

Cow Town Classic

October 10-11, 1998

Fleet 54 Hoover YC, Ohio

Results from Ted Keller

There was a crispness in the air at this year's Cow Town Classic, but other than slightly cool temperatures, the weather was perfect with lots of sunshine. The attendance was a bit down from our first year, but the racing was good.

Predictions of light and variable winds and fog proved untrue and steady north winds showed up at 8-12 mph.

After a handful of lead changes, Mark White was able to win the 1st race followed by Ted Keller. Carl Pratt won the 2nd race, a long, windward-leeward course. He was followed by Ron Stryker.

After lunch, the fleet reassembled for back-to-back afternoon races. The breeze strengthened and became a bit more shifty. Ron Stryker was dialed into the shifts and won with a comfortable lead. Keller finished 2nd.

The last race of the day was definitely the topic of conversation at the keg that evening. It started with a lightening but decent breeze, but after the fleet completed the first lap it

Pl	Skipper	Club	Boat	Races						Pts
				1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	Ted Keller	HYC/OH	1431	2	3	2	1	5	5	18
2	Ron Stryker	HYC/OH	1800	3	2	1	5	3	4	18
3	Mark White	HYC/OH	1530	1	5	5	2	4	2	19
4	Carl Pratt	CLSA/OH	1176	4	1	4	8	2	3	22
5	Bob Bellafronto	CLSA/OH	902	6	4	3	6	1	6	26
6	Dan Gloeckner	HYC/OH	1101	5	6	8	7	6	1	33
7	Judy Hearn	CLSA/OH	1347	8	8	6	3	8	7	40
8	Doug Kiser	HYC/OH	1400	9	7	7	4	7	8	42
9	Sandy Schirmer	HYC/OH		7	9	9	9	DNS	DNS	54

went flat. There were only the slightest of zephyrs and personal puffs as the fleet crawled down the leg. Depending on the puffs, everyone got out in front for a period, with 7 or 8 different boats in first at one time or another. One side of the course would gain, then the other, until everyone came together at once at the leeward pin. Talk about pinwheels! All in slow motion. After it all became untangled, Ted Keller found the new wind first and led the group back to the finish. Mark White finished 2nd after being one of the last around the leeward mark!

Sunday saw warmer temperatures, bright sunshine and minimal wind. The forecast was for less breeze as the day went on so with the wind marginally filled in, the fleet set out for a couple of drifter races. Windward-leeward 1-1/2's to try to get in two races. The first race saw the Cowan Lake sailors dem-

onstrate their light-air speed. Bob Bellafronto found the best breeze on the right side and sailed to a comfortable lead and victory. Carl Pratt finished second.

The last race had Dan Gloeckner, new to the MC and from Hoover Yacht Club, get the win. Mark White finished 2nd.

In the end, Stryker and Keller tied for first with Keller winning on the tie-breaker. Stryker was top Master. Mark White finished in 3rd place. Judy Hearn from Cowan Lake won the Top Woman trophy. It was very noteworthy that in a nine-boat fleet there were six different race winners in six races. Great racing! For our regulars who couldn't make the regatta this year, we invite you to get us on your calendar for next year and come down for some great MC racing in the Cow Town!



Cow Town Classic Sailors (Photo by Marie Pratt)
 Back L to R: Carl Pratt, Dan Gloeckner, Bob Bellafronto, Doug Kiser
 Front: Mark White, Ted Keller, Ron Stryker, Judy Hearn