

Race Report for 2014 LHYC Diehard Regatta, September 13-14

Great weather makes for a great regatta! This year that is just what the 35 racers in the three-fleet Diehard enjoyed on beautiful Lake Harriet, Minneapolis, MN. Temperatures warm enough for t-shirts and shorts with sunny skies and ample winds provided for seven races over the two-day regatta.

MCSA Board Member Bill Coburn was the PRO for the races and set up efficiently run windward-leeward courses on Saturday and Sunday. Saturday's winds were S-SE starting at about 10 mph and building throughout the day. Some big puffs added to the challenge and blew a handful of boats over but not so much they couldn't get right back in to the race and finish well.

Sunday saw orderly SE winds around 8-12 mph and offered a beautiful day to finish the last two races of the regatta with smiles on all faces.

Six C-class boats raced and saw Joe Friction, David Ginsberg and Larry Saltzman finish 1-2-3. Friction, an MC sailor with LHYC, mixed it up this year with a borrowed boat to race against the Lake Calhoun top finishers.

Six M-16-class boats were at the lines and saw Joe Schroeder, John Barbor and Ted Jewitt wrapping up the first three places. All are LHYC sailors and duke it out regularly during weekly races.

23 MC-class boats from LHYC, Clear Lake, Lake Okoboji and Upper Minnetonka plyed the waters with top three finishes going to perennial MC regatta winners Noel Nueman, Mark Christianson and Stu Oltrogge, all who managed to best the LHYC top racers.

A lawn party was held Saturday night at LHYC-racer Bill Kirkpatrick's home. With blankets spread on the lawn, chairs on the patio and kids roasting s'mores at the firepit, stories were shared, racing were tips swapped and sailors dined on lasagna, pizza and salads in a spirit of gustatorial camaraderie.

All in all a great regatta and end to sailing in Minnesota.