

2014 MCSA National Championship

70 MC Teams Prep for National Championship at Augusta

24 September 2014

Article courtesy of Eric Hood — As I write I am watching 35 of 70 MC Scow teams entered for this years National Championship racing in a great 15 mph NE breeze here in Augusta, Georgia. Regatta Chairman Jeff Annis has a team of 75 volunteers a great ratio of 1 volunteer per team racing. Wind and weather for the next three days of this championship are looking great.

I personally had a blast today just going upwind on some long practice beats with current National Champion Kenny Wolfe and his crew Virginia Hannan. Also, seeing old friend and Melges 32 World Champ Scott “Chuck” Norris. Had my hands full but it was fun. Check out some of the top guns at this years event. Jeremy Pape, Bill Draheim, Kenny Wolfe, Ron Baerwitz, Ted Keller, Matt Fisher, Zack Clayton, John Potter, Lenny Krawcheck and the list just goes on and on. Looking at the list I see 15 teams that could easily win this championship, I see 30 teams that could win a race. It will be a tough 7 race format and fantastic racing from 1st to 70th.

Should have some great drone coverage. Immediate results will be posted at the [Augusta Sailing Club Website](#) and shortly after racing in the evenings both [Melges Performance Sailboats](#) and the MCSA Class website should have results up.

Three Races Open the 2014 MC Scow National Championship in Augusta, Ga.

25 September 2014

Article courtesy of Eric Hood - Our first day of sailing kicked off here at Augusta, Georgia for the MC Scow National Championship. Overcast day with light/medium oscillating winds with a base direction of Northeast. Sixty-five teams made it to the starting line. Solid courses from PRO Chip Mann and his large team of volunteers from the Augusta Sailing Club and also some other fellow teammates from Wisconsin. Good courses by the PRO and team but tough sailing for the competitors with the big shifty breezes. All in all a great day of sailing but some highs and lows for all with the challenging winds.

Race Winners for the day

Race 1 – Bill Draheim/Rush Creek Yacht Club

Race 2 - Jeremy Pape/Lake Lanier Atlanta

Race 3 - Chris Andert / Minnetonka

Talked to a lot of folks post race. Kenny Wolfe put it best. "My heart rate was up as so many things were going on all the time. Much more to compute than normal is another way to put the day sailing challenges."

What was fast was simply finding the correct side and edge for those outside the top 5. The top 5 usually played center left or center right but with the big swings and relatively low wind pressure you had to get to the edges if further back in the pack. Speed really did not seem to be the deal but positioning yourself for the new breeze and big shifts was a big deal. More tactical than anything is how you could summarize the day.

Cook your own steaks and crazy Georgia ASC Jeff Annis style Karoke is up next. Kenny Wolfe actually likes this sort of thing based on singing his crew Virginia Hannan a happy birthday song at the last regatta the ILYA Championship.

Here are the scores:

- 1st – Kenny Wolfe, 2-5-6= 13
- 2nd – Jeremy Pape, 8-1-7 = 16
- 3rd – Ted Keller, 6-7-4 = 17
- 4th – Steve Sherman, 4-14-3 = 21
- 5th - Chris Andert, 7-15-1= 23
- 6th – Scott “Chuck” Norris, 5-4-17 = 26
- 7th – Bill Draheim, 1-6-21 = 28
- 8th – Michael Considine, 14-17-2= 33
- 9th – Clark Wade, 19 - 2-14 = 35
- 10th – John Potter, 13-20-10 = 43
- 11th – Ron Baerwitz, 12-19-12 = 43
- 12th – Jeff Annis, 9-8-28 = 45
- 13th – Eric Protzman, 3-16-27 = 46
- 14th – Jake Erdman, 24-3-19=46
- 15th – David Helmick, 17-22-8= 47

With One More Day To Go - Kenny Wolfe Leads The 2014 MC National Championship

27 September 2014

Article courtesy of Eric Hood - DAY 2 - For the second day of the 2014 MC Scow National Championship more challenging winds but a little more solid with velocity which reduced the swings quite bit on Friday. Races 4,5 and 6 were all completed but it took a while and competitors were finally all back on the trailer by 6pm. Two in the morning and a late afternoon race. Wind velocities were anywhere from 5-18mph with wind directions anywhere from 20 –60 degrees.

