

# Castle Skippers Stork to Victory

June 1, 1947 By CLIFF CARPENTER

Rooney Castle tillered his Stork to victory yesterday afternoon as Rochester Yacht Club's 6-Meter fleet opened its spring argument for the Todd Trophy with a spanking two-boat duel.

Memorial Day's biting cold gave way to weather almost as unsailable—a streaky west wind clocked as high as 25 miles in the puffs—and before the starting gun sounded. Howard Klitgord decided the stays on his Meteor were not yet set up for that kind of blow, and retired to the basin.

That left John Odenbach in the Circe to challenge the veteran Castle, and Odenbach gave adequate notice he and his dark-hulled racing machine will make matters interesting this season.

Circe was to weather but slightly behind Stork on the start, a triangle, one mile to the leg, laid out by Judge Bud Gorsline to provide a close and broad reach and a beat home. At the first mark, Stork was far enough through to leeward to hold John off and round comfortably in the lead. The broad reach was a stern chase, but on the first beat home the trailing Circe held longer on a

port tack, then held higher on starboard to wind up top boat when the two covered near the home mark.

First mark, second round spelled the race. Castle, again sailing out a lead the hard way, jibed—and the maneuver in the terrific gusts looked just risky enough to John to cause him to decide to come about. But the slower and safer maneuver, plus a short hitch, left Circe too far behind to pick up Stork, by then going off the wind like a scared white puffball.

The Sixes—with Klitgord definitely counting himself in—will race the second in the Todd series this morning.

Start: 2:45; finishes, elapsed time: Stork, 56:58; Circe, 58:26.

**SHORT HITCHES:** RYC Fleet Captain Jeff Dale was slated to give his increasingly popular lecture on the Vanderbilt race rule revisions last night to Sodus Yacht Club . . . Gorsline has devised a new and fast race-result sheet other clubs might do well to take a peek at . . . Both Circe and Stork yesterday showed extreme deference to the revised racing rules, both "freezing" when an overlap occurred . . . George Culp welcomed yesterday's blow as a chance to see how his 110 would take it, and he's still satisfied. Nominated as the kid-most-deserving - of - competition, Bernie Wahl, who takes his Thistle out every hour on the hour, and spends his evenings hoping someone else will buy a companion boat and drop it in the water.