

Pursuit Race Report 21st May 2009

Race 1:

Our biggest turn out this year with 12 people at the start. The wind was as perfect as you could ask for, averaging about 10 knots and increasing to about 12 knots with a blue sky.....fantastic!

We were pleased to welcome Bill McGuire to our ranks. Bill last raced 25 years ago on an original Windsurf one design.....which he still has and brought down with him, complete with wooden boom and baggy sail. It was a revelation to some of the members! Naturally Bill had a hard time staying in front even with his "0" handicap, against the fleet of IMCO's. He wants to get up to speed on this board before taking delivery of a brand new Mistral Equipe which isn't even on sale yet it's so new.....drool....drool...!!!!

Unfortunately both Chris and Ian misunderstood the course for the first race and took another route leading to a DSQ. Sorry Lads! Tim Laine on 7 mins handicap with his 9.5m sail creamed past Simon Lovell with a 8.5m sail and 4 mins handicap in the last 50 yards of the race, followed by Jo Robinson in 3rd from a 5 min handicap, narrowly beating Graham Le Page on the same handicap but sporting the 7.5 IMCO sail.... perfect sail for a featherweight! Dennis White lead the rearguard whist Simon Gregory never matched his 9 min handicap even with the 10.6m sail!

Race 2:

Bob Perkins retired straight after the start which was understandable considering this was his first race of the season.

Seb Lovell was able to keep Jo Robinson behind him, proving very fast on the run. Tim wasn't able to work his magic this time and came in 4th. Rod Hutchinson, starting on a 3 min handicap thought he had the race in the bag until Simon Lovell on a 5 min handicap steamed past him and left him in his wake on the last 60 meters to take his first win of the series.

This was the last race of the first series, comprising 8 races. The minimum turnout has been 8 people and the maximum 12 people. One week's racing was cancelled for lack of wind.

Guernsey Press Report, covering the Pursuit and Course racing first series

Tim Laine dominated the GBSA's first series of eight course races, held over four Sunday mornings at Ladies Bay.

After two allowed discards, each competitor scored for six races. After his discards Laine achieved the perfect score of six. Simon Lovell was second with 15 points, followed by Simon Gregory in third place with 23 points.

The final two races of the series took place in a north easterly force three, which was rather patchy, dropping towards two at times, or easing up towards the bottom of four.

Coupled with a falling spring tide, this produced quite interesting racing conditions, even if not the most exciting we've had.

Laine put up a huge 10 metre sail, and took two comfortable first places. Seb Lovell is showing much improved form this season, and in the first race gave father Simon a run for his money. Simon just made it into second with Seb third. In race two Seb took a well deserved second place, while Graham Le Page took full advantage of his light-weight status, taking third while pushing Simon into fourth.

Laine also won the first pursuit racing series with 11 position points. This series was held over Thursday evenings at Ladies Bay. In these races competitors receive a time handicap, which increases one minute if they finish in the top quarter of the fleet, and reduces one minute if they finish in the bottom quarter.

Laine's average handicap over the series was 7 minutes per race. Simon Lovell was second in this series (17 position points on an average handicap of 5 minutes), while Simon Gregory took third (19 points, 6 ½ minutes).