

Kahle Wins the 2013 Champions Regatta

From Maine to Florida seventeen EC12 sailors converged on Charleston, SC St. Patrick's Day weekend for the 2013 Sir Francis of Graham Champions Regatta. While planning on the regatta I was given advice from the locals that I may have scheduled the skippers meeting a little early as the wind wouldn't be filling in until 10am or so in the morning. Likely starting a few days before the drives down the conversation and the topic of the weekend was the wind, because the forecast was calling for plenty of it. Several skippers were worried that some may even have the "C" rig which was a distinct possibility.

For once in a regatta the wind did not disappoint. Saturday morning saw the sun shining and the entire fleet rigged with "B" rigs which remained for the whole day. The racing was tight among Kahle, Gerry, Perkins and Ramos, with Pfeil, Bremer and Brawner often in the mix. As one competitor said at the end of the day "most were happy at some point today and most were disappointed at some point too" At the close of racing Saturday there were 14 scores on the scoreboard.

Sunday started off the same as Saturday, wind. "B" rigs were the choice for the great majority of the fleet though "A" rigs started to make an appearance later in the day. The battle was on between Kahle, Perkins, Gerry and Ramos to see who would be crowned the 2013 Champion. Perkins and Gerry were often neck and neck, but neither was giving the other family member a break.

The regatta wrapped up with 24 races on the score board. Ramos, Perkins, Pfeil, Luscomb, Brawner, Gerry, Kahle, Bremer all had at least one bullet. The battle for the top three places was tight, separated by just nine points. Reichard Kahle was crowned the 2013 Sir Francis of Graham Champion. Ricky Gerry won the tie breaker over his father in law. Ramos and Brawner rounded out the top five.

As with any regatta they aren't possible without the volunteers. Thank you to Ken Shaw, Skip Hall and Steve Pfeil who helped make it all possible. A great big thanks to Mrs. Luscomb and Mrs. Perkins for helping score a few races along the way.

2013 Champion R. Kahle 70pts

2nd R. Gerry 79pts

3rd A. Perkins 79pts

4th Place D. Ramos 96pts

5th D. Brawner 126pts