



With three days of racing, Grand Prix always offers up some good competition. This year featured a full weekend of racing with plenty of wind and a good showing of boats. The event is typically invitation only, yet invitations were generous to encourage one design fleets and nine class starts to keep the racing interesting.

Friday started out a little slow, with little wind evident before the 1:30 start. The J-109 *Tantivy* managed to fit in a round of enhanced coffee drinks to take off the chill, but the delay was short lived and by about 2:30 a starting sequence was underway. Five knots of southerly wind encouraged the race committee to set a short windward leeward twice around, with a short or long windward mark just north of West point then a short or long leeward mark just north of Meadow Point. A strong ebb and light winds made tides a huge factor in the race. In Class 5, Andy Schwenck (aboard *Grafix*) said "The first boats to the mark got swept downstream; those who followed learned from that mistake and took the lead."

Janet St. Clair Lazar, a novice racer on the J-105 *Panic*, noted that Friday was "a perfect day until the wind died and we drifted across perfectly flat water trying to position our keel to the current to get pushed to the mark." *Panic* wasn't the only boat fighting the tide in the light winds to finish, *Locomotion* and *Cool Beans* failed to finish in Class 5.

Saturday's race conditions featured a 12-18 knot southerly with some chop. The race committee started the day with a long distance race, racing to Blakely Rock and then to Point Wells before finishing at Meadow Point.

Mike Spear, who drove the J-105 *Panic*, noted "We got a good start. On time, good position, clean air going the way we wanted to go. We sailed hard, passed some boats and finished 2nd. Whoopee! This is a tough fleet. There are no slow boats or crews. *Money Shot* finished 1st, putting a horizon job on the rest of us."

After finishing the long distance race, the race committee set up for some buoy racing. Many boats put in a reef or changed to smaller sails in winds gusting

to 25. And during that second race things got even more exciting. In Class 1, over half the fleet was over early in the second race, but it remained an individual recall and all went back to restart. In Class 7, *Wind Child* was disqualified after a port-starboard run in with *Bodacious* at the start, which apparently dinged up their bow pulpit. Gary Stuntz, sailing the Melges 24 *Cool Beans* in Class 5 said he took on a lot of water and spent a lot of racing time bailing.

Class 2 had a pretty eventful race with some tight maneuvering and close calls. *Shrek*, on starboard tack, had to crash tack when port tack boat *Gunsmoke* failed to give way. During the maneuver, David Cohen slipped and fell nose first and began sprouting copious amounts of blood, causing everyone aboard to wonder if he'd broken his nose. He was still bleeding profusely, but assuring everyone that he'd be fine when even more excitement began.

"At the windward mark, *Roxanne* was short of the mark and trying to shoot it" according to Bob King. "They went head to wind and then backwinded



the jib, causing them to tack onto port in front of a large group of starboard tackers." Miraculously they managed to avoid hitting *Shrek's* aft quarter by about an inch. Then instead of T-boning *Minor Threat* who was next in the line up of starboard tackers, they turned down hard and just barely missed scraping down their flank as they ended up port to port only inches apart heading opposite directions. Ultimately *Roxanne* did a turn more than a 720, but after fouling that many boats simultaneously, getting away with a penalty of just a 720 was a huge relief as the potential for costly damage was immense, and would certainly have cost them the regatta had the incident not turned out so well. John Hoag on *Shrek* said he lost steerage as he



Top: In the J-105 fleet, Erik Kristen's "Jubilee" and John Peterson's "Last Tango".

Center: In Class 8, Martin Godsil's "Invader" and Paul Kalina "Perfectly Strange".

Bottom: Jerry Diercks "Delirium" Matthew Gardner-Brown's "Dulcinea" cross tacking.

Previous page: Charles Burnett's TP52 "Braveheart", and Paul Lamarche's SC70 "Neptune's Car".

