

## Brown Eyed Girl Tops 43rd Hancock Regatta

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Carolina Currents

HAVELOCK, N.C. - Brown Eyed Girl climbed up from the middle of the pack to come out on top of the six-boat spinnaker fleet at the 43rd Annual Hancock Yacht Club Regatta held July 14-15 off the shore of Marine Air Corp Station Cherry Point on the Neuse River.

After a fourth place finish in the first race, Brown Eyed Girl steadily improved with a third place in the second race and rallied for first place in the final race.

"We got some good racing in," said HYC Commodore Marty Warner. "In the last two years we've only finished one race out of six scheduled due to lack of wind."



Photo by Mike McCulley

In addition to the three races enjoyed by the big boats, the Sunfish managed to squeeze in six races. True to form, this year's regatta was again held in light winds. A brief shower damped Sunday's racing, but the remainder of the weekend was dry.

The races were held on either side of the Cherry Point/Minnesott Ferry Landing with the larger boats to the east and a fleet of Sunfish racing to the west.

Zak Matthews topped the competitive Sunfish series with three bullets and three seconds, tying second place Rob Eberle with the same results. Matthews claimed the series by winning the last race. In third place was his father, Nick, followed by Ken Floyd in fourth.

A highlight of the event was on Saturday when nine wounded warriors from Camp Lejeune joined the event aboard three different club members' boats. After observing the day's racing, they stayed for the catered Italian dinner before heading back to Camp Lejeune.

After the races the club gave out flags with each class and position on them as trophies.

Final standings in the competitive Class A spinnaker fleet were:

1. Brown Eyed Girl 4/3/1=8
2. Little Bitch 1/6/2=9
3. New York Times 3/1/5=9
4. Rambunctious 2/4/4=10
5. Blueprint 5/2/3=10
6. Luna 6/5/6=17

Ties were broken by corrected time using PHRF ratings.

Zooma raced in its own spinnaker class for PHRF ratings over 200.

Final standings in the Class B cruising/performance fleet were:

1. Capricious 1/1/1=3
2. Compass Rose 2/2/2=6
3. Bifrost 4/3/3=10
4. Water Phantom 3/4/4=11

Packer Tacker raced in its own cruising fleet for PHRF ratings over 200.

In Class 3 for crusing boats, the final results were:

1. Sayuri 1/1/1=3
2. Syzgy II 2/2/3=7
3. River Dance 3/3/2=8
4. Lady Carmen 4/4/5(DNC)=13