

Regatta Report – 2009 Gill Trophy

The 2009 Gill Trophy was held at Falmouth Yacht Club on July 14 and 15. Twenty six teams competed in conditions that ranged from light and variable in the morning to strong and gusty in the afternoon. Nine races were completed in the challenging conditions, and when the scoring was complete, the team of Helen Lord (Quissett YC) and Molly Clarke (Falmouth YC) prevailed. Never finishing lower than 9th, the Lord/Clarke team completed the regatta with 20 points, including three bullets and seven finishes in the top three. Second place went to the team of Mary Kate Mezzetti and Eleanor Conroy from Hyannis YC with 28 points, including one bullet and eight finishes in the top five. After winning the top two places in the 2008 Gill Trophy, Allison Shane and Corinna DeCollibus from DBMS teamed up to finish third with 32 points. Although they never won a race, the Shane/DeCollibus team never finished lower than 8th. Complete results are available at

http://www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_regatta_results.php?regatta_id=2017&show_crew=1

The PRO for the regatta was Mike O'Connor, Program Director at Falmouth Harbor Sailing School (FHSS) and Sailing Coach at Harvard University. Assisting Mike was Matt Voci, Senior Instructor at FHSS. The FHSS staff also assisted by running mark boats and helping with the challenging beach-launch operations.

The Gill Regatta was preceded by a 420 clinic with instructors Ken Legler (Tufts University), Megan Watson (Harvard All-American skipper) and Justin Assad (UVM and 2008 New England Coach of the Year), and a pizza party where the sailors and coaches ate 18 large pizzas in 16 minutes.