

## **Week 11 (Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June)**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> races in the third pursuit racing series were held at Ladies Bay in disappointingly light winds.

As competitors arrived to rig up, a light force three was blowing from the north east, and a two lap course was set from the beach, out to the centre of the bay, down to the “Christmas Pudding” buoy in the approach to Ammareurs, and back to the end of channel buoy.

But as competitors lined up to start the wind started backing more westerly and for a time became variable and fluky. The course was shortened to a single lap.

In the first leg of race 3 competitors gained ground if they were fortunate to catch a favourable gust. Early starter Seb Lovell (0) bore the brunt of the fluky wind and lost much of his handicap advantage. Later starters found a more consistent wind.

Even so Denis White (5) and Lovell found themselves momentarily going round in circles as they approached the first buoy, which allowed Bob Perkins (5) to catch up. After some scrabbling around, these three competitors took the first three places.

For race 4 the breeze, such as it was, settled down into a north west direction. This race produced a double Lovell father and son victory, with Seb Lovell, now off 1, holding on to take first by a comfortable margin, and father Simon Lovell (4) on his Serenity board taking second. White was third.

On the following Sunday morning the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> races for the third course racing series found a south westerly three to four, though still with a few wind holes.

A three lap course was set from the end of channel buoy, with a beat out to a buoy off Rouse, and reaches across the bay and back to the start buoy.

The results were similar in both races. Tim Laine, with his huge 10 metre sail, took two comfortable first places, with Jo Robinson two convincing seconds, and Graham Le Page two equally convincing thirds.

At this stage in the series (with 5 of the 8 races completed), the course racing results (after provisional discards) look particularly interesting, with Laine on 4, Robinson 6, Simon Lovell 8, and both Le Page and Simon Gregory on 11. Final result will probably depend on attendance at the final three races.

I'm giving notice at this stage that the fourth course racing series will be of seven races with two discards, in order to get us back in sync. Only exception to this will be if we get another morning with only one race between now and completing the 4<sup>th</sup> series, when we will revert to 8 races for that series.