

Saturday started a little slow as the remains of Ike pushed into Upstate New York. The first race started with a light southerly wind coming up the lake. After the start the fleet spread across the lake fairly quickly looking for fair winds. John Baker and Jim Gindling with crew Aaron and Jenn stuck to the middle while locals Dave Ainsworth and John Ford in a daring play working pressure and lifts, snuck along close to the western shore. After dragging the centerboard on the bottom, Ford tacked out to starboard and Ainsworth soon followed suit. At the windward mark, boats were close with Gindling leading the way eventually to the finish line. The RC postponed after the first race in hopes of better breezes. After waiting a few hours, the breeze defied the weatherman and filled in nicely from the south.

Race 2, 3, 4 again found Baker and Gindling dueling for the lead with Wolf Wilde, JF Fahy, Doc Gates and John Ford in hot pursuit. With tight reaches, Baker and ace forward Joy kept the heat on and squeezed out 2 wins, with Gindling capturing the 4th race. Of note, Baker was OCS in the 3rd race, quickly went back cleared the line and took a solo flyer on port out to the right side. Despite the lousy start, Baker managed the clean air nicely and was in the lead at the weather mark.

Saturday evening had a fantastic hor'dourves followed by a great Greek dinner. Beer from Cooperstown Brewing and woo-woo's from the parking lot kept the entertainment around the campfire lively and engaging. Kudos to the food and beverage gang!

Sunday morning came to the sailors in the form of more food. Eggs, sausage and the usual breakfast pastries fueled everyone for what looked to be a breezy southerly morning out on the water.

Race 5 was more of the same with Gindling, Baker, Gates and Fahy setting the pace. Puffs came through the course offering skippers opportunities for huge lifts going to windward and good pressure going downwind gave those behind the chance to catch up. Race 6 was the deciding race with the scorecards being very tight among the leaders. The racing was fierce and with a long course, there was plenty of opportunity to gain or lose. The final downwind was tight. Doc Gates, making an aggressive decision gybed away from the fleet heading more to the middle of the lake. Dismissing the gybe as an error, Gindling suddenly found himself third at the leeward mark behind Baker and Gates. The positions stood all the way to the finish and the scorecards became even tighter due to Gates squeezing in second. Tiebreakers were applied and John Baker and Joy Martin prevailed. Jim Gindling's streak of winning at Cooperstown was broken at two regatta's.

Many thanks to all the participants, congrats to the medalists, and thanks to the wind for behaving nicely!