BEACH, FLORIDA

## Interesting day for AISC race No. 3

There are great sailing days, good days and interesting days, but never any bad sailing days. March 18 was an “interesting day” for the third race of Amelia Island Sailing Club’s 2023 season.

A very strong outgoing tide for the duration of the 9.3-nautical mile race, overcast with periods of drizzle and downpours and a wind that would not make up its mind how hard to blow or from which direction all combined to test the skills and mettle of the five teams that raced. Two other boats had planned to race but refrained because of the weather.

The first close reaching leg to the first mark south of Cumberland Island gave all the boats a navigational challenge and a hint as to what was to come. The outgoing current pushed out to sea, and no boats were able to round the mark without several tacks to claw back up-current before finally rounding the mark.

This routine of missing marks because the current continued for every windward and reaching leg of the triangular course. The fast down-current and downwind legs from the west end of Cumberland Island into the Amelia River provided the only respite from upwind slogs.

Line honors for the fastest boat were taken by the team on Wilby Whitt’s Misty, with Fred Eichmann at the helm, in 2 hours 33 minutes. All the remaining boats finished within the next 30 minutes. After



applying the race handicaps, Misty held onto first place and newcomer McGeeves finished eight minutes behind in second place, after having been sailed masterfully by Steve Boice and crew. The last three places were captured by Morning Glory, skippered by Norm Wentworth, Jos Wolke on Lola and Graeme Nichol on Fin.

It was certainly an interesting race. “I have never missed so many marks in a season, let alone in one day,” Whitt said.

The next AISC race is on April 22. All are welcome to race, but membership at \$100 per year in the Amelia Island Sailing Club is required. Visit [ameliaislandsailingclub.wildapricot.org](http://ameliaislandsailingclub.wildapricot.org) to learn more.

AISC is a social club with a boating interest and anyone with a boating interest is invited to join. Members have



sailboats, power boats, pontoon boats and many have no boats. The club holds monthly dinner meetings, monthly races and other social events throughout the year.