

August 7, 2021

Hello Skippers,

The August Victoria regatta was held today with the largest Victoria fleet we've had this season with 13 skippers competing. One of the 13 was a new skipper, Bill Ottino. Welcome Bill!

We had extremely smoky skies for the day due to the California wildfire smoke blowing in. The smoke was so thick we could not see the mountains nor the foothills. This did keep the temperatures down somewhat; the entire regatta only had temps in the 70s. We only finished 7 races today due to the feast or famine situation with the wind. The results are shown below and are also attached in the spreadsheet.

The wind forecast was to be WNW, starting around 3mph but building up into the teens by 11:00 or so. Barry set up the buoys off the south shore and also threw one in off the west shore in anticipation of possible northwesterly winds - thank you Barry. We started with 2-3 mph winds from the WNW, although the first few races featured winds from the west, the southwest and even out of the north at one point. Wind speeds stayed low with an occasional puff over 3mph but too uneven to think about a longer course so we sailed single lap races.

Sometime after 11:30, the wind shifted more to the northwest and picked up a little, to maybe about 5mph. For race #6 we used the buoy off the west shore as our windward mark. It was a bit difficult to see that far out, so touching the mark was allowed without a penalty. Being that the wind was coming right off the west shore, getting up to and around that mark was not easy since the wind was quite uneven in that area.

After completing that race, the wind really picked up and the 10+ mph winds were finally making an appearance. Since the wind was now very established, we made race #7 a 1-1/4 lap race, finishing between the windward marks, after doing the standard box course. We started the race with about 10 boats, but the conditions deteriorated so quickly that only 5 boats were able to finish. With no expectation that the wind was actually going to let up, we had to finish early, just after noon, with only 7 races in the books.

You will see we had two ties in the results: one for 7th and 8th places, and one for 9th and 10th places. Brian edged out Rich by virtue of his 4th place finish in race #4 while Chuck edged out Jim with his 2nd place finish in race #3.

See you at the pond!

Don