

Fanfare 2009 Regatta Report

The 2009 Fanfare regatta saw a small but determined group of dinghy sailors compete over 2 days on Saturday and Sunday September 12 and 13.

Day one started with glassy water except for a 500' shore thermal circling the lake, you could see boats running up river on the Quebec shore while boats leaving the harbour beat up wind. The center of the lake was glass and as a result up went the AP. The forecast was terrible and RC set 1PM as the make or break time for the day. With some hesitation and signs of things filling in the AP was dropped at 12:55 and we all launched. This turned out to be a perfect call. Although not strong the wind filled in and provided fair (if light) racing for the first 2 races. The wind shutdown on the 3rd race with anyone on the right barely making the windward mark (thanks current!) and anyone on the left riding the Quebec shore thermal to the mark and limping home.



Day one results had light air masters Ron and John leading the 505 fleet in 6910, Warner and Sonja in front of the Albacore fleet in 7162 and Mike and Robin heading up the Fireballs in 14835. I went to bed thinking....What is wrong with me I am the only dinghy fleet rep not winning their respective fleets....

The day ended on a high note with the ever popular hip of beef dinner and an excellent forecast for the following day.

Day 2 Started with white caps and a building breeze at 10AM. The wind was strong, gusty and shifty, with base winds in the mid teens and frequent large gust into the 20s. In the 505 this means upwind planning and for me anyways lots of downwind swimming....The conditions knocked out 3 505s, 3 Albacores and 1 Fireball before the first gun even sounded. It was going to be a long day. In the 505 fleet it appeared that everyone, even the front of the fleet was prone to cases of mast immersion, One particular race saw the top 4 boat get knocked down and the 5th place boat end up as the eventual winner simply because they had rounded but not yet launched their chute when the big puff hit. Even the top Albacore sailors where observed flopping around like seals in front of the committee boat after one particularly tight start. By the 5th race Only 6 505s (2 broken rudders, 1 mangled spinnaker and a few broken spirits), 5 Albacore and no Fireballs remained standing.



As is typical in the dinghy fleet there was very aggressive and tight racing but no visit to the protest room. As after Day one the Albacore and Fireball fleet captains demonstrated that sailing skill was the primary criteria for getting elected to those prestigious roles (Warner and Sonia with 10 pts, and Mike and Robin with 15pts) , while in the 505 fleet Jeff and Rachel out of KYC won with 11 points. Final result can be found at link **insert link here**.



The event would not have occurred if not for the team of volunteers lead by Greg Dargavel (RO) and Tom Babcock (CJ).

Pictures can be seen at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/wyndavies/>