BC

BCYC Annual Mark Madness Regatta Lake Charlevoix, MI June 09 & 10, 2012

One-Design Division Lightning													
1	USA 14323	HWNN	Lightning	John McCree	1	1	1	1	1	1		[1]	5
2	USA 15313	313	Lightning	Kevin Morin	2	3	3	3	2	3		[3]	13
3	USA 14260	Spinnaker Ninja	Lightning	Garza Rose	4	2	2	2	4	5		[5]	14
4	USA 15233	Schussboomer56	Lightning	Jim Schofield	3	4	4	4	5	2		[5]	17
5	USA 14503	Hot Dog Man	Lightning	George Peet	5	5	5	5	3	4		[5]	22

So, every now and then it happens...a regatta with perfect sailing. The traveling fleet was thinned out a little by Bayview One-Design regatta repairs from the weekend before, some weddings and a graduation party, but teams "313" and "Spinnaker Ninjas" arrived unphased and with crew to loan (ex-girlfriends-it sounded complicated but we didn't ask, or reply to inappropriate texts).

Saturday brought sunshine and temperatures in the mid 70s, WSW winds at 8-12 with puffs to perhaps 15-18 knots. We sailed four solid races on Saturday, all four-leg W/L with a long beat from shoreline to shoreline that made the weather mark a little hard to find. There was a hint of thermal from WNW that had us defending the right side of the course at times, but mostly just connecting the dots to stay in the puffs and on lifted phase, which sometimes produced large gains. We took a chance on a PRO that takes requests and asked to shorten the last race to two legs because George Peet was getting a little tired towards the end of the afternoon.

Saturday evening had too many choices, including Cajun dinner and band under the pavilion, but we went with tried and true, burgers or prime rib special at the Boyne River Inn. Kevin elaborated on the scorekeeping and rules for counting capsizes based on main event and not re-tumbles in the rescue, which also sounded a little complicated, but I went with it. This was followed by a visit to the Red Mesa Grill for margaritas and shots for the young guns, while Dave and I opted out for ice cream and a walk to burn off some of our dinner. Teams Schussboomer and Hot Dog men retired early to the cottages.

Sunday was a carbon copy, including the same order of #8 "over easy" and coffee at Robert's for breakfast. The day was warmer, some thought almost hot on the downwind legs, and a little more SSW with some bigger holes and puffs, and a chance to over-stand substantially if you got too enamored with the right side at the top. We opened with a six-leg W/L that took up most of the morning, especially if you got out of phase, followed by another four-leg afternoon race to finish out a six race series. With only five boats racing, there was plenty of room on the starting line, but a few of us still had our number hailed; and all boats were in touch or leading at some point in a race. In the end the battle was for 2nd, with close mid-fleet finishes all weekend.

John HWNN aka "323"