



DARTMOUTH ROYAL REGATTA SAILING WEEK

MKS Dinghy Regatta @ DSC - Day 2 - Murder on the dancefloor....

25August 2024

Before moving onto to the above quote of the day and its causes: the notices for tomorrow (Mon). The Race Officer would like to play catch-up to recoup yesterday's lost race, so the same early morning schedule as today and then **THREE** races:

- 0800 – Registration desk open – you only need to register if you HAVE NOT already registered
- 0900 – Competitors' briefing
- 0945 – First start (PY fleet)

A gentler Force 3-4 tomorrow it seems, and lots more lovely practice on triangles, sausages, part-time gates and differentiation between start lines and finish lines – all followed by a hearty ploughperson's lunch and liquid refreshments – bring it on...

Day 2

For once the forecast did what it said it would – F4-5 from the South-West all day, and depending on your predatory source, a bit of added spice on top for those tricky gybes and ruinous runs.

It was brilliant to see the wholesale ear-to-ear grins up-and-down the dinghy park as everyone arrived back in an energised if un-energetic state, interspersed with tales of derring-do, derring-didn't, derring-couldn't and moments of sheer terror.

The RNLI capsizement fund did sterling business, and please could everyone bring their multiple £1 fees per capsizement tomorrow in recognition of their upside-downedness.

The Ditsum muddy mark of shame was apparent atop several sails, and most notably and muddily (mentioning no names in particular) being Peter S (Laser), Amelie H (Radial) and Rosie L (Solo with a splendidly bent burgee – see above)

Most importantly a huge shout out to the noble safety boat team, who worked harder than anyone righting boats and wrongs, towing, coralling abandoned boats and reuniting base-jumping sailors with their steeds. Apparently Olga Korbet and Tom Daley (for younger Olympic followers amongst us) have nothing on the style and technical difficulty of the various somersaults, triple twists, katchovs and other forms of dinghy dismounts displayed today. Thanks everyone for the entertainment...

And it was all followed by freshly-hotted-up pasties and other lovely foodstuffs care of Anne-Marie, Paul and the team, and an utterly random prizegiving and off-the-cuff lost and found session in aid of the RNLI.

Overall – how difficult can it be?

It appears that the concept of a slightly augmented triangle-sausage course still seems to cause consternation and befuddlement amongst a goodly number of our participants, While the three-sided triangular triangle and not-a-gate, followed by sausages with-a-gate were better negotiated today, the subsequent act of crossing a finish line to finish still seemed to bemuse in all fleets – hence tomorrow's intended triple header of the same course to drum it in.

PY fleet – a somewhat damp enterprise

From D-Zero, through Lark to Streaker and the Gp14, this was a difficult if sometimes exhilarating day.

Martin Thomas went for the obscurest combination results in the sailing equivalents of Wisden's history with a DNS & a DNF in one day – broken halyard before the start of Race 1, and while handily placed forgot the finish line in Race 2 (not alone in that). But at least Martin has the prospect of a shiny new metal halyard even if it's cost him the princely sum of £101 (including delivery).

The Lark that started the regatta known as "Dave" but since today wishing to identify as "The Navy Lark" (left-hand down a bit for those of a certain vintage) did splendidly to take two firsts, even though well-dodgy helm navigation (Stu) almost threw away Race 2 with lack of finishing line awareness, but for ever-aware crew (Ann) to save the day by pointing Navy Lark ex-Dave in the right direction.

Amidst the PY carnage, Howard Frear claimed two seconds in his Streaker (although thwarted by a veritable phalanx of Solos at the leeward gate preventing him making for the line, thus splurging away the minuscule 12 second handicap advantage he almost had to beat Navy Dave etc in the second race). Thirds were brilliantly attained by Charlie Gillmore in his Aero in Race 1, and the stately GP14 of Nigel Banford & Peter Richards in Race 2.

But we can't leave the PY fleet without tell of Enterprise woes. Said sky-blue sailed craft are well known for their death-roll and terminal gybe tendencies on a run in a breeze, so in Race 1 Chris Rowsell & Pauline Mogridge decided to avoid such scariness by wearing round instead – and thence straight in the water, gunwhale deep. Towed to a passing Galmpton mooring, they then sat out proceedings for both races, enjoying much schadenfreude at others' travails. But on return to shore Chris could only bemoan their sad losses for the day – an old yellow sponge and half a banana lost to the Ditsum deeps...

Lasers – over & out & in

A Laser is never knowingly shy in doing everything it can to bite you in the bottom on a run in a breeze, thus it was Laser bedlam with two runs per race...

Mark Flint from SGBA joined us for the day in the Laser fleet and used his guile and awesome physique to actually give Sam Mogridge a run for his money in the high winds, racking up two seconds behind Sam. Ian Wakeling was third in both races.

In the Radials, much fun, changing of positions and falling in again, with Victory Montgomery and Daniel Simmons winning one each, Chris Tamlyn and Victory getting seconds, and Chris T and Arthur Gilmore also getting thirds.

So many Solos – so many ways to go wrong...

Yesterday, local Solos were put to shame as Jack Norton from Ranelagh showed Dittisham's finest the way. Today the immense Solo fleet was bolstered by John Meadowcroft from Salcombe, who also showed that local knowledge is a much over-rated thing as he blitzed both races. Recently local Paul Lewis got a second, Jack from Ranelagh got a second and a third, and Salcombe not quite so local Mark Waterhouse took the other third.

Interesting quotes from returning Solos stretched the gamut from regret: "I should have won that if I hadn't been an idiot" (J Norton), to blazing double entendre "I was perfectly laid" (J Norton), to a remark never before heard in the Dittisham Solo fleet: "that was much too exciting..." (a Dittisham Solo sailor).

Capsize of the day in the Solo fleet went to Mr Spoons who launched himself backwards from his

craft, while his Solo launched itself skywards like a breaching sperm whale - class!!
If you want to investigate the results, please use this link:

<https://dartmouthsailingweek.com/results-2/>

And finally, an apology from the race committee. They would like to apologise for the continued flaccidity of leeward gate mark (B) – they hope that with a bit more blow it should be tomorrow standing proud and erect...

See you all bright and early in the morning again,

Cheers,

Steven & the organising team

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