

Dec 09, 2014 by Tom Davis:

Gator Bowl One Design Regatta

Almost every area sailor knows the Mug Race and its history that has run continuously since the early years of our club. When you think of the early history of the Rudder Club you typically think of the old Mug Races. But it is likely that not even half our members realize the Gator Bowl Regatta dates back to those same days.

Today's TaxSlayer Bowl is an annual college football bowl game played at EverBank Field, the original site of the Gator Bowl. The college bowl game originally named the Gator Bowl has been held continuously since 1946, making it the sixth oldest college bowl, as well as the first one ever televised nationally. The bowl is operated by Gator Bowl Sports and will be played on January 2, 2015.

By the early 1950's the Gator Bowl was already established as a "major" bowl, eclipsed only by the Rose, Cotton, Sugar and Orange. In 1953, in anticipation of the 1954 Gator Bowl, the City promoted the Gator Bowl in a very big way that set the tone for future generations of football fans. The classic became bigger than football; it was an entire social season, with social events, parades, golf tournaments, fireworks displays, basketball games and with our great waterfront, a sailing regatta.

The very first Gator Bowl Regatta was held on Sunday, December 27, 1953. According to an article in Motor Boating magazine, February 1954, more than 300 sail and motor craft took part in a coordinated event on the St. Johns River as part of the week-long festivities preceding the New Year's Gator Bowl football game. Close to 50 sailboats competed in the first Gator Bowl sailing regatta. In conjunction with the sailing regatta, the Jacksonville Outboard Club put on a high-speed aquatic parade with 150 small boats in line. The power boats ran 10 laps between the Main Street Bridge and Jacksonville University. In addition, the fireboat Callahan led a parade of cruisers arranged by the Jacksonville power Squadron.

Two Rudder Club members Nathan Mallison and Richard (Dick) Burroughs co-chaired the first Gator Bowl Regatta. There were multiple sailboat classes, including Moth, Canoe, Penguin, Snipe, Lightning, Bantam, Under 150 sq. ft., Over 150 sq. ft., and Windmill. The race was run on a triangular course.

By 1961, the Gator Bowl Regatta was moved to an earlier date in December similar to our schedule today. On December 17, 1961 the Gator Bowl Regatta was held at the Rudder Club. Dick Burroughs won the Windmill Class. Billy Arnold got First Place in the Star Class. Ed Burroughs won the Suicide Class. Ed Danciger won his class using a borrowed boat named Teal.

The Gator Bowl Regatta is special to me since it was the very first race I ever competed with the boat I still own today. My first race competing with my boat Ghost was at the 1989 Gator Bowl Regatta. You don't need to be a Rudder Club member very long to know that the weather can be anything at the Gator Bowl. Some years it is warm and dry; others it can be bitter cold and wet. Some days are light wind; others can be whitecaps and blustery. 2014 was no exception. Saturday, December 6 was pleasant temperature but was a light air struggle on the water. After a long postponement, we were fortunate to complete one shortened race for two classes, open multihull and Flying Scot classes. But the cold front came through as predicted early Sunday morning and we started promptly on time for some great racing, starting in 10-12 knot breeze gradually building to 15-17 in the last races. In total there were four races completed in the open multihull class and five races completed for the

Flying Scots. My thanks to the members who volunteered and participated as Race Committee. We had a great crew working four boats on the course. The Rudder Club members who volunteered for both the Race Committee as well as the shore side activities and spectacular dinner all deserve our thanks.

For the last several years, the Florida Flying Scot fleet has issued the Gator Challenge to other districts to send their boats down to Jacksonville for the Gator Bowl One Design Regatta. Close to twenty Scots mix it up in competition not just for the usual class trophies, but for Wally Gator – a perpetual team trophy that could only be from Florida. Unique to the Gator Bowl, the Wally Trophy (literally a gator's head mounted on a plaque) is awarded to the district with the best overall performance. Wally Gator is awarded to the district with the top three boats in the Flying Scot class. Carolina District sailors took the trophy home a few times, but we have managed recently to keep it in Florida. In 2014 the Wally Trophy stays in Florida. (Next time you are in the clubhouse, take a look at this trophy – it is cool.)