Photo by Borrowed Light Images.



tried to avoid getting hit by *Roxanne* and once he regained steerage had to give way to all the starboard tackers that had arrived while things were unfolding.

Late during the second race Saturday, the building wind caused incidents and gear breakage aboard several boats. *Astral Plane* purse seined with her gorgeous blue spinnaker. Stu Farrell said he ripped an organizer out of the deck on his Aphrodite 101 *Tryst*, which kept him from finishing the race. As a number of racers called to announce their retirement from racing on the VHF, Kathy Watts on *Shrek* quipped that CSR might be busy on Monday. Quite a few boats failed to start the third race, including *Jack Rabbit*, *Gunsmoke* and *Firecracker* in class 2; *Jubilee*, *Delirium* and *Dulcinea*





in Fleet 6, and *Windchild*, *Manta Ray*, *Kowloon* and *Magic Button* in Fleet 7.

In the intensity of racing, the skipper of the J-109 *J-Tripper*, Rick Nordquist, went overboard. He later joked that he was pretty relieved that his crew noticed and immediately set about rescuing him. While several boats attempted to assist, the crew on *J-Tripper* managed to retrieve their own skipper, but they did not finish the race. *Tantivy* and *Shada* were granted redress for their efforts, though it didn't ultimately affect the class standings. The J-120 *Time Bandit* indicated that they also diverted course to help and that combined with a confusing over early call cost them some time.

Sunday's wind shift came in earlier than forecast, sparing racers a convergent zone during the racing and offering up 15-25 knots from the north. Many were tired and sore from the intense racing of the day before, but excited for more. The race committee set a course to Point Wells then West Point twice around for some fleets and a longer course once around Blakely Rock for the rest. Current again



"Moose Unknown" and "Flying Circus".  
Photo by Borrowed Light Images.

figured strongly into race strategy. Most who rounded Blakely Rock went into the cliffs of Magnolia to take advantage of the tide and the wind along that shore.

Many who sailed the double windward leeward between Point Wells and West Point, short tacked the beach up to Boeing Creek and some tried to catch the current swirl off Meadow Point before heading across the current river that streams out of the locks and on to the leeward mark off West point.

Mike Schiltz who won in the J-105 fleet said he took someone out racing for his first time on Sunday, was left speechless with a big grin on his face, clearly hooked on racing. Mike went on to say "good close sailing, great crew camaraderie and winning is a rush no matter what your experience level. I know I never get tired of it. Everyone had their moments out there. but the second and third place boats really did exceptional jobs." The close racing in the J-105 fleet finished with *Sunday Ticket* beating *Panic* for the entire regatta by a single second in the last race.

Paul Baker, who sailed on *Neptune's Car* summed up the regatta, saying "Great racing in a good, big fleet . . . and you can quote me on that!"

by Wendy Hinman

## PI Boat Type Helm

### 0 Class

1 Makika	F-25C	Jude Stoller
2 Cat Sass	Viva27Cat	Barrett / Rubin
3 Blue Lightning	F-9A	Markus Gumley
4 Trillium	Cors F-28	Ron Radko
5 Sibling Rivalry	Cors F-27	Will Marken
6 Kinetic Ki	Cors F-28	Bill Bowman
7 Cuttlefish	Cors F-27	M. Adams
8 Danger Zone	Cors F-27	Jim Thompson

### 1 Class

1 Braveheart	TP 52	Charles Burnett
2 Flash	OD 48	Steve Travis
3 Icon	Perry Sloop	Dick Robbins
4 Neptune's Car	SC 70	Paul LaMarche
5 Strum	Ripetide 50	Randy Vogel
6 Marda Gras	SC 52	Marda Phelps
7 Strider	N/M/ Bieker	David Pickett
8 Jam	J-160	John McPhail

