

Triangle Cup 2009

May 2-3, 2009

This was my first time as RD for an RC sailboat regatta, much less an EC 12 Region 3 regatta. I was nervous! Having sailed a Vic for just over a year now.

Early on, I found there are a number of colorful characters who race this beautiful, but challenging boat in Region 3—especially in a blow, on a run.. These include, but are not limited to, the ever-tardy-but-almost-never-last Danny Thomas. He was even late for the Sunday morning 10 minutes pre-race group photo (something about no “#”#\$%^%\$ ATMs in Cary), showing up five minutes before the first start. It also includes Frank Angel, a legend in the EC 12’s, who I had never been directly interacted before. His kindly but experienced manner put me at ease for what could have been a very nervous two days (Thanks Frank). Sixteen competitors from up and down the East Coast showed up to race!!!!

Saturday began with a light 2-3 MPH wind out of the south west, typical of Lake Johnson. While winds of 6-10 MPH were promised for that day, they were late in coming. We ran the seeding races to establish the A and B fleets. We then settled into a pace that allowed for a total of 10 scored races (20 total heats including the seeding heats). There were lots of wind shifts, typical for Lake Johnson, and lead changes were the norm. A brief shower threatened to make for damp skippers, but the threat passed quickly.

Very early, one of the local favorites, Bob Szczepanski, was put out by a defective rudder servo. Several servos came out of the woodwork, but none would fit the metal bracket in Bob’s boat. He reluctantly sat out the rest of the regatta, amusing himself with rescue-boat pilot duties, as several of the competitors did the “mast dance” (Thanks Bob). At the end of the day, Danny Thomas had a commanding 10 point lead.

Sunday opened with a challenging light south wind, making it difficult to set a decent windward leg on the course. As the morning progressed, the wind changed back to the southwest, and continued to build. Towards the end, it began to blow 6-10 MPH, with some very exciting gusts. We were able to run another 14 heats of A and B fleets. Most skippers were happy to hear the call for the last race.

It was a pleasure working with the regatta staff including:

John Amoroso – Co RD and windward mark official

Karen Szczepanski, Chase Thomas, Justin Flint – Scoring

Jock Gault – Photos

Doug Hale – Most every thing under the tent he arranged/brought.

Ronald McMenamin – Treasurer - arranging for lunch and handling the finances

Bob Szczepanski – Rescue Boat (Last minute volunteer)

Photos are available at this link.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/theolsons/sets/72157617942839690/>

Full results on page 2.

Results:

Place	Name	Points	Sail #	
1 st	Danny Thomas	41	1405	
2 nd	Gerry Cobley	45	1625	
3 rd	Skip Allen	55	2112	
4 rd	Baron Bremer	62	81	
5 th	Chris Kakavas	66	236	
6 th	Scott Vernon	96	880	Tie
7 th	Richard Proseus	96	1519	Tie
8 th	Carl Olbrich	113	1896	
9 th	Frank Angel	144	1858	
10 th	Doug Hale	157	1647	
11 th	Mervin Jones	178	2174	
12 th	Dick Gerry	180	1796	
13 th	Tony Shoaf	190	1581	
14 th	Eric Olsen	207	2830	
15 th	James Rutherford	231	1678	
16 th	Bob Szczepanski	281	663	Equipment Failure