



The Pennant

13 September 2015

Newsletter of the IYC Cayuga Lake Cruising Fleet

50 Mile Day (?) Race, Saturday/Sunday, September 12/13

The forecast predicted light winds and lots of rain, and this is what the conditions turned out to be at the start on Saturday morning at 8:30.

No wonder only two skippers took up the challenge: Tim Bonniwell with the Catalina 30, INVICTUS, and Charles Witherup with the Cape Dory 28, QUETZAL III.

INVICTUS finished at 02:23:26 on Sunday morning. That's a time of 17 h 53 min.

QUETZAL III came in at 03:58:50. Her time was 19 h 38 min.

Here is Charles Witherup's race report:

The longer I'm in and around sailing folks, locally, the more people I meet who used to sail and race here. And in light of what they say, it seems like we made out fine on this race. Sure, it took us 19 1/2 hours to finish but I've heard of people finishing, back in the day, on Monday morning.

As it happens, winds were mostly light and variable mostly from every direction and there was plenty of rain. By "light and variable" I mean that our GPS showed 0 boat speed for 1h40 of the race. The boats drifted across the starting line together and then remained very close up to somewhere near Long Point. Invictus was then lost to sight and not spied again until she passed by a few hours later - going in the opposite direction. We put the chute up (and took it down) a lot of times (not nearly as many times as during the 50 Mile Night Race). We had awesome winds, a squall and dead calm.

And one of these times we're going to win.

Second Race Day of the Spring Series, Sunday, September 20

The skippers' meeting will be at 12:45 at the South Pavilion of the Ithaca Yacht Club. The start of the first race will be at 1:30.

See you at the South Pavilion.

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