

August 21, 2021

Hello Skippers,

We held the August ODOM regatta today. We had 10 skippers come out and race today under mostly sunny skies. Temperatures were in the mid-60's to start but climbed to the upper 70s at the end of racing. We got in 13 races and the results are shown below and are also attached.

The racing today was very challenging due to the constantly shifting wind and velocity. Weatherunderground had predicted SE winds during our regatta and we had those for some of the races. Before 10:00 the wind was out of the north which was not only unexpected but would make our regular course difficult in terms of getting a windward leg. A course was set up on the south shore with the expectation the wind would eventually come out of the east or southeast.

By 10:30, we did have a breeze of just under 2mph from the east-southeast. We ran a number of one-lap races with the wind under this general condition. For each race, however, we had multiple situations of dying wind and thermal activity. Every race became a challenge where the start generally had some wind but it would die as we all got halfway up the windward leg. Getting around the windward mark took a lot of patience and hunting for any kind of zephyr. It was common to experience many points of sail just on that first leg. This lasted for the first 8 or 9 races.

Then around noon, the wind switched back to the north and picked up a bit to about 5 mph. It was too late in the regatta to move to the west shore, so we ran a number of races using the offshore mark only on windward for a one-lap race. A few races ended up being mostly reaching instead of any tacking, but the wind was erratic enough that some of the "downwind" legs turned into close-hauled legs. For the last couple of races, the wind swung back to the east to give us some more traditional windward-leeward racing.

The wind was indeed very interesting today and kept everyone on their toes.

See you at the pond!

Don