### 2 Class

1 Ballistic	Melges 32	Gordy Cole
2 Shrek	1D35	John Hoag
3 Roxanne	J-125	Greg Slingstad
4 Time Bandit	J-120	Bob Brunius
5 Teddy Bear	Davidson 40	Gray Hawken
6 My-Tai	Flying Tiger	Alex Fox
7 Wicked Wahine	Melges 32	Darrin Towe
8 Kilo	Synergy 1000	Paul Faget
9 Minor Threat	1D35	Dave Marod
10 Jack Rabbit	CM 1200	Chester Hibbert
11 Gunsmoke	1D35	Mitch Etherton
12 Firecracker	Flying Tiger	John Anicker

### 3 Class

1 Dec of Indep	Express 37	Brian Watkins
2 Finale	Swan 46	Roger Hills
3 Veloce	Bene1st36.7	Carl Freund
4 Karma	Dash 34X	Peter Shorett
5 Absolute Kaos	Dash 34X	Reigh North
6 Shoot The Moon	Petr 2 Ton	Don Wills
7 Darby	C&C 121	Steven Tuck
8 Farr-ari	Bene 45f5	Bill Walton
9 Melange	J-35	Jerry McKay
10 Slip Sliding Away	G&S	Stuart Archer
11 What? A Tripp!	Petr 37	Gary Morgan
12 Bluefin	Thomas 35	Bill Cuffel
13 Diversion	J-35	Rod Deyo
14 Cheetah	C & C	Pete Clarke

### 4 Class

1 Astral Plane	J-109	Adam Korbin
2 J-Tripper	J-109	Rick Nordquist
3 Tantivy	J-109	Stuart Burnell
4 Shada	J-109	Jerry Woodfield
5 Jeopardy	J-109	Edward Pinkham
6 Surfer Girl	J-109	Tom Reinertson

### 5 Class

1 Grafix	Soverel33	Dave Martin
2 Trophy Wife	Melges 24	Glenn Klute
3 Locomotion	Expr 34	Edward Morgan
4 Wildflower	J-35C	Thomas Mitchell
5 Cool Beans	Melges 24	Gary Stuntz
6 Pegasus	Soverel 33	Al Johnson
7 Head Rush	Antrim	Ken Enge

### 6 Class

1 Money Shot	J-105	Mike Schiltz
2 Sunday Ticket	J-105	Lance McDonough

3 Panic	J-105	Chuck Stephens
4 Last Tango	J-105	John 'JP' Peterson
5 Jubilee	J-105	Erik Kristen
6 Allegro Vivace	J-105	Lorenzo Migliorini
7 Delirium	J-105	Jerry Diercks
8 Dulcinea	J-105	M.Gardner-Brown

### 7 Class

1 Time Warp	Bene1st375	Peter Nelson
2 Gaucho	Ross 930	John Cahill
3 Here & Now	J29M	Pat Denney
4 Flying Circus	S2 9.1M	Eric Yaremko
5 Corrida	Laser 28	Grant Osberg
6 Last Fling IV	J-30	Robert Gierke
7 Bodacious	Beneteau	J Rosenbach
8 Tryst	Aphr 101	Stuart Farrell
9 Manta Ray	Olson 911SE	J. Reichhold
10 Moose Unknown	C&C 35	John Aitchison
11 Wind Child	Ben 36s7	Rydy Heessels
12 Kowloon	Olson 911	Ken Chin
13 Magic Button	Cal 39	Jim Hewitson

### 8 Class

1 Three Ring Circus	Olson 25	Nate Creitz
2 Morphine	Moore 24	Brad Butler
3 Ladybug	Peterson 30	Mark Brink
4 Loose Nuts	Sant 20	Chris Murschel
5 Norn	SC-27	Arne Hammer
6 Smilin' Jack	Morgan 27	John Wade
7 Tequila	C&C	David Steffen
8 Shenanigans	B-25	Joe Flowers
9 Runner	Ranger 26	Dan Randolph
10 Invader	T-Bird	Martin Godsil
11 Perfectly Strange	Pocket Rocket	Paul Kalina