

OCTOBER 2, 2018

Spindrift

Houston Sailing Association's Race Report



Commodore Conquers Course!

Never underestimate the humble Capri or the steady determination of its commander-in-chief. Sunday Jerry Brewster with the steely assistance of crew Steve Albert, defied the odds and ran off with the title of champs in HSA's first ever Round the Lake Race.

The Brewster/Albert team finished what seemed to be a distant 9th in the raw scores, but their boat's Portsmouth rating of 99.4 showed a different result. A mere 30 seconds separated them from the Don Fecher swiftboat, a Hobie 16, but it was enough. More on the next page.

Save the Date!

OktoberFast

October 6-7

Festive end to summer racing in event that brings down the curtain.

Haul Out

Saturday, Oct. 13

A chance to help. Boats and motors day; we go into mothballs.

Awards Banquet

Saturday, Nov. 3

Wine, trophies, food, friendship, Where? Barn-n-Bunk!

OktoberFast!

The end of the season may loom in the near and perhaps chilly future, but it should be a fireball Saturday and Sunday with temps in the 80's and wind in the 8 to 20 range.

Not bad.

HSA will dog the hatches for 2018 but not before the Sunfish have had their last hurrah. The lasagna for Saturday night is already melting its cheese over this one - a wind that will challenge from light to heavy.

The past few weeks of the season have been superb sailing conditions and this one promises to be even better. We lay out the odds for the favorites on page 3.





Brewster Muscles His Way Into Top Spot

Mild mannered Capri 14 man got his groove on and showed why you can't dismiss the seemingly slow footed Capri.

(Results show ET (elapsed time) CT (corrected time), raw finish, and boat type.

1. Jerry Brewster/Steve Albert 40.65, 40.89
8th Capri 14.2
2. Roger Henthorn/Bobbie Bode 36.48
41.45 5th Y Flyer
3. Don Fecher 32.28 41.92 1st Hobie
4. Charlie Buchert 32.48 42.18 2nd Hobie
5. Kevin DeArmon/Luke Sinopoli 37.25
42.33 6th Y Flyer
6. Mark Costandi 33.53 43.54 3rd Hobie
7. Brett Hart/Callie Miller 39.13 44.45 7th
Y Flyer
8. Ryan Servizzi 35.58 46.20 4th Hobie
9. Charlie DeArmon/Claudia Rocklin
47.32 47.60 9th Capri
10. Mike Stratton/Dawn Gunter/Noah
Everaet 52.25 55.11 10th Catalina 250
11. Stephen Cook/Ben Cook 60.40 55.82
13th Montgomery 15
12. Scott and Jeanne Johnston 55.18 57.41
11th San Juan 21
13. Pete Peters/Rose/Laura 57.33 58.92 12th
Catalina 22
14. Bill Jackson 62.44 64.70 14th Mac 25
15. Mark Durbin/John Long 68.42 70.90
15th Macgregor 25

Some were just out for the heck of it. Others were in it to win it. A few were hoping that they could sail fast enough and skillfully enough to let the Portsmouth ratings do their job.

Jerry Brewster might have fallen into that latter category. He came across the finish line in 8th place but he stayed close enough to the swift Hobies and the sleek Y-Flyers to let his PN work its magic. The result was that his corrected time moved him up seven spots in the final tally and, as a result, the unassuming HSA Commodore, his crew Steve Albert and his modest boat are the reigning champs of the Round the Lake Race of 2018.

Every Y-Flyer held their own or was elevated in the standings by their Portsmouth. Every Hobie saw a drop. That put Roger Henthorn and Bobbie Bode in at second place with the fleet Don Fecher finishing 3rd after his boat crossed the line first.

Normally dinghies/catamarans and cruisers don't mix well in the handicap racing. Unsurprisingly the first nine places went to boats with banana or planing hulls. No surprise there. The cruisers took the last six spots but enjoyed their own competition at the back of the fleet.

The competitors were treated to a six buoy course, a double figure eight that took them from near the marina to above the lodge. Ken Wright and Dominiek Everaet manned the committee boat and did it with elan. Thank you, gentlemen and thank you wind.



