

Odenbach's Circe Wins Todd Trophy

June 23, 1947 By CLIFF CARPENTER

Circe, sailed by Johnny Odenbach, won the Rochester Yacht Club's Todd Trophy for 6-Meters off the Port of Rochester yesterday.

So much for a plain statement of fact. Now for the adjectives. Odenbach won by 8 seconds after 12 miles of some of the grimmest, wearying racing seen this season. He won the toughest way—by finding he was slightly faster coming about, then splitting tacks probably two dozen times with machinegun rapidity. His victim was Rooney Castle in Stork, tied with Circe in standings as they went into the final race.

Howard Klitgord's Meteor, George Cup champion of last year, was yesterday's winner — but he trailed too far in standings going into the race to have a chance at the trophy, and all eyes were on the Circe-Stork trophy-winning duel.

Race Committee maestro A. H. Gorsline gave the Sixes and handicap class a 2-mile-leg, twice-around triangle for their argument, and started them off on a placid sea with a breeze barely 6 to 8 miles from the northwest. Barely over the line, Odenbach and Castle, the latter to weather, began their argument, and left Klitgord alone to take a huge inshore tack.

Has 8 Second Edge

That single leg won the race for Meteor—for inshore Klitgord was earlier catching a steadying breeze, and laid the mark perfectly with a single tack. Minutes ahead, he never was headed.

Up that first leg the veteran Castle kept Odenbach undearnea scrap. On the next two legs, run and reach, Stork widened her second place slightly, but again came the weather leg, and again the pair produced the nautical counterpart of a whirling dervish dance.

Finally Odenbach faked a come-about, fell off, then came fully about the second time. Stork was fast, but not quite enough to keep Circe slipping through the lee enough to catch her own breeze, and Odenbach's dark-hulled craft had won her flight. That is, she won it two legs later at the finish line, but the 8-second margin is mute testimony to the torrid argument Castle presented.

Four Stars took the starting in a shorter twice-around windwardleeward race, second in the 12th District Star Eliminations, and again the finishing gun was fired over the bow of Cliff Baker's Zoa II. For the first time this season, able Baker had himself a workout, for at the outer mark he trailed veteran Oc Marth in Tarlo —only to have Oc toss away the lead with a slight course misunderstanding. This put Baker within firing distance—and there he stayed.