

Harper Lake Model Yacht Club

18th Annual Kent Broadhead Memorial Circumnavigate Regatta

June 25, 2022

Hello Skippers,

Today we held our annual Circumnavigate Regatta under quite uncharacteristic weather for the first weekend in summer. Temperatures were only in the 60s and skies were overcast. Fortunately it did not rain. The weather may have had some impact on the turnout - we had 14 boats in four different classes. This regatta was Kent Broadhead's wonderful idea 18 years ago. This was the 18th annual Circumnavigate Regatta but the 1st of the Kent Broadhead Memorial Circumnavigate Regatta. Before we started racing, we observed a moment of silence for Kent; may he rest in peace.

Before we get to the details I would like to thank the following folks who really helped make this special event happen:

- Chuck Drake for his excellent preparation of the registration and scoring sheets.
- Stew Williams for supplying the cooler, ice and water.
- Denny Hanson for supplying extra buoys for the harbor and channel.
- Rich Roberts for supplying the lighthouse buoy for our harbor, complete with a bell to lead the skippers back to the harbor.

This year's fleet comprised 4 Victorias, 4 DF65s, 3 ODOMs, and 3 boats for the Open Class (a Soling 50, an EC12, and a Schooner). There were no Solings present this year. It was great to see a good turnout of DF65s so that we can now include this class as a permanent addition to the circumnavigate classes. We had four start sequences: the DF65s went first, followed by the Victorias, then the ODOMs, and finally the Open class. The final results are shown below and all results are shown in the attachment to this email.

The first race was counterclockwise around the lake, starting at 10:30, with erratic NW winds. Wind speeds varied all day from 0 to about 5mph, and an occasional puff at around 7mph. But the wind direction was not steady, as usual. Once the majority of the fleet got to the east shore, the wind went quite soft and was trying to be out of the north. Skippers battled their way up the east shore and then were faced with more flaky light winds along the north shore. As they came down the west shore the wind seemed to sometimes be out of the south, causing a number of boats to have to tack toward the last mark, again in quite light wind. As boats started heading back toward the mouth of the channel, the wind even shifted a bit to the east. There seemed to be quite a bit of windward work all the way around the lake!

After everyone had finished, we started the 2nd race, this time going clockwise around the lake. It was also decided that the entire circumference of the lake is very challenging to the DF65 boats due to their size, thus a modified course was used for the 2nd race for this fleet.

The DF65s started clockwise around the lake with everyone else but when they reached the northwest buoy, they rounded it to starboard and then retraced their path all the way back to the finish line. This worked out very well in that it allowed them to finish before the other boats.

For the rest of the fleet, the 2nd race started with reasonable wind until the Open class made its way to the first mark and the wind went very light again. The wind picked up as the DF65 fleet made its way back down the west shore but because the wind was of a northerly direction, the rest of the fleet on the north shore was not getting good wind on the water over there. The wind did hold mostly out of the north for the rest of the race, so the trip down the east shore and along the south shore went a little quicker.

By 1:00 most of the fleet had returned to the harbor where we had a pizza lunch. After 2 races, the DF65 and Victoria classes were solidly wrapped up with two first places by Ken Joachim and Jim Asbury, respectively. The ODOM class went to Tom Quesenbery. We had a tie for first in the Open class. After a discussion between Rich Roberts and Bill McGregor, they decided they did not want to race a tie-breaker but decided to award Rich the trophy since he won the first race.

We then awarded the trophies. Since there was no one representing the Soling class, that trophy was sent home with Ken. Ken also volunteered to make a dedicated DF65 Circumnavigate trophy, copying the existing Soling trophy. We will then get a DF65 plaque made for this new trophy.

Congratulations to Jim Asbury, Ken Joachim, Tom Quesenbery, and Rich Roberts as this year's first place winners!

Thanks again to everyone for making this a great event!

See you at the pond,
Don