

## Micro Magic Region 5 Championship

*By Al Stiewing and Mike Eades*

A weak cold front graced the Valley of the Sun with a brief predawn shower on Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, the eve of the Micro Magic Class Region 5 Championship. Morning clouds gave way to clear blue skies by afternoon leaving a beautiful day for practice, mid-high 70's with a good but variable westerly breeze saw almost all skippers check in. The competitors enjoyed some spirited practice starts and races with locals, Dave Nydell, Jack Kimball and Dennis Poole and visitor Dave Haggart showing good form. Dennis Desprois tried a large number of rig combinations but was never happy with his performance.

Saturday morning greeted the 15 competitors with 8-10 knot winds from the NNE, allowing the race committee to set a modified Olympic course with two beats and two reaches raced under the odd/even format. Locals Chuck Goerke and Jay Barnes and Omaha NE's Dave Haggart jumped into an early lead. By lunch Mike Eades, Dennis Desprois, and Los Angeles, CA's Larry Grant began to make their presence felt. A loud cheer went up when Jack Kimball won his first race, stealing the thunder from the leaders. Apparently Jack likes winning as he took a total of three bullets over the weekend.

The afternoon saw the wind begin to gradually lighten and increase in variability. While the leaders held on, the changing conditions started sprinkling higher finishes into their scores. Dave Nydell made good use of shifts to score a bullet in his 8<sup>th</sup> race, inspiring Jack to his second bullet in the 9<sup>th</sup> race.

Saturday ended with 11 races (22 heats) and 1 throwout completed before the wind finally died. After one throwout, Mike Eades held a slim one-point lead over Dave Haggart and a four-point lead over Larry Grant. Close on their heels Chuck Goerke, Jay Barnes and Dennis Desprois were separated by one point.

Saturday evening saw most of the competitors, volunteers and wives relaxing at Al Stiewing's home in Sun City where he and wife Janis entertained all to his special barbecue pork and brisket plus fixings followed by desserts to die for. Stories of what might have been and could be tomorrow were swapped and all went home happy.

Sunday morning brought light and variable winds. Despite the difficult conditions, 7 races (14 heats) were completed allowing a total of three throwouts for the regatta. Larry Grant enjoyed the conditions so much that he scored 4 bullets, while Mike Eades struggled most of the day. Dave Haggart sailed the most consistent all weekend to capture the championship by one point over Larry who in turn edged Mike by one point. A total of only 8 points separated the top six skippers after 18 races! In all 8 skippers took bullets while 14 skippers managed at least one top three finish, it was that close!

Race Director, Al Stiewing, presented red chevrons to the top three, plaque trophies to the top four and place certificates to the remaining top 10 competitors. Al and his race committee, Les Sherry, Bruce Shanks and John Allen did a fine job keeping the event moving helped by the TWEAT Odd-Even scoring system program that rapidly processed heat finish data, produced next race lineups very promptly and kept all skippers informed of standings throughout the event.

Micro Magic regattas are establishing a reputation for camaraderie and close competition. This little boat provides close racing from the top to the bottom of the fleet with several finishes looking like a start. In addition to the race committee mentioned above, special thanks are also due to regatta organizing committee members Dave Nydell (trophies and commemorative pins) and Steve Sherry (lunch arrangements) and volunteers Lois and Jerry Koondell who helped set up Saturday's lunches for competitors. Without such volunteer help events like this would be difficult to host and less enjoyable for all.

### Summary Version

Event: Micro Magic Region 5 Championship  
Date: March 19-21, 2010  
Location: Litchfield Park, AZ  
Host Club: West Valley RC Mariners (# 207)  
Entries: 16 (1 had to withdraw)  
Winds: 2-20 Variable  
Scoring System: Odd/Even Low Point, 18 races, 3 discards

Regatta Committee & valuable assistants: Al Stiewing, Mike Eades, Dave Nydell, Steve Sherry, Les Sherry, Bruce Shanks, John Allen, Lois & Jerry Koondel.

### **Micro Magic Region 5 Championship Results**

**Litchfield Park, AZ March 19-21, 2010**

<b>Place</b>	<b>Skipper</b>	<b>Points</b>
1	Dave Haggart	29
2	Larry Grant	30
3	Mike Eades	31
4	Jay Barnes	34
5	Chuck Goerke	36
6	Dennis Desprois	37
7	Jack Kimball	52
8	Dave Nydell	52
9	Steve Sherry	59
10	Alan Metzger	69