

El Toro sailors compete in ETIYRA NA's held at Richmond Yacht Club

Sailing at the birthplace of a one-design fleet is always a little better. The El Toro was invented at the RYC in 1945 and the club did not disappoint the forty-two participants in the 2017 NA's held there on August 3-5. PRO Paul Disairo carefully chose between three very different venues to give the fleet their money's worth and more. Day one was held in the lee (barely) of Brooks Island. The ET fleets were challenged by 16 to 18 knot breeze and choppy swells. Day two and three were held in Keller's Cove. Friday was a lot like Thursday with medium to heavy breeze while Saturday was three to five knot picnic for the lighter members of the fleet. Attesting to the joy of ET sailing, nine boats were shipped to the event from Oahu, HI and sailed by members of the Kaneohe, Waikiki and Pear Harbor Yacht Club. The junior division was won by Waikiki YC junior, Max Roth. Second place went to Kyle Schaefer, hailing from SCYC and third place went to Morgan Vodzak of Kaneohe YC. No small feat as these juniors sailed in winds that caused some senior sailors to head for the barn on days one and two. Jesse Andrews (University of Hawaii sailing coach and previous 2015 ET NA's winner) took first in the senior division followed by Sandy Park from the Waikiki YC in second and Charlotte Lenz of SCYC in third. A hearty thanks to regatta coordinator, Buzz Blackett of RYC, who did a yeoman job of coordinating shipment of the Hawaiian boats and the housing for the Hawaiian sailors (Buzz turned his home into a defacto junior sailor dormitory for the event.) Full results for regatta may be viewed on Regatta Network.

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