

Hello Skippers,

On June 24, 2017, Harper Lake Model Yacht Club held its 13th Annual Circumnavigate Race. This is the most popular event the HLMYC puts on every year, where we race around the circumference of Harper Lake (approximately 1 mile). Kent Broadhead came up with this excellent idea years ago when reflecting on the big boats racing around the world and he continues to direct this special event every year. Thank you Kent!

Before we get to the details I would like to thank the following folks who really helped make this special event happen:

- Kent for setting up the course around the lake and the channel leading from our "harbor" to our "ocean."
- Also thanks to Kent for acting as Race Director and running the different class starts.
- Chuck Drake for scoring all the races and tallying up the final results for the awards presentation.
- Ken Hegy for bringing the table, paper plates, paper towels and cooler with ice and water.
- Michael Kopp for bringing the shade canopy.
- Tom Quesenbery for ordering our pizza lunch.
- Sharon Kopp for taking photos of the award ceremony.
- Special thanks to the members of the Broomfield Model Yacht Club who came out to enjoy a day of racing, food, and camaraderie.

- And finally, thanks to Jim Tarr and Harold Magaw for traveling from Grand Junction and representing the Western Slope Model Yacht Club!

The weather was great this year with temps starting in the mid 60s and ending at about 75. There were clouds most of the day but that helped keep the temps in check. The wind was predicted to be 6-8mph from the north, but it didn't quite turn out that way. We had wind from a variety of directions, besides north. The wind speed was at about 6mph a few times but not for very long. Most of the races were sailed with winds at about 1-3mph.

We had 22 skippers come out to compete this year - another great turnout. We had 9 ODOMs, 4 Victorias, 6 Solings and 3 boats for the Open Class (2 Dragon Flight 95s, and a beautiful Marblehead, sailed by J. Tarr). This allowed us to have four different start sequences. After the skipper's meeting at about 10:15, we started the first of three circumnavigate races.

The Victorias went first, followed by the Solings, the ODOMs, and then the Open class. The first race was counterclockwise around the lake. The wind was ESE and so getting out of the channel was a bit tough. There was quite a bit of tacking all the way down the south shore. And then, typical of Harper Lake, we had to tack going north on the next leg. There was even some tacking going west along the north shore! The first race finished in about 30-40 minutes. The second race was run clockwise but again the wind was a bit interesting. On the north shore, the very light wind was trying to find a direction which made for a lot of position changes as skippers tried to get around that buoy. Then the wind picked up for the second half of the race and it was a quicker pace to the finish line.

The second race finished around 12:30 when we had our pizza lunch that Tom Q had ordered. With two races completed, Kent reported that we had a 3-way tie for first place in the Soling class and a tie for second place in the ODOM class. So a third, tie-breaking race was announced and we started another counterclockwise race at 1:00.

The third and final race still had some interesting wind to deal with which made for some tight racing all the way around the lake. I know the ODOM results were decided only after we entered the channel coming back to the harbor. And the three-way tie for the Soling trophy was decided the same way. It was incredible after 40 minutes of racing for a mile that the last 50 feet or so is where the positions got decided. It doesn't get any better than this!

The final scoring of the four classes is shown below. The attached spreadsheet has all the details on the individual class finishes and final points. First place winners received a traveling trophy built by Kent Broadhead. This year we also awarded green chevrons for the three top finishers in each class. One important point to bring up: we accidentally named Ken Hegy as winning third place in the Victoria class on Saturday, when in fact, third place was won by Jim Hayes. Congratulations Jim! We will get your chevrons to you at the next Victoria regatta. Sorry for the mix-up.

	Class											
	Victoria			Soling One Meter			ODOM			Open		
FINAL	Points	Sail No.	Skipper	Points	Sail No.	Skipper	Points	Sail No.	Skipper	Points	Sail No.	Skipper
1st	3	45	S. Williams	5	879	M. Kopp	3	469	T. Britton	4	38	J. Tarr
2nd	8	16	B. Sherrell	6	58	D. Ball	7	479	T. Quesenbery	5	169	D. McGraw
3rd	9	030	J. Hayes	7	299	B. McGregor	9	519	D. Verhaeghe	9	166	H. Magaw
	10	305	K. Hegy	12	62	B. Bogusky	11	816	D. Paxton			
				15	237	J. Roth	17	576	R. Sweetman			
				20	378	J. Montgomery	20	1	R. Dietz			
							22	96	J. Wyss			
							24	4	G. Paxton			
							29	602	R. Wangrin			

Thanks again to everyone for making this a great event! And remember, this year we will hold a second Circumnavigate event on Saturday, September 30.

See you at the pond,

Don