Today was a day where lots of folks had great races but only one really survived it all. We have one race left but Kenny Wolfe has in fact clinched the championship. Ted Keller did a great job staying up and is having a fantastic regatta in second place but cannot mathematically get to Kenny for our last race today which is Race 7. Other notables Jeremy Pape who was back and forth winning with Kenny this week broke a shroud in the morning practice time and missed a race. 2014 Masters Champ Bill Draheim along with Ted has done well and sailed very consistently and is in a strong third place. Scott "Chuck" Norris a new favorite son of our class has sailed well, had a Z-flag, but had to leave the regatta early for some a tough family situation (lets as a sailing family keep him, his mother and whole family in our prayers as they say goodbye to his grandmother). Chuck really sailed well. Midwinters Champ Ron Baerwitz is in fifth place.

Race Winners for the day

Race 4 – Zach Clayton / Lake Beulah

Race 5 – Matt Fisher / Hoover (Columbus)

Race 6 – Jeremy Pape / Lake Lanier Atlanta (2nd race Jeremy has won)

More to come and final results after the regatta ends today. Later this week I will a post regatta interview with Kenny Wolfe and Virginia Hannan plus have Kenny give his high altitude view of this fun but very tough event this year.

Also, we have some great photos, drone coverage. We need to button down all the contacts and where all of it is being posted. For sure a great place to start will be the Augusta Sailing Club website.

Kenny Wolfe and Virginia Hannan win 2014 MC Scow National Championship

27 September 2014

Article courtesy of Eric Hood - TEXAS – MICHIGAN one, two. Sounds like college football right? Well actually it is the 2014 MC Scow National Championship and the home states for the winner and runner-up for this years national championship.



Kenny Wolfe and Virginia Hannan win 2014 MC Scow National Championship

The final day of this years national championship really did not bring any surprises other than the fact that we saw some sun for this gorgeous last day of a very tough racing week. Challenges at every turn were not in short supply this week. Everyone but repeat National Champ Kenny Wolfe and his crew Virginia Hannan seemed to experience several doses of big challenge. This last day of racing though was good in that the wind was a little bit more stable and the swings to were less than 25 degrees which was nice. Another great starting line and course from PRO Chip Mann and his large Augusta/Wisconsin RC team. The regatta was fair as fair could be considering the challenging and shifty breezes. The best won and the rest followed. Absolute honorable, extremely honorable mentions to Ted Keller and Bill Draheim. Ted had 6 out of 7 races in the top ten. Usually that would win a national championship in a fleet of 65 boats. Masters National Champ Bill Draheim from MC powerhouse Rush Creek fleet had four out of seven top tens plus a race win. Here is what is crazy. Kenny had all top tens never beyond 6th.



Photo: Mari Johnson

Key lesson - Kenny and I were debriefing on our drives home as we both faced tonight's western sunset. Kenny, his wife Melissa and crew Virginia driving down I-10 headed to Texas and me in Zenda 2 headed toward Nashville. Our discussion was what was the big difference on winning. I floated the idea to Kenny and he agreed it was focus. Lots of great, fast sailors in our class but at the end of the day with both think it comes down to a higher percentage of great focus on the task at hand and the ability to compartmentalize things as needed. So what we are going to do in the very near future is have some great words of wisdom from Kenny that he and I will shape together the next two weeks. We will share across the networks at Melges, the MC Scow Class, MC Facebook, Augusta Sailing Club and a few other sites for all to see. These are words of wisdom that I think all will really enjoy.

Jeff Annis our regatta chairman is working on getting all the Go-Pro footage, Drone footage and hundreds of images from several photographers listed all on one document. For sure you will see everything soon at www.augustasailingclub.org and shortly after at www.melges.com plus www.mcscow.org.

[View Final Race Results](#). Stay tuned for our MC wrap-up reports coming soon.

Also, plan ahead for the all the big events next year. I guess we can call it a "Cheesy" year coming but exciting. We have the Nationals at Pewaukee, the big ILYA (largest regatta of the 2014 season) being held at Lake Geneva and the all new Buddy Melges Sailing Center. Up next the Halloween Regatta at Augusta then our two great Florida events the SE Champs in

November and the season opener the Midwinter Championships at Lake Eustis. BE THERE
!!!!!!

See you soon,
E Hood
Team Retro