Gator Bowl Regatta 2014

The Rudder Club of Jacksonville

Results are final as of 14:05 on December 7, 2014

Overall

Sailed: 5, Discards: 0, To count: 5, To qualify: 1, Entries: 18, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Fleet	Boat	Class	SailNo	HelmName	Club	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	Nett
1st	Flying Scot	Comfortably Numb	Flying Scot	5310	John Kreidler	WCSC	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	6.0
2nd	Flying Scot	LA		5566	Jim Signor	UKSC / CGSC	4.0	2.0	3.0	5.0	4.0	18.0
3rd	Flying Scot	Sweet Pea	Flying Scot	5179	Tom McNally	Lake Monroe Sailing Assoc	7.0	4.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	21.0
4th	Flying Scot	DaBomb	flying scot	4925	Mark Taylor	DIYC	9.0	6.0	6.0	7.0	2.0	30.0
5th	Flying Scot	Serge	Flying Scot	2925	Dave Thinel	SSS	8.0	7.0	7.0	4.0	5.0	31.0
6th	Flying Scot	Zephyr	FS	5787	Paul Abdullah	FYC/Rudder Club	1.0	3.0	5.0	6.0	19.0 DNS	34.0
7th	Flying Scot	Rita Sharo	Flying Scot	5636	Henry Picco	Indian River Yacht Club	6.0	5.0	12.0	11.0	6.0	40.0
8th	Flying Scot	Patriot	Flying Scot	6040	Robert Whittemore	Fishing Bay YC	5.0	19.0 OCS	2.0	2.0	19.0 DNS	47.0
9th	Flying Scot	Diva	Flying Scot	5544	Jim Bigham	CGSC	3.0	8.0	11.0	9.0	19.0 DNS	50.0
10th	Flying Scot	None	Flying Scot	3139	Carl Geyer	Rudder Club	11.0	10.0	14.0	10.0	9.0	54.0
11th	Flying Scot	Lil Tipsy	Flying Scot/ Dinghy	3635	Karl Hoffman	Rudder Club	10.0	12.0	13.0	13.0	7.0	55.0
12th	Flying Scot	Steamboat Willie	Flying Scot	15	Ron Pletsch	SSS	12.0	11.0	10.0	8.0	19.0 DNS	60.0
13th	Flying Scot	Lady Hope	Flying Scot	5321	Henry Bernstein	Coconut Grove Sailing Club	17.0	9.0	9.0	12.0	19.0 DNS	66.0
14th	Flying Scot	N/A	Flying Scot	5081	George Catalano	Rudder Club of Jacksonville	18.0	15.0	15.0	14.0	8.0	70.0
15th	Flying Scot		Flying Scot	5502	Donna Mohr	Rudder Club	16.0	13.0	8.0	19.0 DNS	19.0 DNS	75.0
16th	Flying Scot	fs2	flying scot	2324	Tommy Scott	Rudder Club	13.0	14.0	16.0	19.0 DNS	19.0 DNS	81.0
17th	Flying Scot	Water ride	Flying scot	3056	Al Graham	Rudder club	14.0	19.0 DNC	19.0 DNC	19.0 DNC	19.0 DNC	90.0
18th	Flying Scot	Heaven	Flying Scot	5202	Robert Smith	Rudder Club	15.0	19.0 DNC	19.0 DNC	19.0 DNC	19.0 DNC	91.0

Gator Bowl Regatta 2014 Portsmouth Multihull

The Rudder Club of Jacksonville

Results are final as of 14:12 on December 7, 2014

Overall

Sailed: 4, Discards: 0, To count: 4, To qualify: 1, Rating system: USPN, Entries: 4, Scoring system: Appendix A

Rank	Fleet	Boat	Class	SailNo	HelmName	Club	Rating	R1	R2	R3	R4	Nett
1st	Portsmouth Multihull	Gone with the Wind	"A" Boat	USA172	Chris Cordes	Rudder Club	64.5	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	4.0
2nd	Portsmouth Multihull	A-C	A-class	196	Dave Carlson	Gulf Atlantic Yacht Club	64.5	4.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	10.0
3rd	Portsmouth Multihull	Ocean Brew	Hobie 18	12940	Colleen Brew	Rudder Club	71.4	3.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	13.0
4th	Portsmouth Multihull	HaveAHobieDay	Hobie 18	15718	Melissa Gand	Guest of member	71.4	2.0	3.0	5.0 DNF	5.0 DNS	15.0

