

**2008 James Craig Solo Bowl
Regatta Report
Prepared by Taugh Lynch, Regatta Chairman**

June 14, 2008

Hosted by Monmouth Boat Club, Woodpussy Fleet 1

On Saturday, 16 sailors competed in the 45th Annual James Craig Solo Bowl Championship, hosted by Woodpussy Fleet 1 of the Monmouth Boat Club. The 3 race series featured a range of wind conditions. Here is a brief recap of the action.

Race 1- After a brief and informative Skippers meeting, our Principal Race Officer, Sandy Huntsman, and his Assistant PRO, Crissy VanSiclen, set up a W/L course for the first race of the Regatta. At the start, in a patchy light westerly, most of the fleet chose the slightly favored pin end. At the weather mark, standout sailors Randy Dickerson and John Garth rounded just ahead of Denis Farley. The top ten boats were very closely bunched as they sailed slowly downwind. At the leeward mark, Garth tacked away onto starboard, hoping for more breeze. Instead he found a windless hole, as the breeze was dying across the course. Dickerson went off onto port, found just enough breeze to cross ahead, and held on for the win. Garth claimed second, closely followed by Farley and Talbott Ingram (sailing Tony Keator's wooden beauty).

The breeze faded completely as the RC waited for any chance to run the second race. The decision to break for lunch was made and the fleet prepared for the short tow back to MBC. Keith Dusko made the rookie mistake of walking onto his bow to secure a towline, lost his balance and pulled his WP over onto its side.

Race 2- After an extended lunch break at MBC, we decided to try to complete the regatta in the light southerly sea breeze which filled in. Once again, nearly the entire fleet sailed off toward the pin on starboard, all the way to the port layline. Ingram, however, went off on port, found some very good pressure, and rounded in the top 3. Garth led Farley around the top mark, and the breeze continued to freshen. A couple of nifty jibes allowed Ingram to surge into the lead at the leeward mark, which he never relinquished. As the wind slowly rose, it shifted slightly south, making the final beat almost a starboard fetch. Garth and Farley had a spirited tacking duel near the finish, with Garth taking second. Jeff Jacobi, sailing a brand new WP from the Weeks Boatyard and showing excellent pace in the moderate air, surged to a fourth place finish.

Race 3- The final race had an additional lap in the fresh breeze. All the usual suspects led the way: Garth, Dickerson, Farley and Ingram. Joining this group, however, was Chris Pratt, in his elegant woodie. Garth rounded the windward mark in first, followed very closely by Pratt. Garth opened up the lead on the ensuing legs to win the race and the regatta, followed by Ingram and Dickerson.

Many thanks to our excellent Race Committee- PRO- Sandy Huntsman, APRO- Crissy VanSiclen, Les Hathaway, and Bill Henry. Special thanks to Past Commodore Dale Barney who assisted in the arduous recovery of Dusko's submarine.

Solo Bowl Results

Date/Race: 6/14

<u>Skipper</u>	<u>Sail Number</u>	<u>Race Number</u>			<u>Points</u>	<u>Place</u>
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>		
John Garth	1022	2	2	1	5	1
Talbott Ingram	1008	4	1	2	7	2
Randy Dickerson	577	1	5	3	9	3
Denis Farley	790	3	3	5	11	4
Chris Pratt	1004	6	6	4	16	5
Jeff Jacobi	1102	10	4	6	20	6
Taugh Lynch	711	5	8	8	21	7
Dale Barney	100	13	7	7	27	8
Ron Kudile	729	8	10	9	27	9
Bob Kent	657	11	9	10	30	10
Dave Minton	881	7	dns	dns	41	11
Pris Gettis	563	9	dns	dns	43	12
Ian Sanderson	22	12	dns	dns	46	13
Stephen Smith	873	14	dns	dns	48	14
Keith Dusko	882	15	dns	dns	49	15
Bob Hill	30	16	dns	dns	50	16