

A P R I L 2 0 1 9

Spindrift

Issue one



Above, the approach, hiking hard. At right, the finish. The pin end flag is actually in line with the committee boat cable.

Opening Day!

Despite the chill of temperatures in the low fiddies and the absence of sunshine until racing was over, 19 hardy sailing souls made it to the lake Sunday on HSA's Opening Day.

Those who dressed for the weather were warm and comfortable with winds that occasionally gusted into the double digits but mostly stayed between 5-10 mph, not the 10-15 advertised.

April's last gasp greeted the gloved and beanie'd sail crowd but temperatures are expected to reach 80 degrees by midweek and level out next Sunday at 70. Yep, sailing weather either way. All fleets in action for Spring Series 3 & 4. Bring the sunscreen. It's going to be different.

Y-Flyers Get Photo Finish on First Racing Weekend

Pete Peters and Rose Schultz left no doubt that they intend to pick up right where they left off last season. After a slow start, the Y-Flyer duo reached the windward mark in first and went wire to wire, despite a close finish. After opening up to an eight boat length lead, the pair had to fight off an error in lap counting to hold off Yours Truly and stellar newbie crew and younger brother Wes Stratton to claim their bullet.

Only a few feet separated the two boats at the end of the four lap contest. Stratton got the lead off the starting line with a port tack gambit that worked, but Peters emerged at the end of a difficult windward leg with the edge, something he and Rose don't give up easily.

In Race One, the Y Fleet teamed up for a mentoring race with Pete and Rose taking Brett Hart and Diane Pierok

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Costandi/Buchert Battle

Hobies have a "monohull" day as wind lifts hulls and spirits

Charlie Buchert got his Hobie up on one hull Sunday during the frequent gusts that blasted the race course. He proceeded to win both races with Mark Costandi trailing close by, then returned to shore, sold his boat, and prepared his long time racing machine for the transfer to a new owner.

Charlie, who sold his boat to former HSA junior champion and quite competent Y and Sunfish racer Kevin DeArmon, is getting brother Joe Buchert's Hobie 16. DeArmon will soon be competing in all three fleets. Joe will focus on his Formula 16 catamaran.

Costandi, who has returned to racing his Hobie and Sunfish after not being able to for a period, donned his wet suit and harness for Sunday's event and gave Charlie notice that he is ready to compete.

Y's Have Photo Phinish

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on as teammates and Mike Stratton/Wes Stratton taking Kevin DeArmon and Samantha Marks as theirs even though the Young Lions Kevin and Sam both have long histories as racing sailors.

In that mentoring race, the rules were that the mentoring boat could not start, round a mark, or finish before their teammates. The mentoring boats then stayed close to their protégés and coached them around the course. In the end, the Young Lions prevailed but new skipper Brett Hart and crew Diane Pierok (a Capri 14 sailor who stepped in to crew while her own crew is out of town) showed that their increasing skill and brand new North racing sails have moved them up the ladder.

Hart and Pierok finished 4th in race 2, the one that counted, but they weren't out of contention until late and finished only a leg behind the winners.



Above, Costandi and Buchert play cat and mouse at the start. Below is Charlie out on the course. Lower right is Kevin and Samantha over Brett and Diane, picture wise only.





Teens Turn Out

Young racing sailors find water and wind a great way to spend an afternoon

I know of a place where you never get harmed
 A magical place with magical charms
 Indoors
 Indoors
 Indooooooooors!
 Take it away, Penny!

So goes SpongeBob Squarepants soulful anthem about the joy of staying indoors. Hardly something that teenagers Megan DeArmon and Kayla Draper have adopted as their own song. The two teens traded cellphones and streaming social media for sailing Sunday, stayed dry, and demonstrated once again that they are likely the best junior sailors in the region. They took turns finishing first.

They were joined by outdoor guy Stephen Cook in his Montgomery 15 who is used to being in all the elements. Stephen and wife Zella own and operate a farm called Cook's Garden near New Lebanon, OH.

Also out Sunday (and Saturday) in his new Precision 185 was Todd Rovito. Nice boat.



Todd Rovito, above, puts the finishing touches on stowing his new boat away in dry moorage. Todd, Linda, and Eli began sailing just a few years ago with an elderly Flying Dutchman. Todd now hangs out with a young and spry 2005 Precision 185, complete with a hot new blue mooring cover fresh from the Sailor's Tailor.