

Regatta Report: WSC High School Regatta

April 12, 2008

More than 80 high school sailors, plus assorted parents, coaches, and spectators, descended on WSC April 12 for our 2008 high school regatta. The crowd nearly put the WSC docks underwater, while 80 degree sunshine sent most of the kids splashing into the river by the end of the day. Things got pretty hot out on the race course too!

Racers were divided into two fleets, one in the WSC's eight 420s and one in eight Flying Juniors generously provided by the Bainbridge Island team. Each fleet had two divisions (A and B), with crews rotating boats between races. Keeping 16 boats and 64 high school sailors circulating on and off the water all day proved to be a logistical challenge worthy of NASA, but somehow it got done without too many snafus.

Racing got underway in a shifty, puffy 5-10 knot easterly that held for an hour or so and then started wandering all over the compass, making for challenging racing conditions. We were saved just before cutoff time by a fresh southwesterly that filled in and enabled us to finish the final B division rounds, winding up with a total of 5 races in each fleet.

At the end of the day, North Kitsap teams captured the top two spots in the 420 fleet, followed by Portland's St. Marriot (Elliot Drake & Liza Holtz in A division, Monica Mader & Risa Reichelt in B division) in 3rd and Portland's Lincolnesque (Aegir Olsen & Madeline Luce in A division, Mike Mayer, Noah Jacoby, & Matt Michaelson in B division) in 4th place.

In the FJ fleet, Bainbridge Island #3 came out on top, with Kingston finishing 2nd and Portland's Giant Squid (Andrew Cannard & Maggie Ruble in A division, Zack Watson & Moira Lynch in B Division) taking the 3rd place prize. Fourth went to Portland's Lost Boys (Mitch Burke & Jeff Carlson in A division, Greg Moran & Scott VanBergen in B division). Portland's Grant-ish team (Andy Newton & Nathan Thompson in A division and Sam Weiss & Kirsten Perow in B division) wound up in 6th place.

We want to extend our appreciation to all the sailors, coaches, and parents who made the long journey to Portland for this regatta, with special thanks to Susan Kaseler and Nick Taylor of Bainbridge Island for sharing your boats. Thanks also to coaches Bill Symes for running the races and George Yioulos/West Coast Sailing for providing the prizes.

It takes a lot of hands to host an event this size, and we could not have done it without our second-to-none parent support team—Nancy and Michael Burke, Rose Burris, Dave Cannard, Catherine Crim, Jan Godfrey, Allison Fryer, Dave Moran, Bruce Newton, Sheila Nolan, Dana Olsen, Curtis Thompson, and Tom Weiss—who handled everything from registration to race committee to lunches. This was truly a memorable day for all our kids, and you made it happen. Thanks!

For photos and complete results, check out the WSC High School Sailing page at <http://www.willamettesailingclub.com/highschool/index.html>.