

September 24, 2022

Hello Skippers,

Today we held the 2nd Annual Rocky Mountain Regatta for the DF65 class. We had a great turnout of 9 skippers to compete for plaques and green chevrons. We had clear blue skies with lots of sun and temps mostly in the 70s. We completed 13 races before deciding to end the regatta.

I took care of the RD duties today to allow all the sailors a chance to concentrate on their sailing and not on running the regatta. I would like to thank Chuck who took care of organizing the registrations and getting the plaques ordered. Thanks to Stew Williams for supplying the ice and water. And thanks again to everyone who collected buoys at the end of the regatta.

The winds were predicted to start at about 2mph out of the east and perhaps gradually build to about 4-5mph and maybe also get some northerly component to the direction. We set up the standard box course on the south shore and decided to wait to see if we would need a different set up in the afternoon.

When 10:30 arrived, the lake was a sheet of glass. The boats on the lake were barely moving. After a few minutes there was the very slightest air movement and it seemed to be coming from the west. I didn't want to wait too long to get the regatta started so we ran the first race to the west, around one buoy and then back to the finish line. This first race took about 8 minutes to complete.

Fortunately, the wind then swung to the ENE and picked up a little speed to about 2mph. The second race was run to the east, using the offshore windward buoy only on the windward leg and then around the two leeward buoys and back to the finish. With the low wind speed, this course was still a bit long to complete.

The wind did not change much during the morning and we used this same course for most of the races until lunch. A couple of times the wind had swung to the east and then we would run the standard box course. By lunch time, we had 8 races completed.

During our pizza lunch, the wind shifted again to the NE and picked up a little bit more, to around 4-5mph, although the speed dropped occasionally. I tossed in another buoy just to the east of our starting pins along the shore to create a windward leg to the offshore windward buoy. The course after lunch was to go out to the offshore buoy, back to the far end of the starting line, then to the new buoy near the shore, back to the offshore buoy (upwind), and then finish downwind; we called this the triangle course. This course had some challenges near the shore since the wind was flaky there. And there was quite a bit of tacking up to the offshore buoy, which was the plan.

We ran this course for 4 races and one race of the box course when the wind swung to the south for a few minutes. By now it was getting to be 2:15 and the skippers decided it was time to call it a day with 13 races completed.

The top 5 finishers were as follows:

5th place: David Myer, 48 points
4th place: Rodney Pearcey, 47 points
3rd place: Stew Williams, 36 points
2nd place: Ron Johanson, 25 points
1st place: Denny Hanson, 14 pts

Congratulations to Denny, Ron, and Stew who took home the plaques!

See you at the pond,

Don