

November 12, 2022

Hello Skippers,

Under sunny but cold skies, we held the final ODOM regatta of the 2022 season today. Temperatures were in the mid-30s when we started and reached all the way to about 45 when we finished. Since there was VERY little wind and the sun was out in full force, it did not feel as cold as the thermometer would indicate. Four skippers arrived to battle it out with the ODOMs one last time this season, and we completed only 8 races.

The forecast was for winds at 2-3mph primarily from the east so the standard box course was set up on the south shore. There was a bit of ice on the lake at the very edge of the shore. When 10:30 rolled around, there was no wind and Harper Lake was a sheet of glass.

Eventually a zephyr materialized at maybe 0.1mph out of the west. We decided to try a race heading west around the two buoys and back to the finish. This is the shortest course we could sail and it took more than 10 minutes to complete. The next race used the same course and took about as long to complete.

The wind then tried to come out of the east. It was still so light that I threw in another buoy halfway between the start line and the windward buoys close to the point. We circled that buoy and then the two leeward buoys and back to the finish. Every time we got a breeze that was about 2mph and gave us hope, it died off within a couple of minutes. There was some thermal activity also where the boats would switch tacks on their own, sometimes 3 or 4 times in less than 30 seconds. ODOM skippers know that in very light air, the boat has incredible lee helm. We all did more jibes than tacks to get around the courses today.

We finished sailing just a little early with only 8 races completed. Only one of those used the full box course. Congratulations to Barry, who was smoking hot today, notching 7 bullets and throwing out his only non-first place!

The final season results are also shown below and in the attached spreadsheet. The top five positions for this year are as follows:

5. Rich Bryan	3.31 pts (Avg/month)
4. Don Verhaeghe	3.19 pts
3. Greg LaLiberte	2.20 pts
2. Barry Hight	1.82 pts
1. Denny Hanson	1.77 pts

See you at the pond!

Don