

STONEY DOUGLAS • HOBIE FLEET 51, BOULDER CITY, NV, DIVISION 2, NAHCA SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR — 20

A.C. “Stoney” Douglas is more than deserving of this award. Year after year many fleets in our Division rely on Stoney to help with or manage our regattas. He has been a promoter of our class; initially as a sailor and now as an excellent race official. He remains a driving force behind Fleet 51 in Las Vegas and has always maintained a respected voice in Division 2. Fleet 51 has had ups and downs and is now on a positive growth path again. Stoney’s efforts remain a constant viable source of support for this fleet as well as many others in Division 2

Stoney has become certified by US SAILING as Senior Race Officer and re-certified as a US SAILING Judge, attending seminars at his own expense. Stoney has offered many race management seminars to the sailors of Division 2, as well as being an excellent PRO at many regattas. The Judge certification confirms his dedication to our sport and assures well managed regattas.

Stoney is an incredible individual with boundless energy. He is very personable and quite possibly one of the best chase boat skippers anywhere. I cannot imagine running a premier event without his assistance.

Stoney continues to be Event Chairman for MidWinters West, filling in on the water and in administrative capacities when necessary. He has been a vital person for this Area Championship for well over 10 continuous years; the lead chase boat skipper at countless regattas within our Division, including many Continental events; and Beach Captain for the 1995 Hobie16 IHCA Worlds in Huatulco, Mexico. Very few individuals in our sport have unselfishly contributed so much time and energy for our safety and enjoyment. Nearly every sailor in Division 2 knows of Stoney Douglas and many have a ‘Stoney story’ of their own to share.

Any commodore or regatta chairman in our Division can attest to the numerous contributions Stoney has made toward the success of our regattas and the propagation of our sport. He certainly must be in contention for holding the record(s) of boats saved, assistance given, distance traveled and regattas attended. When crunch time comes, it is always a relief knowing that Stoney will be on the course. Stoney’s efforts and accomplishments often go unheralded because the race was run so effectively and

safely. His role also often places him behind the scenes, although he is usually the first one on the water and the last one off.

I cannot imagine another individual more deserving of this award than A.C. “Stoney” Douglas. His contributions to the fleets and our Division as well as his commitment to “The Hobie Way of Life” is unparalleled. As the original webmaster for the NAHCA website, Stoney did an outstanding job as a volunteer in keeping the Region up to date on all matters Hobie.