

2016 ODOM NCR

by Don Verhaeghe

After a 9-year hiatus, the ODOM NCR returned to Harper Lake Model Yacht Club in Louisville, Colorado. Taking place on September 17-18, 2016, the NCR had 12 skippers attend, 7 from out of state and 5 from HLMYC. The weather was exceptional – mid-70s and sunny on Saturday and mid-80s with only a few clouds on Sunday.

Winds on Saturday were primarily E to NE with a few surprise directions showing up at odd times, i.e., thermal activity was present. Wind speeds ranged from 0-6mph, sometimes during a single race. After the wind materialized at about 11, we were all excited to start racing. The windward-leeward course was set up with 3 windward buoys to help get a good beat depending upon the actual wind direction at the start of the race. Three leeward buoys formed two gates, again giving the RD more options. When the wind shifted too much to the north, the RD set up a windward course with marks to starboard, forcing skippers to have to tack further offshore.

At the end of Saturday we had 14 races under our belt. Jess Atkinson blasted out of the gates, winning 8 of the races and accumulating a measly 17 points. Larry Grant followed with 29 points. Third place was Greg LaLiberte's with 53 points, Terry Britton and Denny Hanson were tied at 58 points and Craig Mackey and Ken Campbell were tied with 62 points. A significant number of us then headed off to dinner and drinks and some great socializing!

Sunday morning brought some westerly winds for a while. Racing started a bit late again while we waited for reasonable wind. After a few races to the west, the wind swung around again to an easterly direction, making the courses similar to Saturday. The wind speed was a little better than Saturday, at about 2-6mph. We did end up running a few races on the north-south course when the wind gods threw us a curveball.

The final results showed Jess running away with 1st place as Champion for 2016 with only 25 points for 24 races! Larry and Greg hung on solidly with their places from Saturday. Craig and Ken both moved up two spots to claim the 4th and 5th place hardware. Ken edged out Denny in the tie breaker.

Many skippers expressed their gratitude to HLMYC and its staff for hosting this year's NCR and putting on a good regatta. Those of us at HLMYC had a lot of fun getting to know some of the great ODOM skippers out there who don't live in Colorado.

A very BIG thank you goes out to our excellent race director Kent Broadhead. He had challenging conditions but gave us great courses in which to compete. Chuck Drake did a great job with the registrations and assisting Kent and Denny throughout the regatta. Don and Nancy Metzger were a tremendous help setting buoys with the kayak. And thanks to Bill McGregor for keeping the scores up to date throughout the regatta. And thanks to all the other volunteers who helped out and are listed below.

Summary of 2016 ODOM NCR

Chevrons: Gold

Date: September 17-18, 2016

Location: Louisville, CO

Host Club: Harper Lake Model Yacht Club

of Entries: 12

Winds: 0-6

Races Completed: 24 (4 throwouts)

Scoring System: Low Point

Race Committee & Valuable Assistants: Kent Broadhead – Race Director, Denny Hanson – Regatta Chairman, Bill McGregor – Scorekeeper, Chuck Drake – Registration & Assistant Chairman, Don & Nancy Metzger – Rescue Boat & Buoy Setting, Greg & Sandy Norris – Donuts & Coffee, Jim Hayes – Photographer, Bill Sherrell – Logo Design, Ken Hegy – Grounds Use Permit, Roy Tanner – Visitor Information

2016 ODOM NCR Results

Place	Skipper	Sail #	Points	
1	Jess Atkinson	56	25	
2	Larry Grant	500	53	
3	Greg LaLiberte	631	81	
4	Craig Mackey	429	88	
5	Ken Campbell	81	102	
6	Denny Hanson	943	102	
7	Terry Britton	469	105	
8	Don Verhaeghe		519	113
9	Tony Johnson	77	146	
10	Greg Norris	800	164	
11	James Pletcher	570	183	
12	Gary Tschautscher		699	231