

Hello Skippers,

Today we held the August Victoria regatta in this COVID-19 season. The weather turned out to be relatively pleasant with temps starting in the high 70s and reaching the high 80s when we wrapped up. The wind was forecast to eventually be from the east and once 10:30 came around, that did become true, mostly. Wind speeds were definitely variable; more details are below. Eight skippers came out to the pond with their masks (yay!) and we got 11 races in. Denny sent out the results after the regatta and the usual format is attached to this email.

The course was set up on the south shore and this time we had no interference from any fishermen. Since we are still confined to remain within the vicinity of our chairs, the course was a little shorter than normal to try to help with the depth perception issues. With the wind coming from the ENE at about 3mph, we started racing with no offset on the windward mark and just one lap. We ran a few races in this manner with the wind holding relatively well.

After about 4 races, we started sailing two laps and then of course the wind decided to not hold steady for the entire race. We would start with a reasonable 4-5 mph wind but then the wind would just go very light for quite some time until it filled in again. This happened until race 9 or so when your Race Director finally decided it was time to go back to single lap races. (I did note a very beautiful breeze came up just after 1:00 but by then we were all done.)

Some races were able to use the full course when the wind swung to the east and gave us a challenge to reach the buoy just offshore. There were other times when the thermals came through and caused some difficult sailing, too. The virus may have screwed up many parts of our lives this year, but the wind patterns at Harper Lake are still the same!

See you at the pond,

Don