

October 8, 2022

Hello Skippers,

We held the postponed Rocky Mountain Regatta for the Victoria class today. It was a beautiful fall day with temperatures in the 60s and mostly sunny skies. Eleven skippers came out to the lake to compete in 17 races for plaques and green chevrons. This was the largest fleet of the 3 RMRs this year. In addition, a number of us met Sabrina Roberts who is in the process of building a DF65 and will be joining the club soon and came out to meet the club members. Welcome Sabrina!

First I would like to give a big thank-you to Greg LaLiberte who acted as Race Director and scorekeeper. Chuck once again did a super job organizing the registrations and getting the plaques made. And thanks to Stew Williams for bringing the ice and hydration supplies. And another thank you to all those who helped bring in buoys at the end of our long day.

The winds were once again forecast to be somewhere out of the east but primarily ENE. We set up the box course on the south shore. Wind speeds were forecast to start out around 2mph and build to 4-5mph during the regatta.

At 10:30, there was less than 2mph of wind. The direction was threatening to be out of the north but it was quite flaky and did occasionally come from an easterly direction, more or less. Greg called the first course to be the standard box course to test the winds. Soon the wind settled into an ENE direction but with variable speeds below 3mph. A number of races were run using just the offshore buoy as the windward mark and then around the two leeward buoys and back to the finish.

As the wind moved a little further north to be from the NE, we threw in an extra buoy off the south shore to use as a windward leg up to the offshore windward buoy. Greg called a course that involved sailing to the offshore buoy, down to the new buoy and then back to the offshore buoy for some windward work and then to the finish. The wind had picked up slightly in speed and stayed quite steady from the NE so this course was employed for a fair number of races.

After 10 races were in the books, the pizza arrived. As we were enjoying our pizza, we got a fairly fresh breeze out of the north at about 6mph. It was a little concerning as we would not have any decent windward leg if the wind remained out of the north.

But just as quickly as that breeze developed, it disappeared after Barry took a couple of group photos and we started launching for the post-lunch racing. The wind settled back into a NE / ENE direction at about 3mph for the rest of the regatta. Unlike in the morning, the wind in the afternoon became much more variable. Thermals were becoming more active and we had southwest winds showing up and then disappearing. Many skippers had more difficulty in the afternoon getting around the course.

We again ran some of the races using the new buoy and some races Greg called to sail just up to the offshore buoy and back since the wind was getting more fickle. After 17

racers were done at about 2:30, and the wind not cooperating, we voted to end the regatta.

The electronic tablet had been used all day for score keeping but when we tallied the final results, there was an error that prevented the final point values from being calculated. We believed the order of the skippers was correct and handed out the plaques and chevrons to the top three positions. Unfortunately, after Denny was able to review the results in much more detail at home, he discovered the order had not been correct. The final results are shown below. Also note the competition was very tight for places 3-6 which were separated only by 7 points.

The top 5 finishers were as follows:

5th place: Jim Asbury, 57 points

4th place: Rich Bryan, 54 pts

3rd place: Barry Hight, 53 pts

2nd place: Don Verhaeghe, 44 pts

1st place: Denny Hanson, 36 pts

I want to apologize to Jim for asking him to return the plaque and chevrons since we awarded those to him in error.

Congratulations to Denny, Don, and Barry who took home the plaques!

See you at the pond,

Don