

J/24 RACE

MAY 18

We ran two races this evening and there were 13 boats on the line. Both race courses used an axis of 225 which set up nicely for racing mark 4 (the special racing mark located just off of Hammersmith Farm). Mark 6 was the leeward mark. Race one used mark 4 for the windward mark. Race two used a dropped mark halfway to the mark 4 for the windward mark. Ida was anchored south of mark 6 between marks 4 and 6.

The wind direction stayed consistent all night but did range between 8 to 14 knots. We used two mark boats again because of the mark boat mentoring program. Lime Rock which was driven by Dan Dwyer was used as the pin boat. Captain Hosea which was used for the mark boat mentor program handled the windward mark. The crew on Captain Hosea did an excellent job of placing the windward mark for the second race. The crew on Lime Rock did an excellent job of placing the starting pin and finish pin. Our line was very square to the wind. However, the starting line was adjusted slightly before the start of the first race because of tide and tactical considerations.

There were three general recalls during the racing. There was one general recall for the first race and two for the second race. The general recall for the first race was caused because most of the boats chose to start near Ida. There was a slight advantage because of tide and Ida's position was closer to fresh air in the middle of the Bay. After adjusting the line to favor the pin the first race started with no problems. The boats were spread nicely across the line. The general recalls for the second race were caused by the aggressiveness of the competitors and the tide pushing boats over the line. The boats were spread out evenly across the line and there was no adjustment to be made. Thankfully all boats started correctly on the third attempt.

Our second night of racing had a bit of everything. The mark boats reported wind conditions up and down the Bay. We had general recalls. One boat registered a protest against another boat at the conclusion of the first race. A huge car carrier came down the Bay during the second race. Fortunately, our racing was well away from the car carrier's course. The windward mark boat reported the sail numbers of other boats performing circles at the windward mark. The mark boats did a great job of supporting the signal boat. There were no equipment issues. The evening was sunny, warm, and windy. All and all it was a great evening to be out on the water.