

June 2-3, 2018 VLSC Annual regatta and PNW District Championship, NA qualifier.

13 Lightnings on the line and 2 more registered - a nice increase from last year's 9 boats.

The theme of this year's regatta was hurry up and wait and general recalls. On Saturday, we had a light westerly during the skipper's meeting at 12:00. For a late spring day, this wind typically dies and we hope for a nice thermal breeze from the Northwest. As predicted, the westerly died, and the thermal was very slow to fill. After a long delay on shore to let a light thermal breeze fill across the lake, we finally got all the boats (multi-fleet) out on the lake. The breeze never did fill the entire lake and the RC did well to find the best area to get a .75 mile beat in for us. With a somewhat short starting line, there were many recalls, both general and individual throughout the 5 races.

Race 1 - 1 lap with a windward offset, gate and finish to windward. We don't often run the offset - but were practicing for the NA's. Some boats needed the practice as they made too steep a turn at the windward mark and had to circle back. Bob Bush and crew Sterling Bush, Abby Boudoris tacked to port near the boat right at the gun and was gone. More wind going up the right side, together with a slow header, gave Ambush a big lead at the windward mark. Jerry Neuberger and Darrel Peck duked it out for second, with Jerry hanging on.

Race 2 Same Course - Peck and crew Lori Daily, Gabby McClure and team Hickman started near the pin and played the left middle. Ambush and Neuberger teams looked to the right for a repeat of the 1st race but it wasn't there. Canadian teams Duncombe and Bos found magic in the middle of the course to move in to the lead. Just before the mark, in a short tacking exchange, Peck was able to wiggle through first with the Canadians, Hickman, McCallum and Hicks there too. The run had a couple good shifts to jibe in with the leaders choosing the favored starboard gate mark. The Hickman family with pro-sailor Oliver Kunz in the front, tacked beautifully and found their way up to 2nd place behind D. Hicks moved up to 3rd in front of McCallum with Commodore Barrar on board and team Duncombe.

Race 3 - Wind was getting better. The Lightning fleet was very aggressive on the starting line with multiple general recalls. After a clean start, Roger Hicks found the right line along the right side of the course to round first, with number of boats close behind. Going up the last beat, both Darrel and Bob were able to get by, with Darrel showing tremendous speed and getting the horn. All boats were out of the water by 7pm.

Race 4 - Sunday. Another long delay, this one unexpected as a front system was close by. Unfortunately, the sun came out long enough for the breeze to get all screwed up, leaving us with very little until 1pm. Same race course as Saturday, but a different part of the lake. Some more recalls of the Lightning fleet and finally off. The wind was starting to fill in and teams were finding the hiking straps. The wind clocked a little right while shifting and team Neuberger took advantage with former Commodore Troelsen looking smart too. A quick jibe at the offset mark moved Peck into 2nd. The course now had a 25-degree righty all the way across so folks were reaching for the Port gate. Neuberger's sailed into a light spot on the right, part way up the beat allowing Peck to come even. There was a short tacking duel that left both boats on the starboard tack layline. Peck shot the line to cross by inches over Neuberger followed closely by Doug Hickman and crew Gail Hickman, Oliver Kunz and team Hicks.

Race 5 - A start/general recall 11 minutes before the day time limit had the Lightning class on overtime, as we need to wait for all the other fleets to start before their cutoff time. While we were waiting, one of the A cats - modified with foils - gave us a bit of show - to many cheers. Looks fun, but surely difficult to control. The wind also piped up with front wind right in line with the thermal direction. Not sure there was much thermal, but it was not hurting the velocity. We got to hike! The course was still unmoved, so the windward leg required lots of hiking on starboard tack and only a couple shifts could be played back to the right. Team Neuberger with crew Sandy Neuberger, Dan Burton and team Peck rounded in front with Hicks and Hickman just back. A quick jibe at the offset and fast reach let Peck open up to the port favored gate. Neuberger rounded next with Hickman and Hicks just back. After sailing through the boats

still reaching downwind, Hicks moved into a lee-bow position on Neuberger to take 2nd behind Peck. Hickman and team HuMuHuMuNuKuNuKuApuaa were close behind.

VLSC 2018 regatta photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/sailingpdx/sets/72157669721332378/>

Position	Sail No	Skipper	Crew	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	Total	Pts
1st	14600	Darrell Peck	Gabby McClure, Lori Daily	-3	1	1	1	1	7	4
2nd	14040	I R Hicks	Phil Smith, Bruce Harrington	-12	3	3	4	2	24	12
3rd	14079	Doug Hickman	Gail Hickman, Oliver Kunz	-6	2	5	3	4	20	14
4th	14654	Robert Bush	Sterling Bush, Abby Bourdoris	1	7	2	5	-8	23	15
5th	14233	Gerald Neuberger	Sandy Neuberger, Dan Burton	2	8	-10	2	3	25	15
6th	14288	Philip Parshley	Nanis Gilmore, Gabe Green	5	6	4	-7	5	27	20
7th	13788	Chris Duncombe	Jane Henley, Ian Weekes	4	5	8	6	-9	32	23
8th	14308	David McCallum	Scott Barrar, Rob Postma	7	4	6	-12	6	35	23
9th	13869	Jeff Stong	Julia Stong, Carl Peterson	-13	10	7	8	7	45	32
10th	13896	John DeBenedetti	Todd Lasher, Randy Anderson	8	9	9	(16.0 9 DNS)		51	35
11th	14453	Menno Bos	Ury Segal, Viqtor Germanor	9	-13	13	11	10	56	43
12th	13942	Erik Troelsen	Teri Troelsen, Dean Bourdoris	11	11	-12	10	11	55	43
13th	14713	Micah Berry	Jessie Taylor and Devon McMahon	10	12	11	-13	12	58	45

14th	13949	Ran Vered		(16.0 DNC)	16.0 DNC	16.0 DNC	16.0 DNC	16.0 DNC	80	64
14th	14841	Matthew Henley		(16.0 DNC)	16.0 DNC	16.0 DNC	16.0 DNC	16.0 DNC	80	64



