

Bay City Regatta
Bay City Yacht Club
Bay City, Michigan
June 19-20, 2010

1. Jim Allen, Jane Allen, Matt Prining
2. John McCree, Dave Corcoran, Sean McCree
3. Andy Camarda,, Michael Berry, RJ Trejo
4. Trey Rose, Duane Rose , Kevin Morin
5. Jim Schofield, Kim Shotwell, Bob Gottard
6. Rob Linden, Steve Griffith, Meghan Walter
7. David Lyons, Tim Wenzel/Gus Dey, M. Lyons
8. Mike Welch, John Morley, Beth Groesbeck
9. Terry Hart, Caleb Hart, Chris Gerhf



Breezy weekend
Fred Eddy PRO

Great breeze, WNW at 18-20, dropped to 12-15 for race 2, than back up again for race 3. Great to host the boat grant kids: From Chicago, Andy Camarda, Michael Berry, RJ Trejo; From North Cape by way of Michigan State University, Rob Linden, Steve Griffith, Meghan Walter; and of course we had a few returning teams from Crescent, Pontiac as well.

A very capable RC team had a little difficulty getting secured on the gravel shoal, and pulled off the anchor on the start mark, so we had an extra 15 minutes for sailor's choice of upwind practice, capsize practice, or rest/lunch (Subway on our boat) before festivities started.

Big puffs and holes which made the afternoon a challenging game of laylines, more often than not the left layline was strong with lift and breeze; this crushed us in race 1 and left me unfairly questioning Dave most of the day, his highly evolved tactician brain shuts down a little if he hikes too hard, probably some sort of genetic fail safe. We went blindly left in race 2 which worked out well for us, with the exception of being passed by Jim Allen by a huge right shift on the final beat, once again taking just a little grief for not covering closely enough on the final leg. Otherwise hard to say how we did overall, seems like we were always defending or passing a different boat, so the competition felt very close and even, with the notable exception of Jim Allen with Jane and guest crew Matt Prining, who were out in front most of the day.

Saturday dinner at the club was pig roast with rum-soaked pineapple and a rum cake that seemed to be susceptible to seconds. Team Morin aka Spinnaker Ninja's took a little grief for two rounds of aquatic excellence (stuck to their story that one was equipment malfunction) and borrowed a little sail tape from me (lost the battle with the mast head wind indicator?) but apparently held their own on the West Side bar tour; our team was home and out by about 10 pm or so...

Sunday was a different day, NW 10-15 that dropped to 5-8 before flopping over to a very up and down ENE thermal breeze, all of which made for a difficult day on the tack that was against the waves, especially for some of the heavier teams like us. We got a lucky recovery from a terrible third row start by going offshore in Race 1 for breeze and direction; then better breeze was found a little more inshore which was costly for us on the final leg of Race 2 but great for us for the start of Race 3. Down the run on Race 3 the "thermal" NE started to show offshore again, and flipped the middle beat to one tack just as we rounded the bottom mark. RC corrected the next leg, but not as big as the shift which went quickly ENE, so only one or two boats could change position if they jibed too late. After a period of extreme slowness we cleared a little stray milfoil on the final beat to pull ahead of locals Dave Lyons and Jim Schofield; most of the Bay City boats moved up in the standings with the final race. All-in-all, a very good tutorial for the youngsters on the tactics of thermal vs morning breeze.

John