

Orlando Webb Report – Day 1

The second largest MC regatta of the year kicked off this week first with a Ehood 2 hour clinic with 25 skippers present on Friday. Light winds on Friday but still a few practice races were held on Lake Lotawana out of the Missouri Yacht Club fleet 14. Rich history with this event named after one of the fleet founders Orlando Webb. You always have big fleets when coming to this event on one of the trickiest lakes on the circuit. I think pre-registration was 41. I tried counting before race 1 today and I ended up with 53 or 54 boats. I may be off by one or two but we are over 50 for sure. So I will correct once we get printed results tomorrow. I do have the scores for the top ten here on day 1 for everyone.

Crazy Ivan - Okay most of you know where I am going with this one. We had big wind shifts up to 90 degrees at certain times today during both races. The winds had a general light westerly direction however we had velocity problems from 0 - 10 mph for both races. That gave a few moments on every leg where nobody was ever really safe with any given position. Actually I should take that back. The rich did get richer so maybe the first two or three boats had a little security in each race but even that was at risk at any given moment. A key today was taking a shot at staying in the breeze all the time. Three boats out of the group did a great job of this , then another three boats did a very good job too so six boats really survived the day well staying focused and staying in dark water regardless of direction. The key was just keep the boat moving. Big long lines for starts and they were good considering the conditions.

Just a reminder for those who have not been to Lake Lotawana. It is a very skinny lake usually well less than 1/4 mile wide , most times just 1/8th of mile wide. T shaped with the long part of the T a little over a mile long and it runs north and south. The top to the T runs east and west is about a half of a mile long. High hills with trees surround this lake so the breeze can drop in out of nowhere and surprise you. So it is fun, exciting, frustrating, challenging and never over till it is over all in one.

Here is your top 12 after two races. Two races were morning races and breeze died this afternoon so no races. We are trying to get two races in before noon tomorrow on Sunday before predicted storms hit around 11am to noon. Should be an interesting morning for sure.

Jeff Surlis 4, Austin Chamberlin 6, Mark Marling 7, Steve Sherman 11, Mark Frashier 13, Jeff Grinnan 14, Danny Ziegler 15, Jean-Pierre Bordes 18, Ehood 18, Drew Ziegler 21, Craig Eaton 28, Scott Griffiths 29.

More tomorrow.

Two important reminders for everyone. Please make sure your whole fleet is paid up on class dues. We really need everyone pitching in to keep our class healthy.

Second, we hope you are seriously considering attending the MC National Championship at White Lake. It is a bucket list event. Cam McNeil and team are rolling out the red carpet in many different ways for this championship. We think we will break the current 111 record set back in 2000 at Clear Lake. Bring your family, rent a cabin, house, spend time on beautiful Lake Michigan which White Lake is attached too. If you need some pictures or

encouragement just email me or Cam McNeil and we will help you out. You can reach Cam at cameron@lakemichiganlaw.com

Back soon from the Missouri Yacht Club,
EHood
MC 2567

Jeff Surles wins 2nd largest MC Regatta of season the Orlando Webb Regatta

As reported yesterday three boats had a good lead on this crowd of 52 MCs (actually 52 registered with 48 racing in any given race. So just to recap going into today's racing we had the Melges/North speed clinic with 25 attending on Friday, great Missouri Yacht Club party on Friday night, fantastic MYC and famous dinner on Saturday night, then to light air Crazy Ivan races on Saturday.

For the final third day here at Lake Lotawana we had one light air race that went the length of the lake with the southerly winds. It looked like big winds were possible with approaching storms from the southwest but it all fell apart just short of the lake this morning.

Wind direction for the race was for sure much more steady today but we still had some of the same velocity issues that plagued us on the first two Saturday races. That being said you had to be one of the first five or so boats to escape the starting line and then it was short tacking up the lake in light air. The problem you have in big light air starts like this is when boats gather closely what little air is available becomes disturbed and unstable with velocity and direction. That was the case today. So the first 5 or 6 boats got away quickly and never looked back.

Jeff Surles out of Pine Lake Yacht Club in Wisconsin sailed a great, I mean great regatta this weekend for the win. He will be a tough one to beat at the upcoming White Lake National Championship.

Here are your top ten and division winners

Jeff Surles 7, Austin Chamberlin 12, Jon Martin 14, Jeff Grinnan (top Master) 16, Steve Sherman (top Grand Master) 18, EHood 22, Jean-Pierre Bordes 26, Danny Ziegler 27, Mark Marling 30, Glen Foulke 32

Top Mega Master - Jack Kern

Top Woman - Nikki Weber

Race Winners- Austin Chamberlin, Glen Foulke, Jon Martin

Full results will be posted soon on www.mcscow.org

Images are available from Gordon McBride at <http://gmcbride.smugmug.com>

Don't forget to make plans now, change plans now to be at this year's National Championship.

This will be one of the best ever MC events in the history of our class. Connect with me or Cam McNeil. Cameron@lakemichiganlaw.com today.

7 or 8 brand new boats are being built for the Nationals. If you want to go all out connect with Andy Burdick, Jim Gluek, Justin Hood or myself ASAP.

See you all on the course soon.

From a pit stop on the road all the best,
EHood
MC 2567

