

## 2012 Penguin Internationals

### Summary:

The 2012 Penguin Class championship was held on August 16 and 17 at the Sheridan Shore Yacht Club in Wilmette, Illinois. 15 teams, 10 from the Chicago area, 4 from the Chesapeake region, and one from Ohio competed. A passing thunderstorm on Thursday morning delayed the registration and measurement, but the rain stopped and after being treated to a Subway lunch, the 15 boats were launched and headed out on Lake Michigan. Unfortunately, a strong cold front was passing through, and while we were waiting for the committee to set the race course, the wind built to well over 15 knots with puffs in the mid 20's. The committee decided to send us in for the day.

Thursday evening, Sandy and Marilyn Rapp hosted the sailors, and a large contingent of Penguin sailors from the Chicago fleets who weren't sailing, at their home for dinner. Friday's forecast seemed a bit better, with strong breeze in the morning, but expected to calm down as the day went on. However, Lake Michigan (it's a great lake) takes a while to settle down once the swell builds, so after a brief harbor postponement, the fleet headed out in what turned out to be a beautiful sailing day with winds from 5 -12, although there was still a significant swell, and some chop on top of that.

Sandy Rapp with crew Margaret Bodnovich jumped off to an early lead in race 1 and never looked back. Charlie Krafft with Donna McKenzie followed around in second, but misjudged the effect of Sandy's wind shadow on the final beat to the finish in the one lap windward leeward course, and Steve and Erin Lavender passed them. Race 2 saw Sandy and Margaret jump into the lead again, with Steve and Erin taking another second. Jack Rickard, who rounded in third was caught off-guard by one of the swells and managed to capsize. Getting the boat righted turned out to be an exhausting exercise, so he called it a day. In Race 3, Ross Adams had a great start and sailed the first beat well to round in first. Jonathan and Annie Bartlett, rounded the leeward mark in 6<sup>th</sup>, in the tightly bunched pack, but a quick tack toward the shoreline payed off, as they went on to win the race. Bob and Jenna Findlay, also capitalizing on better pressure on the left side of the course finished second.

In race 4 the wind had moderated a bit from the previous two races, and Charlie and Donna rounded the weather mark first, followed by Bob and Jenna Findlay. Findlay headed toward the shore on the run, found better pressure, and got to the leeward mark first, and held on to finish. After four races, Rapp and Findlay were tied with 11 points, Lavender and Bartlett were tied with 13, and Krafft had 15.

For the final race, the wind had moderated a bit more. Charlie Krafft started near the pin end of the line, well away from the rest of the fleet and took advantage of more favorable wind on the left side of the course. He rounded first, closely followed by Findlay, and then Rapp, Lavender and Bartlett. Krafft extended his lead on the run and went on to win handily. Findlay covered Rapp on the final beat to take second in the race, but sole possession of the lead. As it was nearing the 3:00 PM cut-off, the fleet was sent in by PRO Tom Adams.

Although the top five boats had only five points separating them, it wasn't as one-sided as the scores would indicate. Ross Adams sailed to a third in Race 3 and was never far from the leaders, to finish 6<sup>th</sup>

overall. Jeanne Ehrenberg, sailing with her mother, Jeanette Krstolich sailed smartly and finished 7<sup>th</sup>. Jeannette was acknowledged as being the oldest crew. Martin Krafft with crew Daniel Sage, after a 14<sup>th</sup> in race 1, came back strong with a solid performance, averaging 7<sup>th</sup>, to finish 8<sup>th</sup> overall. Bill Perley sailing in a classic wooden boat with water bottles for crew finished 9<sup>th</sup>. Rich Blatt sailing with Bill Richards with their distinctive mylar sail rounded out the top ten. Steve Pratt with his son, Leo Pratt-Thomas sailing Frank Flaherty's Innovator had misfortune in the last race, when a shroud pin came loose, and the mast came down. Dan Hilliard sailed a classic Penguin and was one of the four boats that sailed single-handed. Amy Krafft with Brooke Edgecombe finished 13<sup>th</sup>. Jack Rickard after a 6<sup>th</sup> in race 1, and a top five course position in race 2, was unable to complete the rest of the series due to his capsize. Tom Provencher sailing with Katie Watkins did a commendable job sailing in the challenging conditions, both on Thursday, and also on Friday. Katie gets special mention for not letting go of the moored boat she was told to hold onto while waiting to get to the dock, even as the Penguin she was on starting drifting away. Gravity won, and Katie ended up in the water. Katie was very good natured about it, and enthusiastic about going sailing again.

Jeanne Ehrenberg received the Flo Drill award for the top Female Skipper, Sandy Rapp received the Dick Tennerstedt Grand Master's award for the top skipper over age 60. Bob and Jenna Findlay, in addition to the Class championship perpetual were awarded (JB says he will mail it) the Lawson Family trophy for the highest placing family team. It is worth noting that 3 of the top 5 boats were family teams, out of 5 total family boats. Charlie Krafft was the top classic boat, out of the 4 that competed.

A special thanks to Tom Adams, who served as PRO, and was ably assisted by a number of helpers including Terry Glenn. Also to Marilyn Rapp, who took care of getting lunches, hosted a dinner party for the fleet. Also thanks to Ross Adams for working with the Sheridan Shore Yacht Club to make this event happen.

## 2012 International Penguin Championship

PL	Sail No .	Skipper	Crew	Race 1 PL Pta	Race 2 PL Pta	Race 3 PL Pta	Race 4 PL Pta
1	9740	Bob FINDLAY	Jenna Findlay	5 5	3 3	2 2	1
2	9730	Sandy RAPP	Margaret Bodnovich	1 1	1 1	5 5	4
3	9478	Charles KRAFFT	Donna McKenzie	3 3	4 4	6 6	2
4	9724	Steve LAVENDER	Erin Lavender	2 2	2 2	4 4	5
5	9576	Jonathan BARTLETT	Annie Bartlett	4 4	5 5	1 1	3
6	9628	Ross ADAMS		7 7	7 7	3 3	8
7	9750	Jeanne EHRENBURG	Jeanette Krstolich	8 8	6 6	11 11	7
8	9575	Martin KRAFFT	Daniel Sage	14 14	8 8	7 7	6
9	7050	Bill PERLEY		13 13	11 11	9 9	9
10	9714	Rich BLATT	Bill Richards	11	10 10	8 8	13

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11	9727	Steve PRATT	Leo Pratt-Thomas	9 9	9 9	10 10	10
12	9042	Dan HILLIARD		10 10	12 12	12 12	12
13	9028	Amy KRAFFT	Brooke Edgecombe	12 12	14 14	13 13	11
14	9709	Jack RICKARD		6 6	DNF 16	DNF 16	DNF
15	9145	Tom PROVENCHER	Katie Watkins	15 15	13 13	14 14	DNF