

On June 21 & 22 in Rock Hall, Maryland, the Comet Class took to the Chester River for the 2014 North Americans. The 14 Comets hailing from Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Connecticut were joined by Hobie-14s, Hobie-16s, Hobie-17s, Hobie-18s, Windmills, A Cats, Chesapeake 20s, and Wayfarers who were participating in the Rock Hall Yacht Club Annual One Design Regatta.

Saturday morning greeted the sailors with a reluctant sun and low winds which, for the Comets, meant there was a short postponement on shore. The first race got off around noon in a solid 5-7 knots out of the North, North East. With the breeze coming out of Langford Bay, small shifts were plentiful and it was those who patiently waited for the larger shifts that did well. After a 4-leg windward/leeward course and a downwind finish, Talbott Ingram and wife Lee snagged first, followed by Rob and Drew Schell in second, and Brad Meade and Eric Hoffer in third.

Races two and three were short 3-leg windward/leewards with a windward finish and saw the most breeze of the day, with puffs topping out around 10-11s knot. Ingram won both of those races followed by Meade and Rick Sloan with crew Sarah Sloan in the second, and then Elliot Oldak with crew Barbara Best and Meade in the third.

The race committee tacked on two more legs to race number four but the additional race time only allowed Ingram to widen his lead. He took his fourth bullet of the day in a diminishing breeze and was followed once again by Oldak and Meade.

In an effort to get as much racing in as possible due to the unpromising Sunday forecast, the RC started one last race, only 2 legs long. After a string of seconds, Oldak won the last race of the day, followed by Schell in second and Meade in third.

Back on shore, the gracious host, Rock Hall Yacht Club, provided libations and a scrumptious dinner for the hungry sailors.

Sunday was a much sunnier day, but what looked like a promising building breeze, quickly fizzled out. After a brief onshore postponement, the fleet headed out for an attempt at racing. However, competing breezes won out and after a 180 degree wind shift and an abandoned race, the fleet sailed in to pack up, collect silver, and get on the road.

With four bullets in the five races that were sailed, Talbott Ingram and crew Lee Ingram of Shrewsbury Sailing & Yacht Club easily took first. Elliott Oldak and crew Barbara Best of Severn Sailing Association came in second and were followed by Brad Meade and crew Eric Hoffer of Shrewsbury Sailing & Yacht Club in third. Rounding out the top 5 were Rob and Drew Schell of Green Pond Yacht Club in fourth and Jim Widdis and Betsy Kulman of Shrewsbury Sailing & Yacht Club in fifth.

For full results please visit the [Comet Class website](#).

Thanks again to Rock Hall Yacht Club for being a great host!