

Bayview One-Design Regatta
Detroit, Michigan
June 2-3, 2012

Pos	Sail#	Boat Name	Skipper	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R5	Total
1	14975	Relax	Skip Dieball	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
2	14567	Flying Circus	Mark Allen	2	2	3	5	3	2	17
3	4249		Rob Linden	5	5	2	2	2	3	19
4	14249		George Sipel	3	6	6	3	4	6	28
5	9	No Name	Steve Cox	13	4	4	7	5	4	37
6	14260	Spinnaker Ninja	Trey Rose	10	8	9/RDG	9	6	8	50
7	15346	Last Dance	Mike Hecker	6	12	8	13	13	5	57
8	14710	Britannia	Neil Willetts	12	14	10	6	10	7	59
9	15391		Mike Welch	9	10	7	4	7	25/DNS	62
10	15430	Horse with No Name	John McCree	7	7	5	8	12	25/DNS	64
11	14774		Tom Vickers	11	13	9	12	8	11	64
12	14933	Redlion	Dave Lyons	14	3	25/DNF	11	16	9	78
13	15313		Kevin Morin	8	11	11	17	9	25/DNS	81
14	11599	Learning Curve	Richard Dishaw	18	15	12	15	11	12	83
15	15233	Stephen Polk	Stephen Polk	4	18	25/DNS	10	20	25/DNS	102
16	14854		John Stromberg	17	17	25/DNS	20	18	13	110
17	15151	Palindrome	Joel Humphrey	25/DNS	25/DNS	14	25/OCS	14	10	113
18	14511	Mad Duck	Matt Warner	25/DNS	25/DNS	25/DNS	14	21	14	124
19	14652		Paul Nagel	25/DNF	16	13	21	25/DNF	25/DNS	125
20	15185	BruceALMIGHTY	Bruce Finsilver	15	25/DNF	25/DNS	18	17	25/DNS	125
21	14242	Blue Moon	Geoff Nelson	16	25/DNS	25/DNS	16	19	25/DNS	126
22	15471	Blind Pig	Ryan Flack	25/DNS	9	25/DNS	25/DNS	25/DNS	25/DNS	134
23	14856	Assisted Suicide	Michael Williams	25/DNS	25/DNS	25/DNS	19	15	25/DNS	134
24	14688	Mouette	Brian Hayes	25/DNS	25/DNS	25/DNS	25/DNS	25/DNS	25/DNS	150

The Bayview OD Regatta had been highly anticipated around the Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie areas since rumor surfaced that they would be doing their own "OOD" type event. A few weeks after hearing about the new format, I was getting emails from Lightning friends and various blast emails hyping the Lightning's involvement. It made a lot of sense. The Michigan District is on the uptick and Bayview throws a great party....[what could be better?](#)

I left the loft a touch behind schedule, but certainly with enough time to hit the 7:PM registration deadline for Friday....that is, until I got caught up in traffic in downtown. I knew the Tigers were in town, but didn't expect that much traffic, until I started seeing a number of New York plates...yep, the Yankees were in town and causing all kinds of mayhem. I get through it with moments to spare....and some help from Geo Sipel stalling the registration personnel. I walk in and everyone is smiling, so I must not have caused too much of a commotion....

By the looks of things at Bayview, the Friday racers were enjoying the post race libations and I could tell that Saturday night would be a good one!

Somehow I managed to get out of the party tent and make my way to Crescent to rig the Lightning. I've got to tell you that the folks at CSYC are super cool. They always make you feel welcome and for them to host our fleet for the Bayview event was really special. They've invested a lot in their drysail area and it is really nice!

Those that know me know that I'm terrible at race details. On top of that, I'm pretty sure you could care less about which boat benefitted from the righty on leg 4. What I will say is that the sailing on [Saturday was pretty amazing](#). The breeze was up, but it was manageable in the first 2.75 of the 3 races. The last beat of the last race on Saturday had the breeze up in the 20s. This made for an endurance test and I was pretty happy with my teammates Jeff Eiber (Cleveland) and Abby Freeman (Vermilion) for having enough in the tank to jump a boat in the 20+ conditions. I know we were all pretty wiped out when we got back to the dock....but we had a [bigtime party to prepare for!](#)

What a party! It took a while for all of us to get down to BYC, but once there and in full force is was a party. With cheap beer & rum, it didn't take long for [all of us to forget about our bumps and bruises accumulated from big hiking!](#)

The forecast for Sunday was for a [little less breeze](#). In fact the first two races were down-right delightful. The racing was very tight and gaining leverage and allowing for making big gains/losses. We tried to stay inside the fleet and this strategy paid off as we never really got hung out and minimized the losses.

The wind on both days was out of the SWish, meaning that it came at a skinny angle off the shore. We thought that bigtime righties would prevail, but we recognized some good left hand shifts. Not having tons of confidence in either side, we adopted a more conservative approach.

So let me tell you about the last race on Sunday! We could tell that the breeze was up a notch and I told my team that we'd be in a conservative mode as we had a nice cushion on 2nd. The first beat was still pleasant. The first run was tight as all the players were rounding in a huge righty and gybed. Then, a [HUGE GUST of 25+ hit us all and we were screaming downwind](#). It was a sustained puff that took us all on the [rides of our life!](#)

One thing we did to make sure we had a stable platform downwind was "stretch" the spinnaker by over rotating the pole, which causes you to oversheet the spin. This keeps the rudder steady and actually creates more projection....all yields great speed. When the breeze came off a little, we'd put the corners closer by easing both pole and sheet.

By the end of the race, the breeze was [into the 30s](#). Yes, it was blowing THAT HARD! Few made it through unscathed...many did not. Overall, I think everyone had some level of a smile on their face, which is ultimately why we race sailboats!

We were pretty consistent and conservative in much of what we did all weekend (including the party!). I think this likely allowed us to be successful....that, and having an incredibly talented team. Jeff Eiber is a champion in ever sense of the word. Many classes, many levels. He and I could discuss what we were seeing on the race course, decipher it and adjust without much wasted time. Abby, for being a college kid, is beyond her years on a sailboat. She can call a puff that no one else can see. Jeff's analytics and Abby's sense of wind is a lethal combination....needless to say, we sailed great.

The prize giving at BYC started at 5:PM on Sunday. With over 200 boats, it is a task getting all scores finalized. The Lightning fleet turned out in full force again. My teammates and I collected a lot of cool prizes for the on-course success, but most important we left the venue really happy we made the effort to sail. It is pretty easy to say no to a regatta....but as Mike Welch pointed out, we are all better for having attended the Bayview OD event!

Side note. Having grown up south of Detroit and attended college west of the city, I was able to see a number of great ROCK concerts....the links are some of the groups I witnessed through my youth!