

# **MBSC Sailing Report - week ended 23rd May 2010**

## **Tuesday 17th May 2010**

Last Tuesday, Laser sailor John Harvey executed the perfect pierhead-end start to lead the fleet of four Lasers to the windward mark in a southerly Force 3. Greg Harris got past Nick Stoten and then John at the next windward mark and went on to take the honours. Nick, John and then Bruce Adams followed Greg across the line.

The Mirror fleet enjoyed the race of the season. For the first two laps the lead constantly changed as four boats pinched, luffed, bounced off each other and put up with the Laser fleet (jealous at the Mirrors being able to control more than one sail at a time) and then the Handicap fleet (jealous that the Mirrors could tell who was actually where in the race) cutting through and scattering their planned lines as each looked for the vital extra metre and clean air. Eventually, inevitably it was Simon Chapman with crew Amy George who found the extra bit of wind bend that eluded all others and carried them clear to victory. Behind them, the last lap was every bit as dramatic as the others; Tony Clee with crew Jessica Bode and Mark Pritchard with crew Stan Pritchard were neck and neck all the way round. Rounding the last mark Mark sneaked a few boat lengths ahead and held Tony off for what seemed a certain second. However, unbeknown to both, after losing second up the beat, Rob had made up a good deal of water downwind and sailed a very tight line past the anchored ship's chain to sneak in the corner and take second by a metre. Tony and Lily with a desperate last surge around the outside thought they had done enough to oust Mark and Stan in a photo finish, but suffered the heartbreak of being just a few inches short.

## **Friday 14th May 2010**

On Friday, a boat start on a gorgeous sunny evening saw four Lasers beating inshore in a light north-easterly. Bruce Adams hit the right hand side hard and came to the windward mark ahead of Greg Harris and Paul Broomfield. Greg and Paul came in first and second respectively; Nick Stoten managed to get past Bruce on the final beat to take third.

Five Mirrors joined by Canadian Olympic Coach Rob Fox who, despite giving some vital tips, practises and practice to crew Jessica, found it an entirely different cup of tea to the classes he usually deals with and could not hold off the Red Hot pace of novice single-hander Renny who succeeded in getting past and beating him on the last lap to come in fourth.

## **Sunday 23th May 2010**

On a beautiful Sunday morning a boat start put on by Race Officer Tony Oliver for the Club Championship and the William Jago race took the fleets mid-Bay in a variable south-easterly. The wind collapsed just before the Laser start, leaving Dave Johnson, Roger Sparrow and Bruce Adams marooned and starting late - from which they never recovered. Jeremy Williams had a comfortable lead by the end of the first beat, which he extended over the race to finish first. Greg Harris had an equally comfortable lead over Dave and finished

second. Dave, Roger and Bruce were sufficiently close to be nervous of each other in the wind shifts up the beat, but finished in that order.

In the Slow Handicap fleet, Ben found himself unable to get clear enough of the Mirrors to build any sort of significant lead and so witnessed a superb scrap for first between Simon and Amy and Jane and Isobel both boats handling the tricky conditions in a way that made the rest truly envious of their skills.

**For the full results see <http://www.mbsc.org.uk/sailing/results.shtml>**