

MBSC Sailing Report - week ended 30th May 2010

Tuesday 25th May 2010

Last Tuesday seven Lasers, six Mirrors and four Handicap fleet boats sailed on a warm evening. Race Officer Peter Greig took advantage of the Force 3 north-easterly breeze and high tide to set windward-leeward course from a boat start to the west of the Mount.

Most of the Laser fleet started at the committee boat end. Jeremy Williams shut Graham Cousins out to make a classic start and led from start to finish. Dave Johnson and Greg Harris established themselves in second and third by the end of the first beat and held on to the finish in that order. Roger Sparrow kept Graham at bay for three laps until letting him through after a bad windward mark rounding and then capsized up the fourth run while trying to eradicate cramp – and retired.

Friday 28th May 2010

With a south westerly Force 5 blowing all looked good for a blast round the bay, but by the time the starting gun fired the wind was already dropping fast. Dave Johnson in the Lasers got away to open up a good lead over Nick Stoten on the first reach to the leeward mark. A fast upwind Nick closed the gap on the beat but a faster off wind Dave re-established the gap and so it was for the whole race. With the wind dropping to barely a force four, Ben Wilkinson in the smaller radial rig slipped back and so the order of finish was Dave, Nick and then Ben.



A sudden drop in the wind ten seconds before the start left the Mirror fleet becalmed. Once the wind returned Simon and Amy sailed clear to win at a canter. Behind them, Rob Bode and crew Lily Medlicot couldn't shake Tony Clee and crew Harriet Hopkins or Mark Prichard with crew Lisa Pritchard. Having swapped positions several times during the early laps Rob read the wind poorly on the final beat and found himself last going into the final leg while Tony who had really read it well was clear of Mark to secure second. A desperate dash

down the last leg by Rob and Lily got them within touching distance of third but the line came just too soon and all they got was the wooden spoon.

Sunday 30th May 2010

On Sunday morning before the Osprey Top Helm four Lasers three Mirrors and three Ospreys plus a few of the Handicap fleet headed out to start a race that proved to be packed with drama in the Laser fleet. In the Lasers, Nick Stoten and Dave Johnson pushed each other over the line and had to go back and restart as John Currie and Greg Harris headed out to sea on the windward leg. Nick recovered some ground by going right and was second to the windward mark behind John. Greg literally cruised past Nick on the run but John was opening up an unimpeachable lead. With Nick and Dave now locked in battle they missed the opportunity to get back up with the front runners when John and Greg tried to finish a round early. With John heading for a comfortable win he inadvertently went the wrong side of the turning mark leaving Greg to take the honours. After Dave almost impaled himself on Hogus trying to gain on Nick, they found themselves coming in an unsuspecting second and third.

In the Mirrors Stan Pritchard, fresh from school camp, demonstrated his determination to win by kicking dad Mark out in favour of big brother, former national squad sailor, Josh. Rob made a fast start to be half a length ahead as the fleet reached the main part of the course. Unfortunately for the rest of the fleet, being up in 'the smoke' didn't seem to have blunted Josh's skills and having got ahead by the first mark they stayed clear of the fleet for the remainder of the race.



Osprey Top Helm

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