Series Results: Women's Division

SHADWICK/ROSEMONT WIN 1ST US WOMEN'S SNIPE NATIONALS

Former All-American Kara Shadwick and ace Snipe crew Sam Rosemont won the 1st US Women's Snipe Nationals held August 9-10 hosted by Tom's River Yacht Club, Tom's River, NJ. Though Shadwick/Rosemont dominated in points, the competition among the fleet was extremely close - Race 4 saw a finish with the top 5 boats all overlapped as they crossed the line. Veteran Annapolis Snipers Lorie Stout and Liz Filter sailed tough in the breeze to finish second overall, followed by Liz Potter (St. Mary's sailor from Ohio) in third, Stacey Dumain/Jerelyn Biehl (Southern CA) in fourth, and Rowena Carlson (Mission Bay) rounding out the top 5. Another veteran Sniper, Jennifer Rousmaniere (Boston) was tied for 2nd place going into the last race, but a capsize on the last run in shallow water forced a DNF and a 6th overall.

Conditions truly ran the gamut. Saturday was a light air mind-bender with breeze in the zero to 6 knot range, 90 degree shifts caused by a southerly seabreeze fighting a northwest prevailing breeze, and the Atlantic City Armada producing max wake that caused many fleet inversions and "restarts" (where puffs from behind collapsed the fleet for a virtual restart). As one competitor put it, "Being in 1st was a bad place to be unless you were less than 10 boat lengths from the finish line." Sunday, however, was an entirely different story, with the seabreeze building on a favorable wind direction. Race 3 started in 12 knots, and by the end of the 5th race, the breeze was a steady 16+ with some rolly-poley waves that caused 2 capsizes on the last downwind leg.

What really counted, however, was that 12 teams of women sailed tough and had a great time. The competitors ranged from women who normally steer Snipes, but don't normally attend Nationals (Kara, Jennifer Rousmaniere, and the Tabor sisters from Boston) to veteran Snipe crews who don't normally get to take a turn at the helm. It was also fun to see women from outside the class such as Margaret Podlich (J24 sailor) with crew Kim Couranz jump in the boat and have a great time.

Any of you women out there who didn't quite make the leap this year, start planning now to make it to the 2nd Annual Women's Snipe Nationals to be held on Gull Lake, Michigan near Kalamazoo next August!

We were fortunate to have in attendance at the awards dinner a former stellar and well-ahead-of-her-time Sniper named Beth Olsen. Beth currently holds the record as the highest ranking female skipper in a US Nationals - she placed 4th in the Heinzerling in 1952 at the nationals in Green Bay in a field of 55 boats (she was beaten only by Ted Wells, Morris Whitney, and Francis Seavy. The previous year, at the first nationals held on Barnegat Bay, she had placed 10th. Thanks to Brainard Cooper for the memory and the work to locate her and secure her attendance.

Women's Division Toms River Yacht Club Toms River, NJ Aug 9,10

Pos	Sail#	Helmsman	Club	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5	TotPts	Pos
1	25784	Kara Shadwick	St Petersburg	0.75	5	0.75	0.75	2	9.25	1
2	27054	Lorie Stout	Annapolis	5	6	2	3	4	20.00	2
3	28361	Elizabeth Potter	Cleveland	2	3	9	4	5	23.00	3
4	28672	Stacey Dumain	ABYC/MBYC	3	4	7	8	3	25.00	4
5	29044	Rowena Carlson	Mission Bay	8	0.75	5	5	7	25.75	5
6	25412	Jennifer Rousmaniere	Winchester	9	2	3	2	11DNF	27.00	6

7	29147	Margaret Podlich	Annapolis	11	10	4	6	0.75	31.75	7
8	27772	Sherry Welch	St Petersburg	4	9	6	9	8	36.00	8
9	28442	Susan Lodico	Winchester	10	7	8	7	6	38.00	9
10	27872	Connie Commette	Miami	7	8	10	10	10	45.00	10
11	25867	Holly Wolford	Barnegat Bay	6	11	11	11	9	48.00	11
12	27734	Susan Cushman	Barnegat Bay	12	12	12	12	12DNC	60.00	12

Principal Race Officer: Katherine Fullmer Jury Chair: Roger K. Brown