

2012 Thunder Mug Regatta  
*A New England Cup Points Event*  
September 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> 2013  
Venuitis Pond Killingworth, CT

The 2013 Thunder Mug is now complete. We had 11 Entries for this event which is about average as it is a fall event and we don't get many travelers. That said, we did get two from VT and one from MA who made the trip.

We had a few new Skippers to the EC12 fraternity this year as well. Jon Pelly, who has a new boat on order with RMD, sailed a boat he acquired from Ed Walton last winter. We had Eddie Wolfe who has an older Hickman that was completely refurbished last winter. We had Brian Kerrigan who has a boat on order from RMD and was able to sail Bob Greers New England boat to wet his whistle. We had Brian Jobson who is not new to the class but is returning after a long break. David Dellenbaugh used my spare boat and may purchase it before the Nationals next month.

Saturday

The forecast was for light and variable winds both days. This was a bit different from the days leading up to this regatta. Seems we had some kind of Low Pressure offshore that might move in on Sunday and give us a ton of breeze. Well, this did not happen. We arrived Saturday morning to a perfect Northerly which made for glorious conditions. Sunny, cool and 8kts of breeze. Nice. We were able to compete 4 races before breaking for lunch. As we ate, the wind began to roll around out of the East which made our course pretty much useless. This was not a shock as this was the forecast and it seemed to do what they said so we moved the course. No sooner than we did this, back it went to the North. Agh! As we sailed one race of our Easterly course, it seemed clear that it just might stick in the Northerly direction. So we moved it back. Guess what happened next? Right, it shifted back to East. So we decided to sail the course we had. Very frustrating.

We were able to complete 9 races in light shifty winds. Lead changes for not only common, it was not uncommon to go from last to first to last and back to first again in one race. No strategy seemed to work except for maybe rabbits feet or worry beads. Jon Pelley fought with some radio issues which were later resolved but not without chocking up a bunch of points. Jon is usually a better sailor than that.

So in some very frustrating and shifting winds, we have the following results after the first day with one throw out.

- 1 Luscomb 11pts
- 2 Dellenbaugh 27pts

- 3 Jobson 30pts
- 4 Brian Kerrigan 33pts
- 5 Ken Shaw 37pts
- 6 Eddie Wolf 42pts
- 7 Tim Stone 47pts
- 8 Bob Shluger 51pts
- 9 Jack Baldwin 56pts
- 10 Jon Pelly 70pts

### Saturday Night

Eight of us ventured off for a late dinner which worked out really well at the Otter Cove Restaurant in Old Saybrook. Great food and many laughs were had. Swaping "Sea Stories" is sometimes more fun that sailing. This time it was.

### Sunday

After our wind chasing on Saturday, we were determined not to repeat our error. When we arrived, the breeze was once again Northerly and we made some small adjustments and got the racing underway. Again, the wind changed direction on us and hovered around 3-4kts with an accasional "gust" to 5. Really challenging conditions for day two. It seemed that everyone got their turn at the front with Tim Stone just blistering the fleet out of the gate. Then, it was Jack Baldwin's turn, then Jon Pelley. Each met with congratulations at the end of each race. Each race was different and it never got repetitive. Starts saw boats stack up on the committee end only to be rewarded by a 45 degree lefty which caused an eruption of color metaphors' to be shared. Once underway, you might be lucky enough to sail out of the breeze and wait until those less fortunate were able to catch up.

Was it fun? Sure it was cause it kept everyone talking and laughing. Most circles were done without argument and everyone behaved the best they could under the circumstances.

We were able to complete 14 races on Sunday for a total of 23. The final results look like this...

- 1 Chuck Luscomb 30pts
- 2 Brian Jobson 70pts
- 3 Brian Kerrigan 75pts
- 4 Ken Shaw 84pts
- 5 Eddie Wolfe 89pts
- 6 Tim Stone 92pts
- 7 Bob Shluger 102pts
- 8 Jack Baldwin 125pts

9 Jon Pelley 158pts (had radio issues both days which finally got resolved mid day Sunday)

10 David Dellenbaugh (had a great showing on Saturday but had prior commitments and could not sail Sunday)

### New England Cup Results

This being the last of the 4 New England Cup Events, we award the New England Cup at this event. Going into this regatta, Al Dion was ahead by 9 point over Chuck Luscomb for the series. Both sailed very well this year at each event. Al was not able to sail with us for this event and as a result, the New England Cup Trophy goes to Chuck Luscomb. Congratulations to both skippers for a hard fought battle.

We would like to thank those who made this event possible by donating their time to make it happen as well as those who made the journey to sail with us. It was a pleasure to sail with you all. Also, Bill Dempsey, our RD and score keeper but also our connection to the sailing site as well as our crash boat and porta pot. Thank you also to Ron Rhault who assisted with the RC on Sunday.



Skippers from Left to Right. Jon Pelley, Tim Stone, Brian Jobson, Chuck Luscomb, Ken Shaw, Brian Kerrigan, Eddie Wolfe and Jack Baldwin