Sunday's Round the Lake photos from left: Cabin boy Noah Everaet on *Goodnight Moon*; middle, the fleet headed up wind; right, the crowd at the committee boat

Sunfish Series Culminates with OktoberFast

Last year it was the locals versus the out-of-towners as HSA hosted an official Midwest Regional Sunfish Championship. This year the heavy hitters are away in North Carolina at the Sunfish Worlds so it looks like the locals will be back to their usual knock-down-drag-out street brawls. Also missing is the designation as a Midwest Regional Championship. However, the regatta will be a two day event again as HSA makes its final event a challenge.

Reigning champ Dan Norton won't be there nor will 2016 champ Tom Katterheinrich. That leaves a window open for eight time champion Bill Molleran. All three have their name on the OktoberFast traveling trophy. Who's missing? The current Sunfish Series champ Laura Beebe, someone who Bill Molleran has not beaten in two years.

Beebe has yet to have her name inscribed on this trophy. This could be the year. Who else is in the running? Well, There are currently four sailors within two points of one another, based on the best five scores from the ten contests raced so far. (Final results are based on your best races, which represent 50% of all the races in the four Sunfish events.)

Beebe leads Molleran and Young Gun Kevin DeArmon by one point, and Mike Stratton by two points. Thirteen Sunfishers have raced at least half of the total and are qualified. (Founders' Day Sunfish Regatta had five races; Camptown Races in July had just two races; AuGusto! had only three.)

There are another twelve Sunfish skippers who have participated so far and could qualify by sailing in OktoberFast if enough races are held over the weekend. Chances of that are good since OktoberFast is a two day event and could produce as many as eight or nine races. Or fewer. Or more.

Take a look at the season long standings (based on the three previous Sunfish events this year) and you will see who has a shot at it. (See next page). Also within striking range with a good performance in OktoberFast are Mark Costandi, Tom Katterheinrich, and Jerry Brewster. Both Katterheinrich and Costandi are out of this year's OktoberFast. With trophies for the top five that leaves a door open to not only Brewster to medal, but also to Joe Fulford, Rose Schultz, Brett Hart, Amy Marks, and others who have yet to qualify. Dark horse? Brian Callahan.

OktoberFast To Determine Sunfish Series Champ

Could Be Historic Finish

Questions abound? Can Laura Beebe add OktoberFast to her list of Sunfish conquests? It's the only one that has eluded her. Could this be the first time in history that someone sailed just one Sunfish Series event and won the Sunfish title? Both could happen.

The smart money is on Beebe who seems to somehow be at or near the top in every race. Another safe bet? Bill Molleran. He rarely has a bad race and has of late found himself just one or two points behind Beebe at the finish.

The wind forecast could favor the most youthful challenger - Kevin DeArmon - who savors strong wind and challenging conditions. On Saturday, place your bets before the skippers' meeting. After that, it's all about the wind.

Darkhorses?
Brian Callahan
top; Ken
Wright,
bottom. At
bottom right,
one of the
favorites,
Kevin D.



Current standings in Sunfish Series

name	points	best 5 finishes (throwouts)
1. Laura Beebe	10 pts.	2 4 1 2 1
2. Bill Molleran	11 pts.	3 3 2 1 2 (3 3 4)
3. Kevin DeArmon	11 pts.	3 1 3 3 1 (7 10 3 5 9)
4. Mike Stratton	12 pts.	2 3 2 2 3 (5 11 6 4 4)
5. Mark Costandi	19 pts.	4 5 5 2 3 (6 5 15)
6. Tom Katterheinrich	20 pts.	11 2 1 5 1
7. Jerry Brewster	23 pts.	4 2 5 6 6 (7 6)
8. Rose Schultz	28 pts.	4 8 8 1 7
9. Joe Fulford	34 pts.	6 7 9 7 5
10. Pete Peters	38 pts.	8 6 4 11 9
11. Dom Everaet	39 pts.	7 8 6 9 9 (13 12 10)
12. Brett Hart	40 pts.	8 9 8 8 7
13. Amy Marks	52 pts.	10 10 10 11 11

(not yet qualified)

Julie Molleran	9 9 7
Jonah Reid	11 11 9
Grace Reid	12 13 12
Susan Reid	15 15 13
Clayton Snider	7 5
Megan DeArmon	6 8
Ian Mahoney	8 11
Kayla Draper	10 10
Will Hater	12 13
Conner Snider	14 12
Collin Snider	15 14
Curtis Mears	13 15