

MBSC Sailing Report - week ended 24th October 2010

Saturday 23rd October 2010

Sailing cancelled because of strong wind.

Sunday 24th October 2010

Sunday morning saw the all too familiar sight of sailors standing on the shore hoping and praying the wind would fill in before the racing was canned. Race Officer Tony Oliver held out and managed to set a course and get us away after a half hour postponement.

With six Lasers on the water, barely a force 1 blowing and a huge advantage at the pin end, a slow motion pile up at the start looked on the cards; and so it was. Emerging first from the melee was Nick Stoten followed by Graham Cousins and then further back Dave Johnson, Eden and Greg Harris who had to restart. Meanwhile, a wily Paul Broomfield had stayed away from the fracas, got a clean getaway and was first to the leeward mark.

The shifty light winds saw Nick take the lead on the second beat but it was Graham who played the shifts well for the next few laps to hold the lead. With the Lasers still reasonably well bunched in the fickle conditions Greg hauled himself into second place but suffered gear failure which took him out of the running and then Dave suddenly appeared from nowhere and found himself second behind Graham. At the penultimate leeward mark Graham and Dave wrongly began heading home long enough to allow Paul and Nick to tack inside and take over the running.

The last lap saw the wind pick up and with it all to play for on the final beat home, Paul headed off toward the Mount followed closely by Nick. Graham headed inshore and Dave did a bit of both. The Mount paid big time with Nick just squeezing a little more lift than Paul to take the honours. Dave took third followed by Graham and then Greg with his makeshift repair and then Eden in her smaller radial rig.

An eight-boat strong Mirror fleet took to the water in spite of the dull conditions. Jane Goodhead with Isobel Goodhead as crew led from the start followed closely by Steve and Chloe George. The two boats progressed in this order until the finish line by which time Jane had managed to put distance between her and Steve. However, there was a fierce battle in the light and fluky wind for third between Stan Prichard (with Mark as crew), Nick Medicot (with Lily as crew) and Wendy Nancholas who overtook each other several times. On the last lap the wind picked up and the order was Wendy, with Stan and Nick changing places behind. However, on the final beat to the finish line Nick chose to tack close to the Mount which paid off for him as it had for Nick in the Lasers; he was able to pass easily in front of Wendy (who had tacked towards the shore) and claim a well deserved third place. The fleet was pleased to see young helms such as Stan Prichard and Amy George competing in the race.

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