

SUMMER SERIES

SHIELDS FLEET 9 JULY 26

This was a picture perfect afternoon to sail. Blue sky, full sun with wispy clouds, consistent wind 10 to 12 knots, no chops. On board Ida: Dr. Robin Wallace PRO, Dr. Dan Eardley driver and timer, Betsy Reed with Matt Buechner and Rachel Burnham from boat 107. On board Liemrock- Leeward rib, Ross Cann, Phyllis Detwiler and Alyce Wright. On board Capt. Hosea windward rib, David Gray, Socrates Valvolotis and John Burnham, also from boat 107.

Wind was 210 9 to 12 knots. The signal boat dropped anchor south of Victor (Green 17) Course was set for T to port Gates x2. The distance from the start to T was approximately 1.5 miles. The distance from T to the gates was approximately 1.6 miles. All clear on the start. An incoming tide helped to keep the fleet back. The fleet went left and all but one (29) stayed left up to the bridge. The fleet stayed close while rounding the first mark and started spreading out on the downwind leg. You could tell at the downwind leg there was a wind shift to the right to 215 to 220. A course change was signaled to EP known as 13 on the race course, which is 1.2 miles from the gates.

The fleet was evenly split at the gates left and right although by mid-point of the third leg all of the boats went right towards Jamestown rather than left as they did with the start, but evenly spread out. 33 rounded the second windward mark in first place and held that position until the gun with 217 in close second and 156.

There was a collision at the start between 160 and 222 with damage to the port stern of 222 that became apparent to RC with a protest flag, 160 did their turns.

Bill O'Hanley