Lido Fleet 2 Invitational



The 2016 Lido Fleet 2 Invitational was held in Marina del Rey on March 26th. 21 boats from three classes joined us on a picture perfect day for six races run by PRO Bruce Fleck, assisted by Matt and Michelle Kreke. Larry Hoskinson ran the mark-set boat and Rick Horner handled the photography duties.

Racers were greeted at SCCYC by our registrar Iris Lee and the now famous "Crane Crew", Gary Magnuson and Trevor Bazeley, who got boats into the water and trailers stored so the sailors could focus on the racing.

The wind came up, as PRO Bruce predicted, right on time for our 13:30 start. The Snipe fleet had three entries but equipment failure and a little too much breeze cut them down to only one boat. Tom Chrien and his son Justin got in two races, and took a couple swims before retiring for the day. We hope they had a good time and that the Snipe fleet joins us again next year.

The C-15's had 5 entries and enough wind to use the trapeze. A couple boats failed to sail the correct course in race two, but overall racing was tight with the first two boats separated by only two points. Karen Jones and Stine Cacavas needed to put a boat between them and Vincent Patternoster and Steve Miller in order to take the day. Vincent and Steve prevailed in the end by winning the last race.

The Lido fleet had 13 entries. 8 in the A Fleet and 5 in the B Fleet.

Racing in the B Fleet was very tight with only 4 points separating 1st through 4th. Josh Millstein sailing with his daughter Amit had a great showing with a pair of 2nd place finishes, but a DNF in race 3 sent them to 4th overall. David McDaniel and his wife Minyoung missed the 1st race because of a snapped halyard and the 6th race because of a Little League commitment. Even so, they placed 3rd overall, 2 points out of 1st. A tie breaker was needed. Jen and Chris Kitchen on Date Night 882, and Bruce Wasson with Naz Solanki on Fudd 4963, had identical score-lines of 1-1-2-3-3-4. But Bruce and Naz won the last race to take the day. If only we had had 10 boats we could have kicked Bruce up to the A Fleet. ©

The A Fleet spent much of day watching Mark Ryan's transom. A score-line of 1-1-1-1-4 secured the win for him. Tyler Webb joined us from LSC and showed good speed both upwind and downwind with some good tactics to take 2nd. The next four boats were separated by 2 points. Dan Gilboa and Derek Bucznski (more about them later) withdrew from race 5 after a discussion on shore with Kathy Reed and Cindy Heavrin. That dropped Dan into a tie with Bill Moore for 5th. Kathy and Cindy placed 7th, perhaps a little overpowered by the wind, but certainly the most comfortable thanks to their cockpit cushions (really – cushions in a Lido?).

Steve & Kristina Potter had a pair of seconds in race 1 and 2 then the wheels fell off. Steve told me that this was the 1st regatta they had done since last year's Invitational. We hope to see them more this year. Charles & Joanna Smith and Susie Taylor and Werner Horn were neck and neck, but the Smiths benefitted with 3rd when Dan retired from race 5.

After racing, we gathered for a great roast chicken dinner put together by Karmen Estlow and Leslie Neff ably assisted at the bar by Tom Estlow.

Then it was on to the raffle and a great cache of goodies assembled by my wife, Joanna. All of our sponsors came through for us this year; we can't than them enough! Every sailor went home with something. Dan Gilboa and Derek Bucznski were the raffle champs. With only one ticket/participant and random selection, Dan and Derek's tickets were picked 1st and 2nd which gave them their choices of the lottery swag. We suspect they will be back next year.

I want to thank everybody who volunteered at this event and everybody who attended it. We need all of you to have an event like this, so thank you! There is a lot of coordination that goes into running a regatta and the chief coordinator for this one is Joanna. A special thanks to you!

Until next year ...

Charles Smith LidoMosquito - 6337