

April 15, 2017

Hello Skippers,

We held our first ODOM regatta of the new season today and it was quite a day for racing. We had 13 skippers come out to compete under fantastic sailing conditions. The day was a little cooler than last week's Victoria regatta, starting out in the upper 50s and ending in the upper 60s. We had sunny skies and an unbelievably steady SE wind at 8-10 mph for almost the entire regatta. We got in 13 races and the results are attached and shown below. We also welcomed Richard Sweetwater to his first regatta; Richard is sailing Roy Tanner's old boat, #576.

When we got out to the lake, the SE wind was relatively strong and we had many fishing people camped out on the south shore. So we set up the same course we used for the Victoria regatta last week: the standard box course on the west shore with one buoy thrown from the south shore to provide a good windward leg to the southeast. Again we allowed touching that far buoy without a penalty turn since it was quite far away from the west shore.

The first race was run going out to that far buoy for the windward leg and then using the two leeward buoys and finishing after one lap. Since the wind was quite steady, almost all remaining races were run as 1-1/4 laps with the same course but finishing between the two windward marks of the box course. Toward the end of the regatta the wind did let up a little and it actually swung to the south for one of the races so that race was run with the standard box course.

There were a number of hardware failures and even a dismasting. Jim Hayes came to the rescue with "The Lobster", a powered rescue boat with large swim tubes on each side of the claw. He was able to push in Bill McGregor's boat from the course and within a few minutes, Bill had it ready to go for the next race. A hearty thanks to Jim!

Competition is definitely heating up in the ODOM fleet. Congratulations to Roc Dietz who grabbed not just one, but two bullets today! And Ron Johanson just blasted onto the course, getting 3 bullets and a very impressive string of finishes earning second place for the regatta. Job well done, Ron!

We have two practice Saturdays now left in the month of April; time to patch up the boats and get ready for the May regattas.

See you at the pond,

Don