

## **2018 Spring Series Race, 13 June 2018**

Our regular Spring Series race was held with a predicted declining breeze and mostly flat water in what we like to call "a classic St Joe night." Our regular RC Team Leader, Jim Scholz, was on the road this week, so Blan Page stepped up to run the race, along with Vickie Frees and Janet Jacobs assisting.

The RC Team took us out to the SouthWest mark to start so we could have a nice, square beat leg, then we headed up to the North East mark, followed by an aft-of-beam light air reach across to North West, then back to the start for the Spinn boats and a finish for the Jammers at North West. Both courses provided lots of light and somewhat variable winds. Blan wisely shortened the course for both sections as he had called longer courses in case the wind held up.

In JaM, we had a few boats Port tack the start and head right for shore, while others headed out to sea looking for better wind. For most of the long first beat leg, those who went inshore, such as Moody Blue who was leading the pack, along with Tom Jacobs on Dandelion, Jeff Mitchell on Little Beauty and Keith Sawyer on Windspirit, looked to be going very fast and doing well--so well that the boats that tacked out to the middle of the course looked out of it.

But at the first mark, things got much tighter for most of the Jammers. Moody rounded the mark first in JaM, with Carrera right there but having to wait for Mercedes to round before tucking in behind them. After a long, slow, deep reach, Moody won the race with Carrera not that close behind and Jeff Mitchell taking a hard won third place.

Finishes in JaM are often closer than in Spinn but this week was an exception, as Imagine edged Distraction by a scant 5 seconds, with Welly a long way back in third and Gordon Dill a long way back in fourth but having their best finish ever on the J/88, just 14 seconds ahead of the Ultimate 20 Carpe Diem, who was just 42 seconds ahead of Silk, which was 45 seconds ahead of Captain Blood.

The Spinnaker start was marred by confusion regarding boats over early. We are working this week to insure this doesn't happen again.

Next Wednesday we'll do it all over again and we'll see you then.

Best regards, Jim Scholz and Jim Schragger

*The Windward Sheet, founded by Ken Zimmerman, follows the SJRYC Sail Race Program and is published at irregular intervals throughout the race season.*