

2019 AYC BIRTHDAY REGATTA



Tucson Sailing Club all set up to serve a hot breakfast to the sailors. Servers included Glenn Brostedt, Peter & Alan Burgard, Mark McDade, Tony & Lani Krauss, Marshall Williamson & Brian Dolan



With over 70 boats on the water, mark roundings were tricky at times
Photo by Mike Ferring, AYC



Sun rising over race headquarters
Photo by Mike Ferring, AYC



The multitude of spinnakers flying made for a beautiful sight
Photo by Mike Ferring, AYC



Calamity lining up for a port start



Dave Perry talking rules and tactics
Photo by Mike Ferring, AYC

The Birthday Regatta & Leukemia Cup

By: Audi Dolan

This year's trip up to Lake Pleasant for the Birthday Regatta & Leukemia Cup, hosted by the Arizona Yacht Club, did not disappoint. Over 70 boats made it out for the weekend's races and festivities. While races were held on Friday for Vipers, Etchells and Multi-Hulls, Team Calamity spent the day stepping the mast and tuning the J24. Saturday morning TSC hosted a hot breakfast at race headquarters that was very well received by the racers. Special thank you to Tony and Lani Krauss, who came up just to help serve breakfast. Once on the water, our fleet had four races in typical lake winds (one race had a wind shift of about 180 degrees, allowing us to finish with our spinnaker up). Sunday morning brought more wind and rougher water initially, only to have the wind die during our second race. With so many varying conditions, we found ourselves in high concentration mode most of the time. Sure does make you appreciate our regatta location. Lake Pleasant is no San Carlos...but I'm sure that goes without saying.

The absolute highlight of the weekend was having guest speaker, Dave Perry, giving racing seminars both Friday and Saturday night. Dave is considered one of the top rules experts in the world. He is not only a very accomplished sailor, but also serves as a rules advisor to many prestigious racing syndicates, including Artemis Racing during the 2013 America's Cup in San Francisco. Dave was a very engaging and entertaining speaker, whose presentations were filled with useful information for all sailors. During Saturday's races, he took videos from the chase boat and presented many of them on Saturday night highlighting the good maneuvers along with demonstrating where racers could improve. His sense of humor kept it fun and light-hearted. Dave was just an exceptional speaker.

If you love racing and haven't made it up to Lake Pleasant for any of the Arizona Yacht Club's regattas, I highly suggest you go. Yes, lake sailing can be frustrating, but AYC does such a great job running these races that you really learn a lot.