

MBSC Sailing Report - week ended 4th July 2010

Tuesday 29th June 2010

Last Tuesday five Lasers, four Mirrors and seven boats from the Fast Handicap Fleet plus a lone Osprey sailed a port-hand old Olympic course called for by race officer Roger Sparrow and expertly set by Clive Goodhead and Ron Read in the Tornado.

In the first race, a temporary shift from west to south-west in the force 2-3 gentle breeze rewarded Paul Broomfield who had headed out to sea while the rest of the Laser fleet headed inshore on port tack. Paul rounded the windward mark with a good lead which he held to the finish. Nick Stoten held off Greg Harris, Graham Cousins and Ben Wilkinson, underpowered in his Radial in the light conditions, to finish in that order.

In the second race, the Laser fleet chose the Pierhead end of the start line with two boats arriving earlier than intended and therefore needing to tack onto port immediately after the start gun to clear the harbour wall. The resultant chaos was punctuated by various loud interpretations of the rules and threats of protests and left Nick and Ben at the back of the fleet. Greg was first round the windward mark and established a comfortable lead which he held to the finish. Paul, Graham and Nick changed places several times over the ensuing rounds with Nick recovering well for another second place and Paul narrowly keeping Graham behind him on the line.

Friday 2nd July 2010

On Friday Four Lasers, four Ospreys, six Mirrors and six from the Handicap Fleet sailed two port-hand triangular courses set by race officer Paula Morcumb and her team from a pierhead start in a force 4 breeze over a lumpy sea that fell to force 2-3 for the second race.

All four Lasers were on the line for the start but Greg Harris soon proved that he isn't just a light weather specialist as he mastered the gusts and lumpy sea to establish a comfortable lead over Dave Johnson and Nick Stoten while an unfit Roger Sparrow struggled to cope with the beats and finished fourth.

Roger Sparrow chose to start nearer the pierhead in the lighter breeze of the second start and went left through the chop up the side of St Michael's Mount before tacking onto port. He crossed Nick and Greig, covered Dave out towards Penzance and rounded the windward mark with a comfortable lead which he held to the finish. Nick Stoten took an inspired gamble up the left side of the third beat to emerge neck and neck with Dave, who promptly tacked in Nick's water, took a penalty and ended up third for the last two legs. The dropping wind allowed Dave to close the gap up the final broad reach, but Nick held on to finish second, with the finishing order of all four boats exactly reversing the order of the first race.

Sunday 4th July 2010

On Sunday the weather deteriorated into cloud, mizzle and a gusty force 5 - 7 wind that forced the club to postpone its Regatta to another day.

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