

Hobie Cat Nationals

By Jerry Ober

The 1973 National Hobie Cat Championships were held on the 5th, 6th, and 7th of October at Lake Havasu on the Colorado River on the California-Nevada border.

The Club's representative to the Regatta was Leith Anderson. Leith reports that there was absolutely no wind, the lake was like a mirror for all nine of the races, and a drifting match ensued which saw many of the pre-race favorites die with the wind. Hobie Cat creator Hobie Alter wasn't in the running, nor was Wayne Schaffer, two top contenders. World Hobie winner Richard Loufec packed up and went home.

Leith's fortunes went from 39th place in one race to 5th in another, all in the same day. A similar fate befell fellow Club member Harold Hutchings, who did not have much better drifting luck than the rest. Leith finally came up with 15th overall, which is the same position in which he finished in the 1972 Nationals in Texas, another light wind affair.