

September 6, 2014

Hello Skippers,

First I'd like to thank the people that really helped out for this special event today. A big thank you to Greg LaLiberte for acting as our Race Director – great job Greg! Thanks to Ken Hegy for supplying the table, ice and water, plates and paper towels for our pizza lunch. And a thank you to Denny Hanson for supplying the canopy.

The weather today was a reminder that autumn will be coming soon. We started out with completely overcast skies and temps in the mid 50s. There was a north breeze blowing at about 5mph when we arrived to set up the marks. True to Harper Lake legend that nice breeze would not last. Greg set up the marks off the west shore.

We held the skipper's meeting at about 10:15 and started racing about 10:30. The north wind backed off and the first race was a one-lap standard box course with winds at about 1-2mph. The second race was the same course but the wind dropped to near 0 for most of the race. The next four races were all with extremely light air and required significant concentration.

We finished only 6 races by noon and then had a pizza lunch. By now the clouds had finally moved off and it began to warm up.

The wind came up a little bit after lunch but was very erratic for the remaining races. The speed was averaging about 2mph with a few puffs closer to 5, but not sustained for any significant amount of time. In addition, the wind direction started moving all around the compass. We ran the first four races after lunch heading to the south. Then a couple races to the north, then back to the south, then back to the north. While we were racing, we encountered windward legs many times in both directions. Greg did a great job constantly monitoring the latest wind direction and tried to give us as good of a course as possible. But with the very light wind, it took a long time to complete each race, which were all one lap.

By the end of our racing day, the temperature was about 70. We finished racing about 2:15 and then held our trophy presentation. The top five positions were as follows:

5th place – Ken Hegy – 60 points
4th place – Bill Mansfield – 51 points
3rd place – Kent Broadhead – 37 points
2nd place – Don Verhaeghe – 21 points
1st place – Denny Hanson – 14 points

The ODOM Rocky Mountain Regatta will be held in two weeks on Saturday, September 20. See you there!

Don