

October 16, 2021

Hello Skippers,

We held the October ODOM regatta today and 9 skippers came out to compete. We had an absolutely cloudless day with temps in the 60s - beautiful fall weather. We completed 10 races and the results are shown below and in the attached spreadsheet.

The wind forecast was for west or WSW winds so we set up on the familiar south shore. Since the wind was initially coming out of the NW, I also threw a buoy off the west shore. Ken Hegy measured the wind at about 3mph and it was relatively steady in speed for most of the regatta.

When we started, the wind was still out of the NW and pushing a little to the north. The first few races ended up using that extra buoy off the west shore after all. The first course went to the east and then back to the western buoy which was part of the standard box, then out to the west shore buoy, back to the onshore box buoy and then to the finish line. With the wind still wanting to be out of the NW, we also ran a couple of races where the west shore buoy was the first mark from the start line and then around the onshore box buoy and then to the finish line. We also had a variation where we went up to that west shore buoy twice in one race to get more windward action going.

After about five races, the wind just died. Of course, it actually died off while we were trying to finish the fifth race. After about 15 minutes or so, a slight breeze came up from the northeast so we started a race heading east using just the offshore windward buoy. Once we rounded the windward buoy, we were faced with another windward leg!

For the next two races the same thing happened. We would start going to windward and then the wind would swing about 180 degrees and give us another windward leg. One race even started to the west but the wind swung to the east after the first leg. It was an incredible set of circumstances I had not seen before. But it was fun to get so much windward work into one race.

For the final two races, the wind freshened a little from the east so we could wrap up the regatta with two races using the standard box course. The wind was indeed very interesting today and kept everyone on their toes.

See you at the pond!

Don