

The Villages – Happy New Year Regatta
January 13,14, 2018
The Villages, FL

The Villages Model Yacht Squadron hosted the third leg of the Florida EC12 Association winter regatta series this past Saturday and Sunday. It could have been called the Frostbite Regatta. Saturday morning the temperatures were in the mid-forties with strong, chilling winds. Sunday morning the temperature at race time was 38. I thought this was supposed to be Florida!

We had a super turnout of 26 boars from several states and one from the Bahamas. I tried my hand as first time RD. The boats were divided into two fleets with promotion/relegation. This arrangement meant 15 boats on the starting line with four up and four down each race. Saturday, the winds cooperated, coming primarily from the east at 6-10 knots. There were some occasional knock-down gusts, but everyone seemed to handle them well.

Friday evening, we all attended a reception hosted by Ken Morrison, his daughter Kim Dispennett and her husband Bob. It was great seeing old friends again and ringing in the New Year together. Our three hosts put on quite a party. Saturday evening, we all met at Arnold Palmer Legends Country Club for dinner. As usual, the food, drinks and comradery were super.

Sunday was a bit of a disappointment with the winds coming from the north – the worst direction for our pond. We changed the course a couple of times trying to get some fair courses with reasonable beats. Our goal was quality racing not quantity. However, we did manage to get in 13 series with one throw-out.

When the scores were finally tabulated Sunday noon, the regatta winner was Alan Perkins. Alan was everywhere during the two days helping those with technical difficulties and those just needing some coaching.

I feel everyone had a good time despite the cold temperatures and we hope you'll all return again next year. The final standings are given below.

1. Alan Perkins	32
2. David Brawner	58
3. Joe Walter	61
4. Reichard Kahle	65
5. Don Ouimette	86
6. Jon Luscomb	88
7. Jack Ward	95
8. Skip Allen	96
9. Gerhard Kelter, Jr.	98
10. Martin Gray	105

The other finishers in order were: Chuck Millican, Jim Kaighin, Earnan Scavella, Don Hain, George Balaschak, Dick Reinke, Jim Rutherford, Liz Perkins, Brenda Pardee, Dan Pearce, Calvin Obara, Mary Hain, Frank Vella, Frank Ligon, Jim Pardee and Joe Fanelli.