

Soviet Ice Boatmen Feted At Red Bank

RED BANK — The North Shrewsbury Iceboat and Yacht Club entertained members of the Estonia (USSR) iceboat racing team and found out in a hurry they had something in common, no ice for racing.

A group of five headed by Urmo Kala, vice president of Estonia Sports Committee, arrived at Kennedy Airport yesterday shortly after noon after coming from Moscow by London, England, and arrived at Red Bank shortly after 10 p.m. for iceboat competition in the United States.

The Soviet athletes were invited here by the International DN Ice Yacht Racing Association and were scheduled to race on the Navesink River this weekend but had to make a switch in plans due to the lack of ice on the river. The group is part of 11 other European groups invited to race for the World's DN championship. In fact, they were scheduled to race in the National Sweepstakes at Red Bank, but the river lost ice for this event.

The Soviets, who were the guests of John Runyon, Fair Haven, last night, left early this morning for Cass Lake, Michigan, where they hope to find ice and race in seven races of the World Championship DN series, this weekend. Next weekend they'll compete for the Canadian Championship, and then will return to Red Bank to get their boats together and return to Estonia.

Coach of the team is Maada Imelik, a woman who was a member of the Soviet woman's basketball team 1954-58, and is now general secretary for all sports.

Along with Mr. Kala, three other members of the team are Endel Vooremaa, Ain Vilde and Helmuth Leppik.

Coach Imelik, who was more confused in the time change, said, "We're all tired after the trip. In my country right now it is 6 a.m. and here it is 10:30 p.m. here in your country."

Although not a sailor, coach Imelik is very fond of sailing and being the general secretary of sports, attempts to spend as much time as possible with sailing and iceboating. Regarding ice conditions the coach commented, "We have the same problem as you do over here at this time, no ice, but this is a very nice country."



SOVIET ICE BOATMEN

Chatting last night at the North Shrewsbury Ice Boat and Yacht Club, left to right, are Russian ice boaters and Helmuth Leppils, Shrewsbury commodore Dan Davis, and Urmo Kala, Coach Maada Imelik and Endel Vooremaa, all of the Soviet team. Davis presents a pennant to Kala, vice president of the Estonia USSR Sports Committee.

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