

MBSC Sailing Report - week ended 20th June 2010

Tuesday 15th June 2010

Last Tuesday the Mirror fleet saw a cracking start by Rob Bodé and Lisa Prichard, who on their first outing together left the rest for dead on the line; but they were unable to press the advantage that this had given them. Simon Chapman responded with his usual alacrity, pointing higher dealing better with the gusts than the other Mirrors, soon reeled in the gap and gained his usual position at the head of the field. From that point nobody even got close to them and a straightforward win was secured. Rob and Lisa worked hard around the first lap and were still second at the turn. They then took what seemed to be the best way up the next beat only to discover the error of their ways as Mark and Stan Prichard comfortably rounded the mark with plenty of lengths to play with and cruised home clear in second.

The highlight of the race 2 came before the start as Simon, for reasons best known to himself, toyed with the idea of ramming the start boat before throwing ropes and controls in all directions, completing a full pirouette, somehow still managed to miss a collision and crossed the start line a fraction of a second before Mark and Stan, then flawlessly sailed off ahead for the whole race leaving the others staggered and win-less behind him. Rob and Lisa, dizzied by Simon's antics, started in a manner that could best be described as "dreckly" but, in a reversal of the previous race, Mark and Stan had a less favourable trip to the windward mark and by giving it their all, Rob and Lisa managed to get ahead of them and just about hold them off for the remainder of the race; the additional bonus being that sibling honours were evened up.

Friday 18th June 2010

Six Lasers, four Mirrors and Six from the Handicap Fleet sailed a starboard-hand triangular course set by race officer Malcolm Woolcock and his team from a pierhead start in a gusty force 4-5 northerly breeze.

Roger Sparrow made a flying start in the first race to lead at the end of the first reach, but he and Greg Harris lost out to Dave Johnson and Paul Broomfield when they chose the wrong side of the beat. Dave powered through to win, followed by Paul, Roger and Greg. In spite of capsizing on the beat in the second race, Dave recovered to catch Paul on the final beat to give him a double first on the night. Roger was briefly second behind Paul until he too capsized as he approached the gybe mark and ended up fourth behind Greg.

In the Mirrors, Rob and Lily seemed to forget all they knew about sailing in race 1, leaving a straight shoot-out somewhere beyond their horizon between Simon with Amy who managed to just about keep ahead of Mark with Stan on the first lap before finding that something extra and getting clear on the second.

Having spent the time between races sorting their act out, Rob and Lily made a good start in the second race, held the windward line and kept Simon and Amy at bay all the way up to and around the first mark. However, at that point Simon and Amy seized their moment and

passed Rob and Lily. The drama of the beat was not over - Simon made a rare error and had to put in two tacks more than he had planned, but Rob and Lily were unable to press their advantage. Simon and Amy got clear and despite Lily producing her best ever spinnaker work, stayed clear to win.

Sunday 20th June 2010

A gentle drift around the bay in the ever changing wind was the order of the day for six Lasers, two Ospreys, four Mirrors and six boats from the Fast Handicap Fleet.

John Currie led the Laser charge towards the favoured pierhead end of the line, arrived too early, sailed himself into an impossible position under the sea wall and escaped without observing the niceties of the racing rules, for which he accepted a penalty. John went on to pick the favoured side of the beat and extended his lead throughout the race. Nick Stoten did well to finish second in the light conditions ahead of Greg Harris, Roger Sparrow, Clive Goodhead and Ben Wilkinson.

In the Mirror fleet, as ever, the rulers of the conditions were Simon and Amy. With nobody on the line at the start it was almost pot luck as to who got going best; the early signs were that Tony and Lily would be that combination. Briefly Rob and Josh then found the draft and started to pull clear, unfortunately this was short lived and they just as quickly found themselves back in third as Tony and Lily got going and Simon and Amy made the crucial fractional adjustments. By the first turn the order was established, Simon and Amy in their usual position followed by Tony and Lily. Although Rob and Josh briefly got into second, Tony and Lily found a bit more speed and were a comfortable second. The race was notable as Josh's first outing in a dinghy and Wendy and Renny test fired their spinnaker ahead of this weekend's Mirror Western Area Championship.

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