

Hello Skippers,

Today we held our final Victoria regatta of this truncated season. The weather was quite reasonable considering it is November. The temperatures were in the low 60s with mostly cloudy skies. The wind was incredibly steady; more on that below. We had our full 2020 Victoria fleet come out for the final regatta with 11 skippers. We conducted 10 races and the results are shown below. The season results are also shown and the full spreadsheet is attached.

The wind was forecasted to be out of the south and in the range of 2-15mph, depending upon which web site was used. When I arrived at the lake at 9:30, it was a sheet of glass. Since the wind direction was supposed to out of the south, I set up the course off the west shore. By 10:30, all the skippers had arrived and we still had no wind. We got the boats launched and waited.

Eventually we started to get a very light breeze, but out of the east. Fearing the east wind was going to materialize, I threw our last buoy off the south shore to set up a potential windward leg. Around 11:15, it appeared we might have enough wind to start the regatta. After the race course was called, the wind died to 0 again and we waited some more.

Around 11:30, we finally had the predicted south wind so we ran one race using the standard box course. The wind was very light, perhaps 1mph, and so the fleet was bunched up at the marks quite a bit. That long race went to Ken Hegy with Karl Schultz right there with him for a second place.

Then the wind did something odd. It swung around to approximately NNW, and settled in at about 2-4mph. We then started running single lap box-course races heading north from the starting line. The wind from then on was the most steady in direction that we have seen in a long time at Harper Lake. The 9 final races were all started from the middle start line because the direction never varied over that 90 minutes.

Even though the wind direction was very steady, it still had its occasional shifts, especially from the south end of the course (in the Barrymuda triangle) up to the finish line. This last leg was very challenging as the wind would get a bit fluky and skippers had to decide how to navigate this last section. There were many position changes on this last leg over most of the races! This turned out to be a very fun and challenging regatta to cap this season.

As mentioned in an earlier email, there was one throw out regatta out of the four we raced and for which we kept score. The top five places for the season are:

5. Ron Johanson	3.54 pts (Avg/month)
4. Stew Williams	3.03 pts
3. Barry Hight	2.27 pts
2. Don Verhaeghe	1.87 pts
1. Denny Hanson	1.38 pts

Congratulations to all who came out and participated in this COVID-shortened 2020 season!

See you at the pond,

Don