

US Women's Nationals

Treadwell & Mitchell Win Tight Regatta

The 2007 US Women's Snipe Nationals held Saturday, February 24 and Sunday, February 25, was hosted jointly by Coronado Yacht Club and San Diego Yacht Club in the breezy but flat waters of south San Diego Bay.

Saturday morning the early breeze was a little south of the predicted thermal northwesterly. The 1100 warning for the first race started in 8 knots on a course axis of 250 degrees. However about 30 minutes into the first race, the NW thermal arrived and clocked the breeze right to about 300...all at once. This caught some of the pre-race favorites on the wrong side of the course and with no discards, it resulted in some extra 'keeper' points.

Junior sailors Sarah Davis & Maria Kuzina impressed everyone with a bullet in Race one and a third in the second race and was leading the fleet and looking strong after two races, and tied with Barb Tillson. Aimee Graham & Jerelyn Biehl managed a win in the second race but was one of those caught by the 'righty' in Race 1 that added 9 points to their score.

Race 3 belonged to Fiona McLean & CC Childers, with sister Aine Fretwell & Katie Love placing 3rd and taking the lead in the series with 11 points on the day. Right behind were Barb Tillson/Michelle Fennel and Sam Treadwell/Julie Mitchell each with 12 points and Aimee Graham/Jerelyn Biehl in 4th with 14.

With the stage set for drama on Sunday morning, tension built as competitors had to endure over an hour of postponement due to unsettled and light breeze. Race four eventually got off in 6-8 kts. from the SW. In the tight quarters of the top four competitors, it was still anyone's race, but the leaders became the chasers, and vice versa. The front of the fleet became becalmed while the back roared down with pressure. Samantha Treadwell/Julie Mitchell did a great come from behind to take first followed by Barbie Tillson/Michelle Fennel, Graham/Biehl and in fifth, Fretwell/Love.

The Race Committee squared up the course and Race 5 began in the biggest breeze of the day (14 kts). Fretwell/Love had an early lead and two great upwind legs, but got caught from behind on both runs and finished 3rd for a series total 4th place/19 points. Aimee Graham (defending 2006 Women's Snipe

Champion) with Jerelyn Biehl crewing was also in the hunt and got their second win of the series

moving from 7th to

1st on the final run,

but couldn't shake the extra points from race 1, finishing in second overall with 18 points (winning a tie breaker with two 1st places to none) over Barb Tillson/Michelle Fennel (3rd overall).



Samantha Treadwell (defending 2006 Women's Snipe Champion CREW) and crew Julie Mitchell finished the final race in second place which put them solidly in first place as the new US Women's Snipe National Champion.



Many thanks to the Suddath Companies and Full Plane Sailing Gear for their continued support of this Women's Championship; A big shout out to Regatta Chair Steve Stewart and Karen Butler for their hard work getting

everything organized; Principal Race Officer Michael Foster and the San Diego Yacht Club Race Committee for their efforts in the shifty conditions; to the World Class Boat Boys for all that they do...; to Coronado YC as a gracious venue and Saturday night party host; and to San Diego Yacht Club for hosting the Sunday awards dinner; and to the 15 Women's Snipe Teams that chose to spend their weekend competing in this venerable one design class – Thank you very much.

SDYC Sailing Office and John Fretwell



Final Results - US Women's National Championships

Sail #	Skipper/Crew	Finishes	Total
1	28687 Sam Treadwell/Julie Mitchell	4-6-2-1-2	15
2	29646 Aimee Graham/Jerelyn Biehl	9-1-4-3-1	18
3	30550 Barb Tillson/Michelle Fennel	2-2-8-2-4	18
4	29222 Aine Fretwell/Katie Love	3-5-3-5-3	19
5	29019 Erin Robertson/Becky Lenhart	5-7-5-10-6	33
6	29811 Ali Bell/Kim Kruger	6-4-6-13-8	37
7	29250 Sarah Davis/Maria Kuzina	1-3-13-8-13	38
8	30113 Fiona McLean/CC Childers	7-8-1-12-10	38
9	28955 Alex Brown/Laurel Timpson	8-11-7-7-7	40
10	29015 Katia Smith/Mary Buckley	11-9-9-9-5	43
11	30470 Kerry O'Brien/Linda Epstein	13-13-12-6-12	56
12	29614 Shelley Schrieber/Ruth Schock	10-14-14-4-16	58
13	28467 Heather Milne/Diana Carter	14-12-10-14-9	59
14	30111 Bridget Hallawell/Vicki Fennell	12-10-11-15-13	61
15	28464 Akane Nakagaki/Alexa Kownacki	15-15-15-11-15	71