R1 - 06 DEC 2014 at 1100

Start: Start 1, Finishes: Finish time, Time: 13:57

Rank	Fleet	Boat	Class	SailNo	HelmName	Club	Rating	Start	Finish	Elapsed	Corrected	Points
1	Portsmouth Multihull	Gone with the Wind	"A" Boat	USA172	Chris Cordes	Rudder Club	64.5	13:57	14:17:32	0:20:32	0:31:50	1.0
2	Portsmouth Multihull	HaveAHobieDay	Hobie 18	15718	Melissa Gand	Guest of member	71.4	13:57	14:24:27	0:27:27	0:38:27	2.0
3	Portsmouth Multihull	Ocean Brew	Hobie 18	12940	Colleen Brew	Rudder Club	71.4	13:57	14:24:55	0:27:55	0:39:06	3.0
4	Portsmouth Multihull	A-C	A-class	196	Dave Carlson	Gulf Atlantic Yacht Club	64.5	13:57	14:23:09	0:26:09	0:40:33	4.0

R2 - 07 DEC 2014 at 1000

Start: Start 1, Finishes: Finish time, Time: 10:00, Course: W/L, Ave wind: 10

Rank	Fleet	Boat	Class	SailNo	HelmName	Club	Rating	Start	Finish	Elapsed	Corrected	Points
1	Portsmouth Multihull	Gone with the Wind	"A" Boat	USA172	Chris Cordes	Rudder Club	64.5	10:00	10:17:50	0:17:50	0:27:39	1.0
2	Portsmouth Multihull	A-C	A-class	196	Dave Carlson	Gulf Atlantic Yacht Club	64.5	10:00	10:22:13	0:22:13	0:34:27	2.0
3	Portsmouth Multihull	HaveAHobieDay	Hobie 18	15718	Melissa Gand	Guest of member	71.4	10:00:00	10:24:44	0:24:44	0:34:38	3.0
4	Portsmouth Multihull	Ocean Brew	Hobie 18	12940	Colleen Brew	Rudder Club	71.4	10:00	10:30:53	0:30:53	0:43:15	4.0

R3 - 07 DEC 2014 at 1000

Start: Start 1, Finishes: Finish time, Time: 10:36:41, Course: W/L, Ave wind: 12

Rank	Fleet	Boat	Class	SailNo	HelmName	Club	Rating	Start	Finish	Elapsed	Corrected	Points
1	Portsmouth Multihull	Gone with the Wind	"A" Boat	USA172	Chris Cordes	Rudder Club	64.5	10:36:41	10:54:08	0:17:27	0:27:03	1.0
2	Portsmouth Multihull	A-C	A-class	196	Dave Carlson	Gulf Atlantic Yacht Club	64.5	10:36:41	10:55:33	0:18:52	0:29:15	2.0
3	Portsmouth Multihull	Ocean Brew	Hobie 18	12940	Colleen Brew	Rudder Club	71.4	10:36:41	11:05:56	0:29:15	0:40:58	3.0
4	Portsmouth Multihull	HaveAHobieDay	Hobie 18	15718	Melissa Gand	Guest of member	71.4			DNF		5.0

R4 - 07 DEC 2014 at 1000

Start: Start 1, Finishes: Finish time, Time: 11:12:01, Course: W/L, Ave wind: 12

Rank	Fleet	Boat	Class	SailNo	HelmName	Club	Rating	Start	Finish	Elapsed	Corrected	Points
1	Portsmouth Multihull	Gone with the Wind	"A" Boat	USA172	Chris Cordes	Rudder Club	64.5	11:12:01	11:27:30	0:15:29	0:24:00	1.0
2	Portsmouth Multihull	A-C	A-class	196	Dave Carlson	Gulf Atlantic Yacht Club	64.5	11:12:01	11:27:41	0:15:40	0:24:17	2.0
3	Portsmouth Multihull	Ocean Brew	Hobie 18	12940	Colleen Brew	Rudder Club	71.4	11:12:01	11:36:26	0:24:25	0:34:12	3.0
4	Portsmouth Multihull	HaveAHobieDay	Hobie 18	15718	Melissa Gand	Guest of member	71.4			DNS		5.0

Sailwave Scoring Software 2.8.5

<http://www.rudderclub.com>www.sailwave.com<http://www.rudderclub.com/dallsopp@ussailing.net>