

October 1, 2022

Hello Skippers,

Today we held the October Victoria regatta. We had very pleasant weather with temps in the 60s and mostly sunny skies. Nine skippers came out to enjoy the sailing, weather, and camaraderie. We completed 12 races. (At the lake, I thought we had finished 14 races, but I discovered we accidentally skipped over races 7 and 8 on the electronic tablet so we really only had 12 races.)

We set up on the south shore anticipating the mostly east winds that were predicted. An extra buoy was thrown in off the south shore for possible NE winds but those never materialized enough to use that buoy.

The wind started out from the ENE and came in very light at about 2mph. As usual, the wind speed was quite variable during the regatta. For the initial races, we ended up sailing just to the offshore windward buoy to attempt to get some tacking involved and then around the two leeward buoys. Eventually the wind moved more to the east and we started running the standard box course, nicknamed "The Old Box-a-roo." Thanks Stew. :)

As the wind slid more toward the ESE, it became very flaky near the shore as it came off the bank. The Barrymuda triangle was also treacherous for some skippers as the wind swirled around there. Playing wind shifts, which occurred about every 60 seconds it seemed, became critical. Thermals only added to the challenge.

For a few races, the wind actually shifted to a primarily southern direction, which the course was not set up for. However, the wind still shifted around a bit, covering from SE to SW so we still ended up with more tricky conditions than a pure south wind would normally provide. It was about this time that the speed picked up a little more, to about 4-5mph but not for an entire race.

This regatta turned out to be a good tune-up for next week's postponed Rocky Mountain Regatta for the Victorias!

See you at the pond!

Don