

September 25, 2021

Hello Skippers,

The first ever DF65 Rocky Mountain Regatta was held today under sunny skies with temperatures starting around 70 and ending in the mid 80s when we wrapped up. Seven skippers came out to compete and we completed 20 races. Denny sent out the results for the regatta.

There was no wind on the lake when I arrived just after 9:00. The wind was forecast to be primarily from the SE with maybe some ESE winds too. Fortunately, there were no fishermen on either shore so we could set up the course as we needed to. I set up the regular box course off the south shore and then threw a buoy off of the middle of the west shore in case those SE winds materialized.

When 10:30 rolled around, that buoy off the west shore proved to be quite necessary. The wind did indeed come up from the southeast at about 2 mph. All 9 races run before lunch were conducted under those SE winds. The course I called was primarily a triangle, going up the south shore to the onshore buoy, then to the west shore buoy, and then back to the finish line on the south shore. Since the wind was coming offshore, sailing along the south shore to the first buoy was a challenge. The final leg from the west shore buoy to the finish also turned out to be very challenging since the skippers had their boats coming toward them and the wind direction was not nearly as steady as the waves on the water indicated.

We also ran a few variations where the fleet had to come further into shore and round one of the leeward buoys and then head to the finish line. The wind speed held at around 2-3mph for the entire morning.

After the pizza lunch, the wind had moved to the east, and was still holding at around 2-3mph. The box course was called into action and a couple of races run with that course. One race started with ENE winds and so we just used the offshore buoy at the windward end; a few races were also run with a leeward gate. As the temperatures kept climbing, the wind also got more squirrely. We ran one race heading to the west with a southwest wind at the start, which ended up swinging around to the east again by the end of the race. The wind then swung back around to the southeast and I went back to using the triangle course using the west shore buoy to get an upwind leg to the finish line.

At 2:00, we had 18 races completed. I suggested we run two short races to get to 20 and then call it a day. The skippers agreed and the course we then used was a simple downwind-upwind course using the west shore buoy as the only mark due to the southeast wind.

After 20 races the final results showed:

5th place: Rodney Pearcey with 56 points

4th place: Stew Williams, 49 points

3rd place: Ron Johanson, 47 points

2nd place: Shannon McGreevey, 40 points

1st place: Denny Hanson, 25 points

See you at the pond,

Don

