

August 20, 2022

Hello Skippers,

We held our August ODOM regatta today with good weather. Skies were cloudy but not threatening. Temperatures started in the low 70s and were about 80 when we finished. Nine skippers came out to compete and we got in 16 races.

I want to first of all thank Stew Williams who acted as our Race Director today. Stew has agreed to run our ODOM Rocky Mountain Regatta in September so he used today as a chance to get his feet wet, so to speak. Thanks to Stew for handling this important task! And we welcomed Chris Converse back to the fleet today!

Once again, there was very little wind in the morning. The prediction was to have the wind clock around from roughly north to the east. So we set up on the south shore again in anticipation. By 10:30, there was just a hint of wind out of the southeast so we started a race. It was difficult to find any wind on the course. The first few races had very light wind and the direction was changing a lot. We had one race with westerly winds but only long enough to get around the western buoys and then it switched back to sort of easterly.

After a few races, the wind chose a southeast direction and it started to pick up a bit, to maybe 3-4mph. We had most of our races dealing with this southeast wind which did not give us much of a windward possibility. A little later in the day, the wind clocked around a little more and it came from the south. This was an even worse direction for being on the south shore. But the wind did pick up to about 8-10mph so the races were getting finished rather quickly.

About halfway through the regatta, Stew chose to make the leeward buoys a gate which added to some interesting decision making. Rounding the buoy closest to shore was a little easier maneuver, but the chance of there being enough wind to get back to the finish was iffy at times. Rounding the offshore buoy involved sometimes having to tack around the mark and sometimes the wind did not want to cooperate there. In fact, the Barrymuda triangle had very difficult winds all day making that corner a challenge most of the day.

Despite the poor wind direction, it was a fun day sailing!

See you at the pond,

Don