

Coastal Cup #8 was raced in Victoria at RVYC October 18th. Sixteen boats showed up to compete and sixteen races were held in light to moderate wind. This photo will attest to how tight and exciting the racing was, with two Saltspring sailors in the hunt on the third leg of this race. Roger Kibble, sailing #68 holds a slim lead but is on the outside of the coming turn. I am sailing #38 and am considering my options. #140. Peter Grimm, from Coquitlam is trying hard to establish overlap on #57 and thus the rest of the fleet. Once he does this he has mark room for the rounding. I sheet in briefly and slow my boat then head up and take up position right behind him. As the fleet turns blanketing and backwinding each other Peter shoots ahead and I move from seventh to second. Tactical situations like this are why close class racing is so fascinating.



Peter went on to win the day, two points ahead of me. He was sailing his new Croatian boat and he is peaking at just the right time as he will be Canada's sailor at the World Championships in Brazil this November. I was second and Roger held down eleventh spot.

The Coastal Cup is an eight regatta season and this year I was able to repeat my win of last year, with five firsts and three second places. Second was Rob Mulder from Vancouver and Victorian Andy Allen in third.

I was asked by the Dragon Force Fleet to attend their Provincial DF65 Championship, held at RVYC the next day. Barry Fox lent me his purple dragon and gave me some quick tips on sailing these small boats. It was howling off the RVYC docks with solid white caps rolling into the Bay which convinced me to go with a smaller sail. I had heard that these boats were hard to tack and once in irons were hard to get going but I was no way prepared for how difficult they would be to control and sail well.

The first start found me in irons and falling off on port tack running afoul of the legendary Donny Martin. I was busy apologizing while doing my penalty turn, the first of three in that race that saw me finishing 12th. I missed the next race as I was changing up to the bigger sails but came back to finish second in the third race. The squalls were coming over the hills in all directions and you had to be on your toes. At one point a Starboard tack boat was passing clear ahead of me when a gust stopped him dead and rounded me up into him. Act of God or not the Port tack boat must pay and another round of penalty turns and two sevenths and a fifth before I found my form and had a run of firsts. I managed to haul myself up to second place.

Peter Grimm won, with my good friend Bob Lewis taking third. The Dragon Force fleet is building, it has the advantage of being much cheaper than an IOM (about 500.00\$ as opposed to 2500.00\$) but when sailing them the words “toy boat” come to mind. They in no way match the experience of sailing an IOM. That being said we did still have a lot of fun. These two days racing brought my year total to 549 races. I am shooting for 600 before the end of the year.

Position	Skipper	Sail #	Club/City	Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Peter Grim	154	Coquitlam, BC	21.0	1.0	1.0	3.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	8.0	1.0	4.0	1.0	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
2	Martin Herbert	46	Saltspring Island, BC	39.0	12.0	17.0	2.0	3.0	1.0	7.0	5.0	7.0	1.0	3.0	1.0	1.0	3.0	5.0
3	Bob Lewis	27	Vancouver, BC	43.0	2.0	2.0	8.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	1.0	2.0	8.0	2.0	11.0	3.0	5.0	6.0
4	Brian Woodward	85	Vancouver, BC	47.0	8.0	6.0	5.0	2.0	5.0	1.0	3.0	5.0	2.0	12.0	2.0	5.0	9.0	3.0
5	Don Martin	88	Vancouver, BC	61.0	9.0	4.0	1.0	7.0	7.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	13.0	4.0	17.0	17.0	7.0	1.0
6	Neil Stevens	55	Vancouver, BC	64.0	5.0	8.0	7.0	5.0	3.0	5.0	4.0	8.0	9.0	5.0	5.0	7.0	6.0	4.0
7	Andy Allan	13	Victoria, BC	94.0	10.0	17.0	17.0	8.0	17.0	10.0	7.0	9.0	5.0	6.0	6.0	4.0	4.0	8.0
8	Dave Seager	96	Victoria, BC	95.0	6.0	7.0	12.0	6.0	9.0	9.0	6.0	10.0	12.0	16.0	12.0	8.0	1.0	9.0
9	Tim Daniel	67	Nanaimo, BC	95.0	11.0	3.0	4.0	9.0	10.0	11.0	9.0	4.0	10.0	9.0	9.0	6.0	13.0	12.0
10	Pat Dion	72	Burnaby, BC	108.0	7.0	9.0	6.0	17.0	17.0	6.0	10.0	14.0	11.0	7.0	4.0	9.0	8.0	17.0
11	Fred Grim	165	Burnaby, BC	114.0	4.0	11.0	9.0	10.0	11.0	13.0	12.0	17.0	6.0	14.0	8.0	13.0	10.0	7.0
12	Bruce Toewes	36	Abbotsford, BC	128.0	3.0	5.0	17.0	17.0	8.0	12.0	11.0	6.0	7.0	8.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0
13	David Cook	90	Victoria, BC	131.0	17.0	10.0	11.0	17.0	6.0	8.0	15.0	11.0	3.0	11.0	7.0	17.0	15.0	17.0
14	John Knight	172	Victoria, BC	144.0	13.0	13.0	10.0	11.0	12.0	14.0	14.0	13.0	15.0	13.0	13.0	10.0	12.0	10.0
15	Gord Higgins	187	Victoria, BC	163.0	17.0	12.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	13.0	12.0	14.0	10.0	17.0	12.0	11.0	11.0
16	Murray Baines	193	Victoria, BC	186.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	15.0	10.0	11.0	14.0	17.0



I'm sailing #46 just ahead of the regatta winner Peter Grimm #154 in race #9 tacking for the finish line.

cheers,
Martin Herbert
IOM#38