

The Nor'Easter is now in the history books...

The First of four in our New England Cup Series, the Nor Easter is hosted by the Mystic River Radio Sailors at the historic FT Adams in Newport RI. This is by far my favorite site for RC sailing. Besides the fact that it was once the home of the Americas Cup and remains home to the historic 12M's that competed here, you never know what might sail your way. Pictured below is one of the most graceful historic 12M still afloat...

WEATHERLY. What a treat it was to have her sail buy so close you almost could touch her.

Sites like this make sailing scale 12's that much more fun. Newport and New England are also famous for constantly changing weather. The common phrase around here is... "If you don't like the weather... just wait a moment." Make sure you have your foul weather gear as well as shorts and sun block as you will often see the full spectrum of these conditions in one day.

Saturday

We arrived to zero wind speed with fog. The Race committee chose to hold off until there was at least a little breeze. The Tide was going out which meant that without breeze, your boat would go out too! The bad news was that the very little breeze we did get did not arrive until after noon. Once it filled in and the racing/driftng got under way, we were able to get a few races in before it died again. Mother Nature toyed with us while we tried to complete one race. The tide adds an entirely new dimension to racing that you won't see too many other places. Dave Ramos and Dave VanCleaf dominated while trading low point finishes while Luscomb and Leo duked it out for 3rd. We were able to complete 8 races before we quit for the day. Most joined up later for a wonderful meal and conversation at Coddingtons Brewery.

The standings were as follows...

- 1 D.Ramos 18pts
- 2 D.VanCleaf 20pts
- 3 C.Luscomb 29pts
- 4 J.Leo 29pts

Sunday

Sunday we arrived to Sunny skies and 5-6kts of breeze out of the NNW as forecast. Dave VanCleaf did not return as he had not fully recovered from a spring bug. A course was set in a hurry so we could make up for lost time. As the racing got underway, most went to B rigs in hopes of taming the building chop in the harbor. No sooner did the first gun go off when the breeze began to die once again. After the first break, A rigs were the order and things seemed to settle down a bit. Just before noon, while in the middle of the first lap, the wind died completely from the NNW and then came up again out of the SSE. We had to remind everyone that the now weather mark was still a gate as boats rounded and headed for the finish line. Could it get any more interesting?

Actually yes... as we broke for lunch the S&S Yawl "BLACK WATCH" came into our dock to pick up some passengers for an afternoon sail. Here is a link to her history.

[http://www.nyharborsailing.com/classic/yachts/black\\_watch.htm](http://www.nyharborsailing.com/classic/yachts/black_watch.htm)

Then, while we chatted with the Captain of Black Watch, along came the 12M US 17 WEATHERLY under full sail followed closely by another classic 12M GLEEM.

After a full dose of classic yachts, the racing got back under way as the breeze swung around to the ESE and built slightly giving us about 10kts. A rigs remained and this was the most enjoyable stretch of sailing we had all weekend and it was worth the wait.

At the end of racing the final line up looked like this....

- 1 D. Ramos 27pts
- 2 C. Luscomb 44pts
- 3 J. Leo 50pts
- 4 B. Walton 53pts
- 5 A. Dion 93 pts
- 6 K. MacLellan 105pts
- 7 J. Baldwin 114
- 8 J. Skerry 123
- 9 D. VanCleaf 128
- 10 T. Stone 147
- 11 K. Koehler 173

Thank you to everyone who attended and thank you to Judy Skerry, our RD on Saturday and Dan Crowley our RD for Sunday.

Newport continues to deliver some of the most challenging sailing most have had the opportunity to experience. During lunch on Sunday, we had one of the more pleasurable sites and why we sail here. Check out the photos at this link....

[https://picasaweb.google.com/113144297999684940748/2012NorEaster?authkey=Gv1sRgCJjsoYvUme\\_X3gE](https://picasaweb.google.com/113144297999684940748/2012NorEaster?authkey=Gv1sRgCJjsoYvUme_X3gE)

Respectfully submitted,

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Mystic River Radio Sailors